



**8. Summary of
Market Access
Results in 1999**

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac>

THE WTO

- New negotiations were launched in agriculture and services aimed at achieving progressively higher levels of liberalization.
- Accession negotiations were concluded between WTO Members and three countries — Latvia, Estonia and Jordan — bringing the WTO membership to 136.
- Canada submitted a formal proposal for the establishment of a working party on biotechnology.
- Canada and the other members of the WTO Agreement to Eliminate Duties on Specified Pharmaceutical Products implemented the third tranche of tariff cuts associated with this agreement. This phase included 639 additional products, including inputs.

UNITED STATES

- The Consultative Committee on Agriculture began operation in 1999 to bring concerns and differences forward for resolution before they become serious bilateral irritants. The committee also involves provinces and states on a more systematic basis.
- The movement of feeder cattle into Canada was facilitated by expanding animal health approvals for cattle from states that meet certain animal health criteria.
- Regulations have been implemented that require a Canadian export permit for access to its tariff rate quota for Canada on sugar-containing products.
- Michigan amended its Single Business Tax (SBT) legislation, significantly reducing its impact on access for Canadian companies. The SBT, currently 2.2 percent, will be phased out at 0.1 percent per year over a 23-year period.
- An agreement-in-principle was reached on the main elements required to resolve problems resulting from changes to the U.S. International Trade in Arms Regulations (ITARs).
- As a result of reviews of 15 long-standing anti-dumping and countervailing duty orders, seven were revoked.