

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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TWENTY-FIFTH AND TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORTS  
(1990 AND 1991) BY THE SWISS GOVERNMENT  
UNDER PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE SWISS  
PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION

The following document, dated 22 June 1993, has been received from the Swiss delegation. It contains the annual reports under Paragraph 4 of the Swiss Accession Protocol for the years 1990 and 1991.

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IMPORT RESTRICTIONS APPLIED BY SWITZERLAND

Paragraph 4 of the Protocol for the Accession of Switzerland to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade provides that Switzerland shall furnish annually to the CONTRACTING PARTIES a report on the measures maintained consistently with its reservation "with regard to the application of the provisions of Article XI of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to permit it to apply import restrictions pursuant to Title II of the Federal Law of 3 October 1951<sup>1</sup> as well as pursuant to Article 11 of the Federal Decree of 28 September 1956/28 September 1962<sup>2</sup>, and to the Swiss legislation concerning alcohol and wheat based on Articles 32 bis and 23 bis of the Federal Constitution".

The present report covers the period 1 January 1990 to 31 December 1991.

A. Legal basis of the Swiss restrictions

There was no amendment during the period under consideration to the provisions relating to the restrictions applied by Switzerland to agricultural products. These provisions are governed by the following laws:

1. Federal Law on the Improvement of Agriculture and the Maintenance of the Peasant Population (Agriculture Act), 3 October 1951;

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Law of 3 October 1951 on the Improvement of Agriculture and the Maintenance of the Peasant Population (Agriculture Act)

<sup>2</sup> Cf. section A.3 of this report

2. Federal Law on Alcohol, 21 June 1932/25 October 1949;
3. Federal Decree on External Economic Measures, 28 June 1972;  
Federal Law on External Economic Measures, 25 June 1982; and
4. Federal Law on National Wheat Supplies (Wheat Act),  
20 March 1959.

B. Objectives of Swiss agricultural policy

The principal objectives of Swiss agricultural policy, which are defined in the Federal Constitution (Article 31 bis) and in the Agriculture Act of 1951, are the maintenance of a vigorous farming population and a productive agricultural system serving the country's food needs but taking into account the other sectors of the national economy (see also the Sixth Report on the Situation of Swiss Agriculture and the Confederation's Agricultural Policy, document/87.074, Berne 1984). This policy is designed to:

- Ensure supplies of wholesome foodstuffs of high quality and at accessible prices. Domestic agriculture contributes to the achievement of this goal by its productivity, having regard to economic conditions and respect for the environment. Imports also play a part by increasing the range of products available and helping to maintain reasonable prices.
- Guarantee food supplies during crisis periods and prepare for this eventuality, should imports be interrupted or suspended. This arrangement ensuring adequate supplies of food lends credibility to the policy of neutrality and also makes it possible to cope with disturbances that may occur during peace-time. Agriculture must be in a position to increase or adjust production so as to be able, following a transition period during which stocks are used, to ensure essential supplies of foodstuffs.
- Contribute to the protection of the soil, the countryside and the environment. In the context of an ecological system whose laws cannot long be violated without serious consequences, agriculture must maintain the fertility of the soil, safeguard the countryside and participate in efforts to protect the environment.
- Preserve a "peasant" agriculture and contribute to the planning of land utilization. The typical farm consists of an independent farmer who performs his work with the assistance of members of his family; the soil constitutes the basis of production, the undertaking, and the place of work and residence, providing the family with its income and raison d'être. This family-type peasant farm helps to keep marginal areas populated and thus preserves the entity of the village, particularly in mountain and hill regions (38 per cent of the usable agricultural surface area).

- And observe particular objectives, such as the assurance of an equitable income, rational production at reasonable cost and adaptation of production to market conditions.

While these policy objectives have continued to provide the basis for the measures taken during the two years covered by this report, the Swiss authorities have had to take account not only of the domestic situation but also of the impact of the ongoing international negotiations - European integration process and GATT negotiations - as well as the world food situation on its agricultural policy.

