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Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade

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FY 2021 U.S. Exports Forecast Up \$5.0 Billion to a Record \$157.0 Billion; Imports at \$137.5 Billion

U.S. agricultural exports in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 are projected at \$157.0 billion, up \$5.0 billion from the November forecast, driven by higher oilseed and grain export forecasts. Soybean exports are forecast \$1.1 billion higher to a record \$27.4 billion due to strong demand from China and higher prices. Soybean meal exports are projected up \$700 million, while total oilseed and product exports are forecast at a record \$38.3 billion, a \$2.0-billion increase from the previous projection. Corn exports are projected up \$800 million, as higher unit values more than offset slightly lower volumes. Wheat exports are forecast at \$6.9 billion, up \$700 million, based on higher unit values. Overall grain and feed exports are forecast at \$37.8 billion, \$2.2 billion higher than the November forecast. Cotton exports are forecast up \$600 million on higher unit values and volume. Livestock, dairy, and poultry exports are forecast up \$300 million to \$32.6 billion, as increases in beef and poultry product export forecasts more than offset declines in dairy products. Horticultural product exports are projected to remain unchanged at \$34.5 billion.

Exports for China are raised \$4.5 billion from the November forecast to a record \$31.5 billion due to strong first quarter shipments and surging sales, most notably of corn. China is forecast to remain the largest U.S. agricultural market in FY 2021, followed by Canada and Mexico.

U.S. agricultural imports in FY 2021 are forecast at \$137.5 billion, up \$500 million from the November forecast, led by increases in livestock, dairy, and poultry imports.

The forecasts in this report are based on policies in effect at the time of the February 9 *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (WASDE) release.

Table 1–U.S. agricultural trade, fiscal years 2015–21, year ending September 30

| | | | | | | | Forecast f | iscal year* | | | |
|---------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Item | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 202 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | | November | February | | | |
| | Billion dollars | | | | | | | | | | |
| Exports | 139.8 | 129.6 | 140.2 | 143.4 | 135.5 | 135.7 | 152.0 | 157.0 | | | |
| Imports | 114.2 | 113.0 | 119.1 | 127.5 | 130.8 | 133.2 | 137.0 | 137.5 | | | |
| Balance | 25.5 | 16.6 | 21.1 | 15.9 | 4.7 | 2.5 | 15.0 | 19.5 | | | |

Note: Due to rounding, balance may not agree with import and export data.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service analysis and forecasts using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

^{*}Reflects forecasts in the February 9, 2021, World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report.

Economic Outlook

Economic Activity Set to Increase in Fiscal Year 2021

The global COVID-19 pandemic remains the defining variable impacting economic growth for countries around the globe. The success of both economic relief programs and vaccination deployments is expected to shape the growth rates and extent of recovery in FY 2021. Several new variants of the virus pose concerns for prolonged economic setbacks, but widespread distribution of vaccines has the potential to provide a buffer against further economic disruption. Global gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to grow 5.5 percent in FY 2021. Containing the pandemic, restoring consumer confidence, and boosting consumption levels are essential to advancing growth.

The acute global GDP decline of approximately 3.5 percent in FY 2020 created substantial global market shocks, which were limited by fiscal and monetary policy actions deployed by central banks and governments around the world. The U.S. economy contracted by 3.5 percent in FY 2020, and projected FY 2021 growth is revised upwards to 4.0 percent from a previous projection of 3.1 percent. The Eurozone economy declined by 5.1 percent in FY 2020, a sharp decline but still less than the previously anticipated -8.3 percent. However, the FY 2021 growth projection for the Eurozone is lowered from 5.2 percent to 4.5 percent as service-sector-dependent advanced economies face ongoing challenges from the pandemic. The latest fourth fiscal quarter 2020 statistics from the Eurozone showed member nations' economies contracted relative to the prior quarter. Personal savings rates across the United States and many other advanced economies remain above pre-pandemic levels, creating expectations that pent-up consumer demand may be released once the pandemic is contained and economies are able to fully re-open.

Canada's FY 2021 growth rate is revised downward to 3.6 percent from 5.2 percent. Mexico's projected growth rate is revised upward from 2.2 percent to 4.3 percent. Real GDP in Latin America and the Caribbean collectively declined by 7.4 percent in FY 2020 and is expected to rebound with a 4.1-percent growth rate in FY 2021. Brazil's GDP is projected to grow by 3.3 percent in FY 2021 following a contraction of 4.5 percent in FY 2020.

