

SAUDI ARABIA

Economic classification:	High Income economy		
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Exporter		
Annual per capita income:	US\$ 12,000		year 1982
Annual per capita GNP	US\$ 18,344		year 1982
Average annual growth 1960-80	8.1 %		
Annual inflation rate 1970-80	7.4 %		
Annual inflation rate (current)	1 %		
Volume of imports	43 billion US\$		year 1982
Of which food	18.0 %		year 1982
Principal foreign exchange earning export:	Petroleum		
Population	9.0 million		year 1982
Annual population growth	4.4 %		years 1980-2000
Annual Consumption:			
Flour	688,000 tonnes	or 76 kg/capita	year 1982
Meat	294,000 tonnes	or 32 kg/capita	year 1982

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

The 1984 crop amounted to 1 to 1.3 million metric tonnes, up from the 1983 total of about 700,000 tonnes. It is expected with a number of new projects coming on-stream that the 1985 crop, which will be harvested March or April, 1985 could amount to almost two million tonnes. In 1984, for the first time, Saudi Arabia became self-sufficient in wheat.

2. Foreign Exchange Situation

Saudi Arabia is not an international aid recipient nor is it expected that it will be in the foreseeable future. The agriculture section or a sector of it is one which has been singled out by the Saudi government as a high priority area. Even though the Kingdom has reached self-sufficiency in dairy products and broiler meat, 80-90% of total food requirements are imported. There is no restriction on the movement of capital in or out of the country.

3. Fertilizer Situation

Most of Saudi Arabia's fertilizer is imported. In 1982 imports of fertilizers amounted to approximately 148,000 tonnes. Saudi Arabia is, however, exporting urea to the Far East from a plant in Jubail. There are also reports of phosphate deposits which as yet have not been mined.