In the face of heightened international competition, efforts to reduce costs in the agricultural sector must be redoubled. In order to avoid increased productivity leading to higher output, structural adjustment will have to be pursued, while taking into consideration the requirements of environmental and nature conservation and ensuring that the agricultural sector can continue to provide high-quality products in the best possible conditions.

In the context of these altered parameters, with a changing domestic and external framework, studies were undertaken to reconsider the rôle of agriculture, and the ensuing report was adopted by the Federal Council in 1992 (Seventh Report on the Situation of Swiss Agriculture and the Confederation's Agricultural Policy<sup>1</sup>). The next annual report will deal with this matter in greater depth.

In future, maintenance of the basic natural environment necessary to life and of the countryside will gain in importance in comparison with production and security of supply. Henceforth, the primary tasks of agriculture will be to:

- use and maintain the basic natural environment necessary to life;
- maintain and keep up cultivated areas;
- contribute to economic and social life and to the cultural life of rural areas;
- contribute to the security of supplies of wholesome, high-quality and affordable foodstuffs.

The objectives of agricultural policy remain in particular the maintenance of a "peasant" agriculture based on the family farm, as well as the harmonization of supply and demand, adaptation of farming to ecological requirements, and maintenance of an equitable farm income. These objectives should also enable the sector to provide these services at a reasonable cost and allow an appropriate volume of agricultural imports.

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<sup>1</sup>Document 92.011 of 24 January 1992, Berne.

Among the means to be used to attain these goals, direct payments will play an increasingly important part. The measures to be taken will tend towards the liberalization of provisions hindering the adaptation of production to market conditions.

C. Switzerland's status in GATT

Owing to the application of the Agriculture Act of 3 October 1951 referred to above, as well as other provisions relating to agriculture, such as the Wheat Act of 20 March 1959 and the Alcohol Act of 21 June 1932/25 October 1949, which provide for quantitative import restrictions, Switzerland was unable to assume the obligation to comply with the provisions of Article XI of the General Agreement in their entirety, and for this reason it remained outside the General Agreement for a long time. It acceded provisionally only in 1958 and its full accession took place in 1966, namely, as from the time it was authorized by its Protocol of Accession to depart from the provisions of Article XI to the extent necessary to permit it to apply import restrictions under the laws mentioned above. The Protocol stipulates that, in applying those laws, Switzerland shall observe to the fullest possible extent the appropriate provisions of the General Agreement and, in particular, shall endeavour to ensure that they are applied in such a manner as to cause minimum harm to the interests of contracting parties and, consistently with Article XIII, shall apply all restrictions imposed under those laws in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination.

D. The place of agriculture in the national economy

Agriculture has close links with other sectors of the economy which influence it to a considerable extent. A few words must therefore be said about economic trends in general and attention drawn to variations in certain factors that have the greatest influence on agriculture.

- Slowing of population growth

For two decades the rate of population growth has been declining; the excess of births reached a peak of about 59,000 in 1964 and has since declined, reaching 19,600 in 1988. Between 1960 and 1970 population growth was 17 per cent as against 1.9 per cent between 1970 and 1980. Average annual growth was 1.4 per cent between 1980 and 1985 and 2.8 per cent from 1985 to 1990. Owing to this low growth rate, agriculture has less chance of participating in general economic prosperity through increased demand for its products. In an industrial country enjoying a high level of income, it is mainly the population trend that determines overall demand for foodstuffs; rising incomes no longer do much to increase this demand, which is therefore stagnant.

- Economic growth

Although, during the period 1950 to 1970, the national product increased at a real rate of about 4.5 per cent, growth barely exceeded 1 per cent in the 1970s. It resumed in 1980 but then once again declined

for cyclical and structural reasons. From 1985 to 1990 annual GDP growth was double that of the previous fifteen years, but without achieving the growth rates of the 1960s. Meanwhile technical progress in agriculture has continued. These various factors contribute to an expansion of supply in the context of stagnant demand, with the result that demand for certain products was met to a greater extent from domestic sources.