Emerging market and developing economies are expected to grow by 6.3 percent in FY 2021 after contracting by 2.4 percent in FY 2020. After exceeding growth expectations and achieving GDP growth of 2.3 percent in FY 2020, China's projected growth rate is expected to reach 8.1 percent in FY 2021. China's continued recovery is dependent on multiple factors including

continued containment of virus outbreaks, sustained consumer confidence, and the successful recovery of its major trading partners. Japan is set to improve from a 5.5-percent decline in GDP in FY 2020 with a 3.1-percent growth in FY 2021.

The impact of wide-ranging adaptations in monetary policy and shifts in international trade flows due to the pandemic have had notable impacts on foreign exchange rates over the last 14 months. The initial outbreak of COVID-19 caused a flight of currency toward the U.S. dollar, leading to its dramatic appreciation in early 2020. As the outbreak steadied, and interest rates on U.S. Treasuries remained low relative to government debt from other currency safe havens, particularly the European Union's Euro, the dollar has depreciated steadily since April. However, the U.S. dollar appreciated against many emerging market currencies, such as the Brazilian real and the Indian rupee, during 2020. The recent currency trend of a weakening U.S. dollar relative to the Japanese yen, Euro, and Chinese renminbi yuan is expected to continue into 2021 but moderate as the year progresses.

Table 2-Macroeconomic variables affecting U.S. agricultural exports 1/

| | Real excha | inge rate 2/ | Real GDP | per capita g | rowth rate | Share | of World | Share of U.S. |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | 2021 Previous | GDP | Population | · |
| Region and country 3/ | | change | | | forecast | | 2017-19 ave | erage |
| World | 3.1 | -1.2 | -4.4 | 5.5 | 4.0 | | | |
| North America | 7.4 | -3.4 | -4.9 | 5.1 | 3.3 | 27.4 | 6.6 | 28.9 |
| United States | | | -4.3 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 23.9 | 4.4 | |
| Canada | 1.5 | -3.5 | -7.1 | 3.6 | 5.2 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 15.5 |
| Mexico | 10.0 | -3.3 | -9.0 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 13.4 |
| Emerging markets 4/ | 2.9 | -5.7 | -3.1 | 6.3 | 5.8 | 24.8 | 44.3 | 13.1 |
| Brazil | 28.5 | -0.5 | -5.8 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 0.5 |
| Russia | 9.4 | -3.2 | -4.1 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 0.1 |
| India | -0.1 | -0.9 | -10.3 | 8.9 | 8.8 | 3.2 | 17.4 | 1.0 |
| Indonesia | 2.3 | -4.5 | -1.5 | 2.9 | 6.1 | 1.2 | 3.5 | 2.2 |
| China | -1.3 | -6.7 | 1.9 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 16.5 | 18.6 | 9.3 |
| Europe and Central Asia | -1.5 | -1.4 | -6.9 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 25.5 | 11.2 | 8.8 |
| Eurozone | -0.3 | -0.7 | -8.3 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 14.5 | 4.5 | 8.2 |
| Ukraine | 2.8 | 0.9 | -7.2 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Turkey | 11.4 | -6.2 | -5.0 | 3.8 | 5.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 |
| Asia and Oceania | 0.9 | -0.5 | -4.1 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 34.8 | 54.5 | 43.6 |
| Japan | -0.8 | 0.2 | -5.3 | 3.1 | 2.3 | 5.5 | 1.7 | 9.5 |
| South Korea | 2.4 | -1.9 | -1.9 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 0.7 | 6.1 |
| Australia | 2.1 | -2.0 | -4.2 | 1.6 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 1.1 |
| Other Southeast Asia 5/ | 2.6 | -1.5 | -1.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 4.1 | 7.1 |
| Latin America | 8.3 | 2.7 | -8.1 | 4.1 | 3.6 | 4.6 | 8.1 | 11.0 |
| Argentina | 6.7 | 13.4 | -11.8 | 2.1 | 4.9 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Other South America 6/ | 8.3 | 2.4 | -4.3 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 3.7 |
| Middle East and North Africa | 0.7 | 1.6 | -5.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 5.2 | 7.0 | 6.4 |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 5.7 | -2.1 | -3.0 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 14.2 | 1.2 |

