

SECTION A

1. SECTOR DESCRIPTION

The Canadian pork industry is well established and highly regarded in international trade circles. Pork products are valued and purchased in 58 countries around the world.

INTERNATIONAL OVERVIEW

Canada produced 1 129 000 metric tonnes in 1991 and ranked seventh in the world. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the top twelve pork producers in the world in 1991 were as follows;

THE TOP TWELVE PORK PRODUCING COUNTRIES (1991)

COUNTRY	('000) METRIC TONNES (Carcass Equivalent)
China	24 523
EC	13 751
U.S.	7 257
CIS	5 634
Poland	1 966
Japan	1 483
Canada	1 129
Taiwan	1 126
Brazil	1 100
Hungary	965
Mexico	820
Former Czechoslovakia	810

Source: U.S.D.A., World Livestock Situation

PORK TRADE - WHERE THE WORLD SHOPS

The largest volume of international trade in pork presently exists between members of the European Community (EC), with Holland and Denmark accounting for the bulk of the exports. The EC has also been a strong competitor in international trade and, as a region, they exported 493 000 metric tonnes of pork in 1992. Denmark has been a world leader in exports of frozen and processed pork and has historically been the largest exporter of processed pork products to the U.S. (though at a declining rate in recent years). Now that Holland is considered free of foot-and-mouth disease, they should also become a force in international trade.