E. Transformation of agricultural structures

The economic boom and technical progress brought about a large-scale exodus from rural areas which has been tapering off in the past few years. The male agricultural population working chiefly as farmers declined by 4 per cent annually between 1955 and 1965 and by 1.6 per cent annually from 1975 to 1980. Since 1980 the decline has continued at the rate of about 1 per cent annually. The total number of persons engaged in agriculture in relation to the total active population is at present about 4.2 per cent as against 13 per cent in 1960.

The number of farms declined by 2.3 per cent annually between 1955 and 1965 and by 1.2 per cent between 1975 and 1980. From 1980 to 1985 the annual average decrease was 1.1 per cent, and from 1985 to 1990, 1.3 per cent. The number of small farms, which remained reasonably stable at 19,000 from 1975 to 1985, fell to 14,500 in 1990; meanwhile, other farms declined from 106,000 in 1980 to 100,000 in 1985 and 93,500 in 1990. Switzerland had a total of 108,000 farms in 1990 compared with 133,000 in 1975. In 1990, the average size of farms worked by persons whose main occupation is farming was about 16 hectares; 42 per cent of the farms and 38 per cent of the useful agricultural surface area are situated in mountain regions.

F. Production

In 1980, the useful agricultural surface area was 1,071,300 hectares, of which 60 per cent were meadows and pasture land, 29 per cent open crop land, 8 per cent artificial pasture and 3 per cent special crops. The annual average value of domestic production from 1988 to 1990 was 9.4 billion francs; dairy production accounted for 33.5 per cent of this amount, meat, including poultry, slightly over 42.1 per cent, major crops and vegetables, 13.1 per cent, and fruit and wine-growing, 11.3 per cent.

Excluding production obtained with imported fodder, the average net self-sufficiency rate for 1988-1990 was about 62 per cent.

G. Products subject to quantitative restrictions and the application of restrictions

In 1990 and 1991, quantitative restrictions affected the same product as in 1989, and the systems applied by Switzerland remained unchanged. Those systems were described in detail in document L/6101 of 22 December 1986. On the other hand, following the entry into force on 1 January 1988 of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity

Description and Coding System, product headings have been supplemented or modified under the eight-digit nomenclature. The presentation of the product groups contained in this report is based on this system.

1. Cereals and feeding stuffs

(1) Bread grains

In 1990, thanks to a mild winter and very favourable harvesting conditions, quality was good with a protein content above that of the previous year, while quantity reached 537,000 tonnes. For the first time, producers shared in the cost of valorization of domestic wheat deliveries in excess of the quantity covered by the guaranteed price (450,000 tonnes). In 1991, production reached 581,000 tonnes despite a reduction of 2,000 hectares in the cultivated area, and producers once again had to share in the cost of valorization of wheat deliveries in excess of the quantity for which the price is guaranteed.

(2) Feed grains and other feeding stuffs

Thanks to favourable weather conditions in 1990, grass foddering began quite early and the hay crop was abundant, while the after-crop was not as good. In 1991, conditions were much less favourable, and in some areas animals were able to remain for only a short time on the alpine pastures, having gone up late owing to the cold temperatures and then come down early because of the lack of coarse fodder as a result of drought. Nevertheless, over these two years imports of grains and feeding stuffs declined considerably, which may be attributed to the rise in domestic grain production.

Total imports were as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
(a) Bread grains (including rye)	181,664	191,142	218,053
(b) Flour (including durum-wheat-meal)	23	36	60
(c) Feed grains and other feeding stuffs	469,919	253,675	224,966
(d) Grain for sowing	2,806	2,966	3,594

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

1001.1010, 9010 Bread grains (not including for sowing)	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	1,931	-	1,696
France	18,405	18,987	17,938
Italy	58	212	174
Belgium-Luxembourg	14	-	-
Austria	380	2,378	3,724
Saudi Arabia	1,438	-	15,120
Canada	101,139	114,957	132,268
United States	57,384	53,489	45,337
Costa Rica	-	200	-
Argentina	-	-	1,492
Australia	222	191	140
Other	27	346	33
Total	180,998	190,760	217,922

  