Notes: 1/ Real values have a 2015 base year. 2/ Local currency per U.S. dollar. A negative growth rate indicates a depreciation of the dollar. 3/ World real exchange rate is a U.S. agricultural exports-weighted index. 4/ Countries listed under "emerging markets" are also included under other listed regions. 5/ Includes Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. 6/ Includes Chile, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

Sources: Calculations and compilation by USDA, Economic Research Service using data and forecasts from Reuters, IHS Markit, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, and Oxford Economics.

Export Products

FY 2021 U.S. grain and feed exports are forecast at \$37.8 billion, up \$2.2 billion from the November forecast mostly on higher corn, sorghum, wheat, and rice unit values. Corn exports are forecast at \$14.0 billion, up \$800 million as higher unit values more than offset slightly lower volumes, which, if realized, will remain a record. Export prospects remain bright, with unprecedented sales to China; robust sales to traditional markets including Japan, Mexico, and Colombia; and strong sales to North Africa. Since October, among major corn exporters, U.S. corn has generally been the least expensive. Sorghum exports are forecast at \$2.1 billion, up \$600 million on both higher unit values and volumes as sales and shipments to China remain strong. Feed and fodder exports are unchanged at \$8.1 billion. Wheat exports are forecast at \$6.9 billion, up \$700 million mainly on higher unit values. Wheat prices have climbed due to increased global demand, mostly from China and tighter stocks among the major wheatexporting nations. Unfavorable weather conditions and export restrictions have limited supplies from Argentina and Russia, respectively, further pushing prices upward. Rice exports are forecast at \$2.0 billion, up \$100 million based on higher unit values expected for the remainder of the fiscal year amid strong domestic demand. Overall, rice volumes are unchanged as higher export sales to the Western Hemisphere are offset by weaker sales to the Middle East.

FY 2021 oilseed and product exports are forecast at a record \$38.3 billion, up \$2.0 billion from the November forecast. Soybeans account for the majority of the gains, as values are forecast up \$1.1 billion to a record \$27.4 billion. Soybean export volumes are forecast at record levels due to surging China demand, and significantly reduced U.S. stocks are driving prices higher. Soybean meal exports are up nearly \$700 million to \$5.7 billion, and soybean oil exports are up almost \$200 million to \$1.2 billion, both mostly on higher unit values.

FY 2021 cotton exports are forecast up \$600 million from the November forecast to \$5.9 billion on higher unit values and volume. Rising expectations of recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 are propelling mill buying and supporting prices.

FY 2021 livestock, dairy, and poultry exports are forecast up \$300 million from the November projection to \$32.6 billion as increases in beef, poultry products, and fats and greases outweigh declines in dairy products. Beef is up \$300 million to \$7.4 billion largely on higher unit values. Pork is forecast unchanged at \$6.8 billion as lower volumes are offset by higher unit values. Poultry and poultry products are forecast \$100 million higher to \$5.3 billion largely on robust chicken paw shipments to China and higher expected unit values. Dairy exports are lowered by

\$100 million to \$6.5 billion as higher export volumes of skimmed milk powder, butter, and whey are offset by lower unit values.

FY 2021 horticultural product exports are unchanged from the November forecast at \$34.5 billion. Whole and processed tree nuts are unchanged at \$9.0 billion, with most shipments destined for Europe and Asia. Fresh fruit and vegetables are unchanged at \$6.9 billion on stable shipments to top markets Canada and Mexico. Processed fruits and vegetables are unchanged at \$6.5 billion on steady shipments to Canada.

