

■ Two thousand tons of broiler meat were imported in 1988, mainly for the free port of San Andrés Island. Day-old chick imports for meat and egg production amounted to 230,360 units valued at CDN \$2.5 million from the U.S. and Canada in 1988. Hatching eggs totalled 1.9 million units worth CDN \$301,000 from the U.S. Similar import levels were expected in 1989.

SEMEN - Imports in 1988 reached CDN \$1.6 million with 205,035 doses, the U.S. being the main supplier followed by France. For 1989, imports were expected to rise to CDN \$2.2 million.

AGRICULTURAL INPUTS

FARM MACHINERY - A plan to renew agricultural machinery is underway since 44 percent of tractors and 61 percent of combines are ten or more years old. Taxes on tractor sales of 0.1 percent and 10 percent were lifted in 1986. Imports of used tractors are tax exempt if they are less than five years old and spare parts are assured. The small 65 HP model is preferred. There are 28,000 units of all sizes in Colombia. In 1988 the Agricultural Financing Fund allocated a CDN \$27.8 million line of credit to import agricultural machinery, which could be increased to CDN \$52.2 million in 1989. Sales of tractors in 1988 totalled 1,500 units, 30 percent higher than 1987.

■ East Germany and Colombia reached agreement on a CDN \$45.2 million farm machinery loan through the Agriculture Credit Bank (Caja Agraria). Seventeen combines have already been delivered at a price of CDN \$1,042,000 each. In addition the Grain Producers Association (FENALCE) is representing Brazilian farm machinery producers and is actively promoting sales. Both of these deals offer lower prices than those offered by Canada in the past.

FERTILIZERS - Production of compound fertilizers amounted to 530,000 tons in 1988, two percent higher than 1987. Domestic use represented 500,000 tons and exports amounted to 30,000 tons. Simple fertilizers were also used. Total nutrient imports for both types reached 165,000 tons of nitrogen, 95,000 tons of phosphorus, and 123,000 tons of potassium. Only 10 and 16 percent of the nitrogen and phosphorus supply respectively is produced in Colombia.

■ Since the three fertilizer plants are already at full capacity, it was expected that imports might be