1001.1020, 9020 Denatured wheat	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	24,625	-	2,175
France	63,922	28,664	16,200
Austria	2,474	1,560	979
Denmark	47	-	-
Hungary	273	-	-
Yugoslavia	1,512	-	-
Canada	5	-	-
United States	557	-	-
Other	-	191	3
Total	93,415	30,415	19,357

1003.0000 Barley	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	19,754	11,910	53,963
France	71,609	16,744	8,388
Italy	377	54	109
Netherlands	8	7	8
Belgium-Luxembourg	26	327	20
Austria	1,706	-	-
Sweden	25	-	-
Hungary	15	-	-
Czechoslovakia	-	-	675
Japan	1	-	-
Canada	-	1,061	169
United States	2,707	1,735	-
Brazil	15	-	-
Australia	134	125	57
Other	-	26	117
Total	96,377	31,989	63,506

1004.0000 Oats	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	250	99	143
France	1,225	760	813
Netherlands	736	-	-
Austria	13,632	5,447	7,072
United Kingdom	1	-	-
Norway	209	-	-
Sweden	1,254	5,044	1,365
Finland	16,018	49,799	39,838
Czechoslovakia	-	-	6,937
Poland	1,114	-	-
Canada	1,209	241	499
United States	-	77	94
Argentina	659	-	-
Australia	44,746	2,153	220
South Africa	2,770	-	199
Other	-	136	14
Total	83,823	63,756	57,194



1005.9000 Maize	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Rep. Fed. of	19,700	334	1,133
France	83,651	62,655	9,313
Italy	445	586	-
Netherlands	105	-	-
Belgium-Luxembourg	96	41	-
Austria	982	941	32,077
Denmark	28	-	-
Spain	24	-	-
Hungary	2,016	2,019	4,434
Yugoslavia	448	-	-
South Africa	473	102	-
Canada	4	-	-
United States	687	747	1,491
Argentina	9,001	8,273	19,776
Australia	-	43	127
Other	-	58	49
Total	117,660	75,799	68,400

## 2. Livestock and meat

While according to an April 1990 census the cattle herd increased slightly by 0.3 per cent over the previous year, in 1991 it declined by 1.4 per cent. Over the last ten years, the herd has declined by 6.4 per cent. In 1990, the number of swine declined by 4.4 per cent, and again by 3.6 per cent in 1991; over the last ten years, the decline has been 16.8 per cent. Total bovine meat production from domestic slaughter-houses increased by 5.7 per cent in 1990 over the previous year, and by 3.7 per cent in 1991; beef production increased by 7.5 per cent in 1990 and by 3.3 per cent in 1991, while veal production remained stable in 1990 and increased by 5.2 per cent in 1991. The prices paid to producers plummeted by from 16 to 38 per cent for beef according to quality, and are well below target prices with the exception of veal, where prices fluctuated within the range of target prices in 1990 and dropped by 9 per cent in 1991. Prices paid for swine increased by 9 per cent in 1990, only to decline by 15 per cent in 1991. Imports of dairy cattle and livestock for breeding declined by 11 per cent in 1990 and 3 per cent in 1991, while in the case of cattle for slaughter the decline was 15 per cent in 1990 and 1 per cent in 1991. Imports of meat rose by 6 per cent in 1990 and then dropped by 11 per cent in 1991. On the other hand, those of meat preparations and preserved meat increased by 1 per cent in 1990 and 9 per cent in 1991.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	1990	1991
	<u>Heads</u>		
(a) Dairy cattle and livestock for breeding	5,143	4,567	4,423
(b) Cattle for slaughter	5,428	4,616	4,576
	<u>Tonnes</u>		
(c) Meat and animal fats	21,769	23,115	20,491
(d) Meat preparations and preserved meat	7,333	7,403	8,102

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
0201.1000/3000 Bovine meat			
0202.1000/3000			
0206.1000/2200, 9000			
France	524	613	335
Netherlands	1,310	864	108
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	408	-
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	-	-	11
Austria	-	495	227
Ireland	3	-	-
United Kingdom	-	-	13
Poland	48	-	22
Hungary	-	20	-
Namibia	94	145	95
South Africa	47	77	66
Saudi Arabia	24	3	-
Canada	361	347	135
United States	801	1,157	829
Brazil	2,031	1,577	2,153
Uruguay	124	198	306
Argentina	3,895	3,554	3,133
Paraguay	162	108	65
Australia	267	173	107
New Zealand	80	72	-
Other	7	9	9
Total	9,778	9,820	7,614