Table 3-U.S. agricultural exports: Value and volume by commodity, fiscal years 2020-2021

| Commodity | October - I | December | Fiscal year | Forecast Fiscal year 2021 | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|
| | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | 2020 | November | February | |
| /ALUE | | | | | | |
| | | | Billion dollar | S | | |
| Grains and feeds 1/ | 6.608 | 8.107 | 30.017 | 35.6 | 37.8 | |
| Wheat 2/ | 1.419 | 1.459 | 6.258 | 6.2 | 6.9 | |
| Rice | 0.486 | 0.572 | 1.812 | 1.9 | 2.0 | |
| Coarse grains 3/ | 1.528 | 2.841 | 9.311 | 14.8 | 16.1 | |
| Corn | 1.349 | 2.345 | 8.214 | 13.2 | 14.0 | |
| Feeds and fodders | 1.964 | 2.034 | 7.976 | 8.1 | 8.1 | |
| Oilseeds and products 4/ | 9.002 | 17.108 | 27.221 | 36.3 | 38.3 | |
| Soybeans | 6.631 | 14.446 | 17.868 | 26.3 | 27.4 | |
| Soybean meal 5/ | 1.117 | 1.439 | 4.461 | 5.0 | 5.7 | |
| Soybean oil | 0.240 | 0.244 | 0.980 | 1.0 | 1.2 | |
| ivestock, dairy, and poultry | 8.193 | 8.317 | 31.384 | 32.3 | 32.6 | |
| Livestock products | 5.324 | 5.420 | 19.848 | 20.5 | 20.9 | |
| Beef and veal 6/ | 1.734 | 1.864 | 6.644 | 7.1 | 7.4 | |
| Pork 6/ | 1.787 | 1.741 | 6.721 | 6.8 | 6.8 | |
| Beef and pork variety meats 6/ | 0.435 | 0.439 | 1.603 | 1.6 | 1.6 | |
| Hides, skins, and furs | 0.231 | 0.193 | 0.861 | 0.9 | 0.9 | |
| Poultry and products | 1.304 | 1.343 | 5.073 | 5.2 | 5.3 | |
| Broiler meat 6/7/ | 0.814 | 0.778 | 3.099 | 3.2 | 3.2 | |
| Dairy products | 1.565 | 1.555 | 6.463 | 6.6 | 6.5 | |
| obacco, unmanufactured | 0.146 | 0.130 | 0.682 | 0.7 | 0.6 | |
| Cotton | 1.007 | 1.371 | 5.604 | 5.3 | 5.9 | |
| Seeds | 0.542 | 0.518 | 1.645 | 1.7 | 1.7 | |
| Horticultural products 8/ | 9.634 | 9.629 | 33.754 | 34.5 | 34.5 | |
| Fruits and vegetables, fresh | 1.769 | 1.716 | 6.958 | 6.9 | 6.9 | |
| Fruits and vegetables, processed 8/ | 1.753 | 1.744 | 6.533 | 6.5 | 6.5 | |
| Tree nuts, whole and processed | 3.119 | 2.975 | 8.538 | 9.0 | 9.0 | |
| Sugar and tropical products 9/ | 1.482 | 1.395 | 5.407 | 5.7 | 5.7 | |
| Major bulk products 10/ | 11.273 | 20.882 | 41.734 | 55.2 | 58.9 | |
| Total | 36.617 | 46.576 | 135.723 | 152.0 | 157.0 | |
| /OLUME | | | - Million metric to | ons | | |
| Wheat 2/ | 6.216 | 5 E70 | 26 602 | 26.2 | 26.2 | |
| Rice | 0.964 | 5.579 1.134 | 26.692 3.140 | 3.6 | 26.3 3.6 | |
| | 0.964 8.274 | 1.134 | | 3.6 72.9 | 72.8 | |
| Coarse grains 3/ | | | 52.502 | | | |
| Corn | 7.353 | 12.124 | 46.858 | 66.0 | 65.0 | |
| Feeds and fodders | 5.093 | 5.302 | 20.927 | 21.8 | 21.8 | |
| Soybeans | 18.376 | 33.487 | 49.054 | 59.9 | 61.2 | |
| Soybean meal 5/ | 3.159 | 3.472 | 12.770 | 12.2 | 12.9 | |
| Soybean oil | 0.315 | 0.270 | 1.288 | 1.2 | 1.2 | |
| Beef and veal 6/ | 0.247 | 0.271 | 0.953 | 1.0 | 1.0 | |
| Pork 6/ | 0.638 | 0.638 | 2.508 | 2.5 | 2.5 | |
| Beef and pork variety meats 6/ | 0.192 | 0.177 | 0.694 | 0.7 | 0.7 | |
| Broiler meat 6/7/ | 0.856 | 0.890 | 3.310 | 3.3 | 3.4 | |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured | 0.018 | 0.014 | 0.097 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| Cotton | 0.629 | 0.860 | 3.591 | 3.2 | 3.4 | |
| Major bulk products 10/ | 34.477 | 55.255 | 135.075 | 165.9 | 167.4 | |

