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POLAND

Information Supplied in Respect of

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

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FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

A. PRODUCTION: PRODUCTION MEASURES AND POLICIES

A.1. Statistical data on total volume of production

A.2. Trends in production and estimates for 1970

The output of fruit and vegetables has recently grown more slowly than that of several other items of agricultural produce. Its value is slightly over 5 per cent of that of total agricultural production.

As part of the trend towards improving the supply of fruit and vegetables to town and country dwellers alike, efforts are being made to improve quality, widen choice and keep produce fresh for longer periods.

This trend is likely to continue for the next few years. It will enable a certain leeway to be made up, and suitable advantage to be taken of the opportunities existing in Poland for the production of a number of varieties of fruit and vegetables.

Horticulture is largely concentrated in individual farms, which in 1966, for example, grew 94.5 per cent of all vegetables and 96.6 per cent of all fruit.

The producers are organized in a co-operative, which supplies them with necessary means of production, including plant protection materials, and also organizes the sale of their fruit and vegetables. In the production of vegetables and fruit the free market, to which private growers may bring their produce, plays a more important part than in that of any other agricultural produce. Products traded in the free market are delivered to private shops in both larger and smaller localities. In towns there are specially organized market places to enable agricultural producers to sell their produce more easily.

Statistical data on output of fruit in Poland in 1964-1966 appear in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1
POLISH FRUIT HARVEST, 1964-1965

(tons)

	1964	1965	1966
Tree fruit, total	1,139,200	405,100	1,275,000
including:			
Apples	840,400	197,300	796,000
Pears	125,800	64,300	185,300
Plums	76,100	79,600	178,700
Cherries	54,700	33,700	68,200
Berries, total	131,800	206,200	200,600
including:			
Strawberries	67,000	147,900	134,700

Table 2
AREAS FROM WHICH THE HARVEST WAS GATHERED

(in hectares)

	1964	1965	1966
Orchards		237,000	
Berry plots	34,100	45,700	50,000
including:			
Strawberries	17,100	27,500	31,400

Processing takes place in about 65 per cent of State and about 34 per cent of co-operative enterprises.

Information on the industrial output of the chief vegetable and fruit products in 1965-1967, and forecasts for 1970, are assembled in Table 3.

Table 3

OUTPUT OF PRINCIPAL VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PRODUCTS IN POLAND
1965-1967, AND FORECAST FOR 1970^{1/}

	Unit	1965	1966	1967	1970
Juices	million litres	21.3	25.9	20.6	38
Fruit wine and mead	million litres	161.4	147.6	153.7	155
Marmalade (with and without added sugar)	'000 tons	24.9	24.2	21.9	28
Jams	'000 tons	35.4	34.4	33.1	37
Preserves	'000 tons	25.8	27.6	26.4	34
Fruit juices, sweetened	million litres	7.8	5.6	6.4	10
Fruit juices, condensed	'000 tons	2.1	5.6	2.0	4.5
Preserved and pickled vegetables	'000 tons	45.9	64.0	72.1	85
Tomato concentrate, 30 per cent	'000 tons	4.2	9.0	11.6	13
Pickled cabbage	'000 tons	34.4	38.0	38.5	38.5
Pickled cucumber	'000 tons	21.7	35.6	31.2	35
Frozen fruit and vegetables	'000 tons	15.4	26.1	28.2	50

^{1/}The data in the tables or text all relate to turnover and processing organized by the Government or the co-operative agency, and do not include home processing for private sale or domestic use.

It is forecast that during the next few years the output of fruit will increase the most quickly, that of vegetables under glass quickly, and that of vegetables in general relatively slowly, with emphasis on diversification of species and change. Particular stress is laid on the planting of apples and berries, and on the development of small orchard holdings.

As output grows, the quality standards laid down by the Economic Commission for Europe will be applied.

Processing development plans include the profitable use of fresh produce. The share of fruit wines in processing will diminish, and give place to increased production of fruit juices (liquid fruit), condensed juices, canned fruit, jams and frozen fruits. In vegetable processing the most rapid growth will take place in the output of vegetable juices, frozen and canned vegetables and preserved cucumbers.

At the same time there will be a gradual transition from the use of chemical preservatives to freezing and concentration in the preservation of fresh fruit.

A.3. Statistical data on carry-over stocks

Poland keeps no stocks of fruit or vegetables beyond each current season.

A.4. Factors which affect production

Among the most important factors in developing the output of fruit and vegetables are: utilization of favourable soil and weather conditions to increase output in zones which enjoy these; the existence of the indispensable agricultural labour force, and gradual improvement of farming methods through increase in the numbers of specially trained producers.

A.5. Policies and measures of the Government or other bodies likely to influence production

The Government's policy is to encourage concentration of horticulture in specific regions. Among other measures it has introduced specialization of farms in regions producing definite kinds of crops, e.g. the regions growing onions in the districts of Leczye, Warsaw and Novodwor, and apples in Novosad.

Organization of production is based on long-term contracts guaranteeing producers an outlet for their trade produce at market prices and at the same time a minimum price at times of peak supply. The outlet guarantee relates to a definite quantity of produce from a specific area, with a 10 per cent tolerance.

The profitable state of prices for some fruits and vegetables compared with other agricultural products encourages growth of output.

In regions where horticulture is poorly developed, partial payment is made (by State or co-operative establishments) for certain plant protection services and materials (about 10 per cent of their value).

Under the system of lump-sum taxation of land, growers of more valuable garden produce pay at a relatively lower rate than many other agricultural producers.

B. PROTECTION AND SUPPORT MEASURES AND POLICIES

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C. CONSUMPTION AND INTERNAL PRICES

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D. INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PRICES

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