0204.1000/4300 Sheep meat	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	428	502	572
France	66	45	49
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	66	73
Netherlands	5	-	-
United Kingdom	2,119	2,270	1,871
Austria	2	-	-
Poland	-	17	-
Hungary	332	91	36
Czechoslovakia	-	-	39
South Africa	4	-	-
United States	-	4	9
Argentina	148	111	51
Australia	1,381	1,672	1,372
New Zealand	2,190	2,173	2,157
Other	11	13	11
Total	6,686	6,964	6,240

0203.1100/2900 Pig meat 0206.3000/4900	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	88	1,896	910
Italy	71	58	42
France	10	2	7
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	20	140
Denmark	269	1,142	952
Austria	26	49	31
Sweden	51	542	-
Poland	-	3	-
Hungary	5	-	10
Romania	4	-	-
Australia	9	4	-
Other	12	22	10
Total	545	3,738	2,102

0204.5000, 0205.0000, 0206.8000, 9000 Other meats (of horses, goats, etc.)	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
France	340	425	382
Belgium-Luxembourg	357	301	20
Netherlands	30	25	3
Spain	29	16	10
USSR	-	3	-
Poland	-	-	5
Czechoslovakia	3	-	-
Canada	1,022	1,049	866
United States	1,843	2,239	2,914
Brazil	-	-	6
Argentina	452	404	385
Australia	461	475	540
New Zealand	55	65	65
Others	5	10	8
Total	4,597	5,012	5,204

0210.1100/9010 Meat, salted, smoked, etc.	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	16	15	12
France	7	8	9
Italy	838	806	851
Netherlands	3	3	4
Austria	-	1	-
United States	2	4	6
Other	1	-	-
Total	867	837	882

1601.0010, 0090; 1901.2010, 9010; 1904.9010; 1905.9091; 2106.9070 Salami and the like	1989	kg. 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	83,211	76,800	74,853
France	108,627	94,874	102,141
Italy	2,546,791	2,421,170	2,424,564
Denmark	34,068	32,796	100,392
United Kingdom	11,347	3,981	21
Netherlands	96,406	162,038	145,552
Austria	-	4	9,855
Hungary	54,915	58,510	54,633
Thailand	-	-	14,381
Hong Kong	17,517	17,485	19,055
Other	1,994	4,820	10,222
Total	2,954,876	2,872,478	2,955,669

1602.4110 Tinned ham	1989	kg. 1990	1991
Netherlands	22,007	25,386	22,964
Denmark	34,072	33,558	32,943
Other	1,597	471	139
Total	57,676	59,415	56,046

1602.5010 Corned beef	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
France	55	61	65
Italy	-	-	13
Netherlands	-	10	-
South Africa	-	15	-
Brazil	124	137	136
Argentina	141	109	146
Other	-	-	3
Total	320	332	363

3. Dairy products

Deliveries of milk to dairies in 1990 declined by 3.4 per cent compared with the previous year. In 1991, they increased by 2.7 per cent. These fluctuations are attributable to, for 1990, the high number of cows slaughtered, worse forage conditions and stricter rules for production quotas; and, in 1991, better forage conditions are reflected in higher deliveries.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
(a) Fresh butter	3,088	4,303	3,160
(b) Whole milk powder	3,132	3,090	2,920
(c) Acid casein	81	197	142

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

0405.0010, 0090 Fresh butter	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	1,711	956	-
France	64	64	93
Netherlands	1,110	2,100	1,316
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	73	145
Sweden	-	210	290
Finland	200	900	1,300
Canada	-	-	15
Other	3	-	1
Total	3,088	4,303	3,160