Sources: Compiled by USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service analysis and forecasts using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

^{1/} Includes corn gluten feed and meal and processed grain products. 2/ Excludes wheat flour. 3/ Includes corn, barley, sorghum, oats, and rye. 4/ Excludes corn gluten feed and meal. 5/ Includes soy flours made from protein meals. 6/ Includes chilled, frozen, and processed meats. 7/ Includes only federally inspected product. 8/ Includes juices. 9/ Includes coffee and cocoa products, tea, and spices. 10/ Includes wheat, rice, coarse grains, soybeans, cotton, and unmanufactured tobacco.

Regional Exports

Outlook for Fiscal Year 2021 Exports

Agricultural exports in FY 2021 are forecast at a record \$157.0 billion, \$5.0 billion higher than the November projection, driven primarily by record demand from China.

Asia

The export forecast for China is raised \$4.5 billion from November to a record \$31.5 billion. October—December exports reached a historic high of \$14.4 billion, largely a result of strong shipments of soybeans, corn, sorghum, wheat, cotton, and chicken paws. Outstanding sales of many of these products remain high, with corn sales at unprecedented levels.

Forecast exports to Hong Kong are adjusted downward \$300 million from the November projection to \$2.2 billion on account of weaker-than-expected sales of tree nuts, beef, pork, and poultry products.

Western Hemisphere

The export forecasts for Canada and Mexico are unchanged at \$21.0 billion and \$19.5 billion, respectively.

Forecast exports to South America are up \$200 million, split evenly between Venezuela and Ecuador. Exports to Venezuela are up \$100 million to \$400 million on stronger-than-expected first quarter shipments of rice, corn, and soybean meal. Robust soybean meal sales to Ecuador are behind the \$100-million increase to the country's forecast.

Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Oceania

Exports to the EU are forecast at \$11.4 billion, unchanged from the previous projection.

The export forecast for North Africa is up \$200 million due to strong soybean and corn sales to Egypt.

