Other Oilseed Products for Direct Human Consumption

Consumption of products other than sunflower, rapeseed and soybean oil is very limited in Morocco.

Protein Meals

The potential for meal consumption in Morocco is very high. Morocco has a livestock population of over 13.5 million sheep, 3.3 million cattle, and 5.3 million goats. Around 90% of mixed feed production is geared to the poultry sector.

Locally produced meals are dominated by sunflower meal. Canola and flax meal are not well known. Soymeal has the better market image.

Total capacity of all industrial feed mills in Morocco is placed at 900,000 MT annually. Even though imports of protein meals no longer require a licence, meals are subjects to a restrictive reference pricing system. This coupled with the imposition of a custom duty of 12.5% and an import tax of 12.5% brings the actual imported price of meals to a prohibitively high level. Quantities imported in the future will depend on the government ability to liberalize its imports structure.

C. Country Imports - Oilseeds, Vegetable Oils & Protein Meals

Crude vegetable oil is contained in list "A" (the unrestricted import list). However, in practice, imports are tightly controlled and are purchased based on tenders issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI). A commission made up of ministry officials and industry representatives is charged with selecting offers made by licensed brokers and their local agents. Tenders issued by MCI are optional type and origin. Morocco buys either soybean or rapeseed oil and countries of origin are principally the United States and France. Import duties are 12.5% ad valorem, with an additional 12.5% import tax.

The Government of Morocco continues to indicate its desire to liberalize some of the internal structures governing the oilseed market, and fulfil commitments to the world bank. The policy and program consists of 3 parts; liberalizing the marketing and processing of vegetable oil, liberating imports, and eliminating the subsidy to the consumer.

List of Major Importers

The Burapro (Bureau d'Approvisionnement), a subsidiary of ONA manages the actual importing of crude oil and is responsible for distributing the oil to refineries based on pre-set quotas. Import duties are 12.5% ad valorem , with an additional 12.5% import tax.