0402.2110, 2910 Whole milk powder	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	1,464	1,264	1,095
France	698	285	484
Netherlands	111	198	191
Belgium-Luxembourg	209	406	161
Denmark	-	13	30
Austria	650	924	815
Poland	-	-	126
Australia	-	-	15
Other	-	-	3
Total	3,132	3,090	2,920

ex 3501.9000 Acid casein	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	80	121	100
France	1	16	31
Netherlands	-	21	11
Poland	-	39	-
Total	81	197	142

#### 4. Eggs

Domestic production in 1990 was 8 per cent below the previous year, and declined again in 1991, by 1 per cent. Imports increased by over 4 per cent in 1990 and dipped by 1 per cent in 1991.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Eggs in shell	29,920	31,235	30,983

The breakdown by country of consignment has been as follows:

0407.0000 Eggs in shell	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	7,059	7,846	8,331*
France	4,047	3,817	4,701
Netherlands	4,111	9,014	13,400
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	27	-
United Kingdom	3	-	-
Denmark	-	-	12
Austria	2	-	39
Sweden	38	-	-
Finland	2,299	2,565	1,427
German Dem. Rep.	1,824	1,852	-
Poland	8,321	2,637	-
Czechoslovakia	1,849	2,394	1,182
Hungary	328	647	1,267
Yugoslavia	-	-	27
USSR	-	389	593
Other	39	47	4
Total	29,920	31,235	30,983

\*Including imports from the former German Democratic Republic.

## 5. Vegetables

1990 was a normal year for the production of fresh vegetables, whereas 1991 was marked by frost and rain in the spring and drought in the summer. Imports fell slightly in 1990 and rose in 1991. Production of potatoes declined by 3 per cent in 1990 compared with 1989 and again by 6 per cent in 1991.



Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
(a) Fresh vegetables	151,019	149,268	156,278
(b) Food potatoes	4,986	4,035	4,915
(c) Potato products	349	372	-
(d) Potato seedlings	5,958	4,197	4,370
(e) Small onions for planting	34	3	24

For certain fresh vegetables, the countries of consignment have been as follows:

0702.0000 Tomatoes	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	104	80	65
France	4,715	5,270	5,592
Italy	2,039	1,905	1,973
Netherlands	12,176	14,857	13,455
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,263	1,958	4,036
Spain	9,018	5,084	6,259
Turkey	-	34	42
Albania	732	815	180
Bulgaria	63	121	38
Romania	1,404	714	659
Egypt	29	-	10
Canary Islands	289	616	993
Morocco	3,039	1,978	2,097
Senegal	5	16	12
South Africa	13	19	9
Israel	130	679	523
United States	310	78	115
Porto Rico	114	-	-
Venezuela	13	-	-
Dominican Republic	-	19	45
Chile	8	7	-
Other	16	26	33
Total	35,480	34,276	36,136

0703.1090 Edible onions	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	42	24	-
France	1,183	1,103	1,375
Italy	1,001	960	1,125
Netherlands	700	549	655
Spain	-	1	-
Austria	151	-	-
Other	13	32	3
Total	3,090	2,669	3,158

0701.9000 Food potatoes	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
France	1,700	1,566	1,552
Italy	895	846	900
Cyprus	921	893	794
Morocco	742	254	259
Israel	703	415	1,398
Other	25	61	12
Total	4,986	4,035	4,915

## 6. Fruit

The harvest of pip fruit was good in 1990, without reaching the record level of 1988. Following the spring frost, the apple harvest in 1991 was 37 per cent below the previous year's level, and the pear harvest 26 per cent lower. The cherry crop in 1990 was slightly lower than in the previous year (- 5 per cent); in 1991, owing to the bad weather conditions, it plunged by over 60 per cent, with the worst crop in the last twenty years. The apricot crop in 1990 was about half that of the previous year, and in 1991 there was a further fall of 43 per cent. Imports increased accordingly.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
(a) Apples and pears	10,247	20,119	30,661
(b) Stone fruit (excluding peaches and nectarines)	14,480	13,755	17,518
(c) Fresh berries	22,671	24,453	27,445
(d) Apples and pears for cider	125	96	1,628
(e) Pectin	405	523	456
(f) Apple and pear juice	1	2	1