Table 4-U.S. agricultural exports: Value by region, fiscal years 2020-2021

| Region and country 1/ | October | - December | Fiscal year | Share of 2020 | Forecast fiscal year 2021 | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------|--|
| | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | 2020 | total | November | February | |
| | | Billion dolla | ırs | Percent | Billion dollars | | |
| VALUE | | | | | | | |
| Asia | 15.980 | 25.312 | 58.945 | 43.4 | 71.9 | 76.1 | |
| East Asia | 11.248 | 20.501 | 41.487 | 30.6 | 53.8 | 58.0 | |
| Japan | 2.630 | 2.700 | 11.417 | 8.4 | 12.4 | 12.4 | |
| China | 5.011 | 14.403 | 17.042 | 12.6 | 27.0 | 31.5 | |
| Hong Kong | 0.887 | 0.610 | 2.295 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | |
| Taiwan | 0.973 | 0.971 | 3.264 | 2.4 | 3.7 | 3.7 | |
| South Korea | 1.746 | 1.816 | 7.461 | 5.5 | 8.2 | 8.2 | |
| Southeast Asia | 3.436 | 3.539 | 13.388 | 9.9 | 13.7 | 13.7 | |
| Indonesia | 0.636 | 0.757 | 2.711 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | |
| Philippines | 0.763 | 0.768 | 3.145 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | |
| Malaysia | 0.289 | 0.270 | 1.078 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.1 | |
| Thailand | 0.554 | 0.596 | 1.732 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.9 | |
| Vietnam | 0.849 | 0.780 | 3.416 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | |
| South Asia | 1.296 | 1.273 | 4.070 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 4.4 | |
| India | 0.414 | 0.451 | 1.395 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | |
| Western Hemisphere | 13.943 | 14.596 | 52.937 | 39.0 | 55.7 | 55.9 | |
| North America | 10.291 | 10.521 | 38.856 | 28.6 | 40.5 | 40.5 | |
| Canada | 5.193 | 5.384 | 20.801 | 15.3 | 21.0 | 21.0 | |
| Mexico | 5.099 | 5.137 | 18.056 | 13.3 | 19.5 | 19.5 | |
| Caribbean | 0.878 | 0.961 | 3.383 | 2.5 | 3.7 | 3.7 | |
| Dominican Republic | 0.333 | 0.366 | 1.304 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | |
| Central America | 1.157 | 1.272 | 4.208 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 4.6 | |
| South America | 1.616 | 1.842 | 6.490 | 4.8 | 6.9 | 7.1 | |
| Brazil | 0.167 | 0.221 | 0.695 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 | |
| Colombia | 0.759 | 0.702 | 2.797 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 3.1 | |
| Peru | 0.179 | 0.196 | 0.827 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.0 | |
| Venezuela | 0.072 | 0.168 | 0.345 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | |
| Europe/Eurasia | 3.519 | 3.576 | 12.139 | 8.9 | 12.4 | 12.4 | |
| European Union-27+UK 2/ | 3.270 | 3.310 | 11.195 | 8.2 | 11.4 | 11.4 | |
| Other Europe 3/ | 0.118 | 0.135 | 0.488 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | |
| FSU-12 4/ | 0.131 | 0.131 | 0.456 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | |
| Russia | 0.046 | 0.061 | 0.191 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| Middle East | 1.525 | 1.284 | 5.278 | 3.9 | 5.7 | 5.7 | |
| Turkey | 0.289 | 0.263 | 1.179 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.342 | 0.335 | 1.209 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | |
| Africa | 1.126 | 1.309 | 4.368 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 4.6 | |
| North Africa | 0.648 | 0.865 | 2.646 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 2.9 | |
| Egypt | 0.452 | 0.621 | 1.761 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 2.0 | |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 0.478 | 0.444 | 1.722 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1.7 | |
| Nigeria | 0.110 | 0.093 | 0.425 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | |
| Oceania | 0.183 | 0.151 | 2.056 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 2.1 | |
| Transshipments via Canada 5/ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | |
| Total | 36.617 | 46.576 | 135.723 | 100.0 | 152.0 | 157.0 | |

^{1/} Projections are based primarily on trend or recent average growth analysis. 2/ The United Kingdom (UK) remained in the EU Customs Union through December 31, 2020. 3/ Major countries include Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and former Yugoslav states. 4/ The 15 Republics of the Former Soviet Union (FSU) minus the 3 Baltic Republics. 5/ Transshipments through Canada have not been allocated to final destination, but are included in the total. Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service analysis and forecasts using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Import Products

Agricultural imports in FY 2021 are forecast to increase to \$137.5 billion, \$500 million above the November forecast and \$4.3 billion above the total value of imports in FY 2020. Increases are expected for the imports of sugar and tropical products, and livestock and dairy products.

The FY 2021 forecast for horticultural product imports remains at \$70.2 billion, \$3.3 billion more than the FY 2020 total. Fresh and processed fruit import values are unchanged from the November forecast despite the 200-thousand-metric-ton reduction in the fruit juice import volume forecast due to the upward trend of fruit juice unit values. The forecast for fresh vegetable imports remains unchanged while the \$200-million increase to the processed vegetable forecast, resulting from an expected 100-thousand-metric-ton increase in import volumes, offsets the \$200-million decrease in the forecast for whole and processed nuts based on a downward trend in nut imports since recent highs in FY 2019. The forecast of increasing horticultural imports through FY 2021 is a continuation of year-over-year increases since 2009.

U.S. imports of sugar and tropical products are forecast to reach \$23.3 billion in FY 2021, a \$100 million upward adjustment from the previous forecast and \$300 million above FY 2020. Sweeteners and their product imports are expected to be worth \$4.9 billion, \$200 million above the last forecast as demand outpaces increased domestic production. Natural rubber imports are forecast to be \$100 million less than the November forecast at \$1.5 billion on lower than expected first quarter import value after an upturn in the last quarter of FY 2020.

Livestock, dairy, and poultry imports are raised \$500 million to \$18.3 billion largely on robust animal by-product demand. U.S. imports of animal by-products such as inedible tallow are expanding as manufacturers seek raw material to support low-carbon biofuel production. Cattle and calves are lowered \$100 million on slightly reduced volumes. Dairy imports are up \$100 million due to higher expected unit values of a number of products. Pork, beef, and poultry and products are unchanged.