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

0808.1010, 1090, 2010, 2090 Pip fruit	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	-	103	1,314
France	1,082	1,978	6,814
Italy	1,054	1,084	5,729
Netherlands	165	985	550
Belgium-Luxembourg	15	18	17
United Kingdom	-	-	100
Spain	536	389	569
Greece	-	-	33
Austria	-	5	185
Czechoslovakia	-	-	308
Hungary	-	-	1,345
Turkey	-	19	55
Côte d'Ivoire	-	19	21
Central African Republic	-	21	-
South Africa	6,107	11,254	11,370
Zimbabwe	76	226	-
Israel	-	-	54
Saudi Arabia	117	-	-
China	-	-	19
United States	-	247	45
Antigua	23	-	-
Argentina	61	758	159
Chile	579	2,143	1,217
Australia	361	820	471
New Zealand	78	28	238
Other	60	77	177
Total	10,314	20,174	30,790

0809.1010, 1090 Apricots	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	209	168	51
France	893	1,208	2,118
Italy	4,486	4,679	3,442
Netherlands	32	-	18
Spain	3,358	2,455	6,017
Greece	93	275	65
Czechoslovakia	-	-	60
Hungary	-	42	-
Chile	5	-	5
South Africa	11	47	25
United States	9	9	15
Other	53	19	26
Total	9,149	8,902	11,842

0809.4010, 4090 Plums	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	1, 150	1,083	640
France	419	267	282
Italy	851	917	960
Netherlands	47	69	54
Spain	302	251	473
Austria	46	57	134
Hungary	60	263	621
Romania	37	-	75
Czechoslovakia	-	-	29
Bulgaria	-	-	96
Turkey	10	33	94
South Africa	113	117	116
Israel	9	11	20
Saudi Arabia	17	-	-
Chile	17	10	84
Other	28	11	35
Total	3,106	3,089	3,713

0809.2000 Cherries	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	75	148	117
France	1,478	1,061	1,270
Italy	379	340	290
Netherlands	-	6	4
United Kingdom	-	10	-
Spain	139	116	119
Turkey	-	-	33
Hungary	90	70	88
Yugoslavia	39	-	-
United States	-	-	3
Chile	12	6	12
Other	13	7	27
Total	2,225	1,764	1,963

0810.1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 9000 Fresh berries	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	356	283	244
France	1,655	2,049	2,234
Italy	10,871	9,545	10,991
Netherlands	461	474	515
Belgium-Luxembourg	22	80	92
Austria	-	-	14
Spain	4,258	4,179	4,509
Greece	13	-	14
Sweden	-	-	21
Poland	1,029	1,224	1,996
Hungary	547	317	547
Czechoslovakia	-	-	53
Bulgaria	67	35	-
Romania	54	-	55
Yugoslavia	250	1,209	1,084
USSR	26	59	-
Egypt	58	120	84
Morocco	9	8	-
Côte d'Ivoire	-	-	11
South Africa	188	133	158
Swaziland	11	-	-
Zimbabwe	15	14	24
Mozambique	-	-	16
Madagascar	6	25	41
Mauritius	8	3	6
Burundi	-	9	-
Sierra Leone	-	-	15
Kenya	33	18	35
Israel	108	246	140
Saudi Arabia	25	-	-
Iran	14	49	59
Thailand	108	111	117
Malaysia	81	61	55
Canada	4	-	-
United States	95	178	177
Mexico	56	33	42
Colombia	14	41	70
Brazil	14	15	5
Chile	223	414	509
Ecuador	9	6	3
Australia	23	-	3
New Zealand	1,897	3,421	3,459
Other	64	95	47
Total	22,672	24,454	27,445

7. Fresh flowers

Imports of fresh flowers during the quota season remain very high and continued to rise, by 0.6 per cent in 1990 and 0.8 per cent in 1991.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Fresh flowers	4,179	4,204	4,239

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

0603.1011, 1012, 1019 Fresh flowers imported from 1 May to 25 October	1989	kg. 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	52,178	52,498	43 410
France	103,577	125,552	152 464
Italy	448,908	409,681	420 775
Netherlands	2,737,678	2,848,557	2 810 791
Austria	8	-	-
Greece	3,491	5,039	4,974
Portugal	8,615	14,137	5,039
Spain	131,472	76,073	55,669
Turkey	8,666	5,501	5,562
Canary Islands	89,408	91,301	73,057
Kenya	62,501	83,170	77,894
South Africa	71,313	62,659	52,540
Zimbabwe	-	3,674	3,333
Côte d'Ivoire	3,007	2,029	4,956
Mauritius	4,032	5,223	5,174
Morocco	2,445	5,785	16,191
Israel	111,561	117,022	167,034
Thailand	32,442	31,680	34,330
Singapore	13,957	12,641	14,128
United States	6,822	4,156	3,677
Costa Rica	5,043	3,873	6,577
Colombia	210,305	167,067	166,116
Peru	28,093	29,496	54,530
Ecuador	8,549	13,053	28,834
Australia	15,215	12,610	10,995
New Zealand	2,883	3,952	2,989
Other	17,148	17,655	18,372
Total	4,179,317	4,204,084	4,239,411



8. Wine

The wine harvest in 1990 was average in quantity, with 1,330 million hectolitres, and of outstanding quality. In 1991 the harvest remained at the same level, reaching 1 361 million hectolitres, again of good quality.

Total imports have been as follows:

	1989	hl. 1990	1991
(a) Wine in casks	1,513,000	1,403,000	1,390,000
(b) White wine in bottles	50,000	47,000	47,000
(c) Grape juice	82,000	99,000	100,000

The breakdown of imports by country of consignment has been as follows:

2204.2911, 2913 Red wine in casks	1989	hl. 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	1,111	1,063	1,620
France	366,071	341,760	348,526
Italy	384,843	347,707	336,430
United Kingdom	102	-	-
Portugal	71,593	58,201	64,319
Spain	283,588	305,525	350,174
Greece	33,958	12,153	3,242
Austria	1,635	1,776	2,020
Turkey	6,639	5,371	275
Poland	472	-	-
Hungary	16,018	10,080	9,584
Albania	792	-	-
Bulgaria	7,301	6,006	2,053
Yugoslavia	20,811	31,489	16,191
Cyprus	35,358	36,299	42,178
Tunisia	5,138	1,082	8,788
Algeria	77,329	50,516	3,805
Morocco	479	-	1,341
South Africa	5,371	4,792	7,170
United States	1,317	2,034	2,177
Argentina	14,243	10,183	6,455
Chile	720	916	737
Other	226	553	264
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,335,115</b>	<b>1,227,511</b>	<b>1,207,349</b>

2204.2912, 2914 White wine in casks	1989	hl. 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Fed. of	2,783	3,380	880
France	36,507	28,285	40,107
Italy	18,457	18,549	18,442
Spain	15,312	14,890	14,891
Austria	-	-	444
Yugoslavia	5,281	1,528	-
Cyprus	38,258	48,912	39,136
Argentina	-	1,807	9,394
Other	475	230	367
Total	117,073	117,581	123,661

  

2204.2111 White wine in bottles	1989	Tonnes 1990	1991
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	252	317	310
France	3,240	2,932	2,881
Italy	3,641	3,519	3,240
Netherlands	28	19	3
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	-	1
United Kingdom	2	-	3
Austria	166	158	119
Portugal	329	367	405
Spain	818	593	497
Greece	89	100	85
Hungary	240	559	603
Yugoslavia	-	22	-
South Africa	30	26	34
Israel	17	10	-
China	-	17	-
Canada	1	-	-
United States	273	296	288
Chile	-	26	-
Australia	15	27	43
New Zealand	-	-	22
Other	27	10	27
Total	9,168	8,998	8,562

9. Ethyl alcohol

Ethyl alcohol imports fell by 19 per cent in 1990 compared with 1989 and rose by 40 per cent in 1991 over 1990.

They have been as follows:

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	1989	h1. 1990	1991
Ethyl alcohol	259,206	209,414	292,845

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