The forecast for total oilseeds and oilseed product imports remains the same as the November projection of \$9.4 billion. The vegetable oil import value is forecast unchanged as increasing unit values compensate for decreased import volumes. The forecast for grains and feed product imports is unchanged from the November projection at \$14.7 billion for FY 2021. Other imports are reduced \$100 million from the November forecast due to decreases in import volumes of unmanufactured tobacco.

Table 5–U.S. agricultural imports: Value and volume by commodity, fiscal years 2020–2021

| Commodity | October-E | December | Fiscal year | | Forecast Fiscal year 2021 | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------------------|----------|------------------------------|--|--|
| - | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | 2020 | November | February | | |
| VALUE | | | | | | | |
| | | | Billion dollars | - | | | |
| Livestock, dairy, and poultry | 4.519 | 4.688 | 18.343 | 17.8 | 18.3 | | |
| Livestock and meats | 3.415 | 3.555 | 13.940 | 13.5 | 13.8 | | |
| Cattle and calves | 0.496 | 0.461 | 1.796 | 1.7 | 1.6 | | |
| Swine | 0.074 | 0.085 | 0.250 | 0.3 | 0.3 | | |
| Beef and veal | 1.471 | 1.482 | 6.815 | 6.4 | 6.4 | | |
| Pork | 0.382 | 0.437 | 1.473 | 1.6 | 1.6 | | |
| Dairy products | 0.922 | 0.945 | 3.638 | 3.6 | 3.7 | | |
| Cheese | 0.399 | 0.421 | 1.174 | 1.2 | 1.3 | | |
| Grains and feed | 3.644 | 3.906 | 14.334 | 14.7 | 14.7 | | |
| Grain products | 2.530 | 2.817 | 9.823 | 10.0 | 10.0 | | |
| Oilseeds and products | 2.180 | 2.372 | 9.240 | 9.4 | 9.4 | | |
| Vegetable oils | 1.249 | 1.309 | 5.735 | 6.0 | 6.0 | | |
| Horticulture products | 15.724 | 17.515 | 66.875 | 70.2 | 70.2 | | |
| Fruits, fresh | 3.205 | 3.394 | 14.046 | 15.1 | 15.1 | | |
| Fruits, processed | 1.313 | 1.449 | 5.553 | 5.8 | 5.8 | | |
| Fruit juices | 0.491 | 0.496 | 1.821 | 1.8 | 1.8 | | |
| Nuts, whole and processed | 0.823 | 0.691 | 2.774 | 3.1 | 2.9 | | |
| Vegetables, fresh | 2.345 | 2.589 | 9.890 | 10.0 | 10.2 | | |
| Vegetables, processed | 1.400 | 1.586 | 5.783 | 6.0 | 6.2 | | |
| Wine | 1.603 | 1.660 | 6.203 | 6.1 | 6.1 | | |
| Malt beer | 1.270 | 1.563 | 5.447 | 5.7 | 5.7 | | |
| Essential oils | 1.017 | 1.080 | 4.064 | 4.1 | 4.1 | | |
| Cut flowers and nursery stock | 0.528 | 0.597 | 2.129 | 2.1 | 2.1 | | |
| Sugar and tropical products | 5.526 | 5.798 | 23.001 | 23.2 | 23.3 | | |
| Sweeteners and products | 1.199 | 1.236 | 5.124 | 4.7 | 4.9 | | |
| Confections | 0.504 | 0.534 | 1.908 | 1.9 | 1.9 | | |
| Cocoa and products | 1.178 | 1.177 | 4.950 | 4.8 | 4.8 | | |
| Coffee and products | 1.404 | 1.439 | 5.983 | 6.1 | 6.1 | | |
| Rubber, natural | 0.361 | 0.289 | 1.269 | 1.6 | 1.5 | | |
| Other imports 1/ | 0.369 | 0.356 | 1.428 | 1.7 | 1.6 | | |
| Total agricultural imports | 31.962 | 34.635 | 133.222 | 137.0 | 137.5 | | |
| VOLUME | | | | | | | |
| | | | Million metric tons | | | | |
| Wine 2/ | 0.351 | 0.405 | 1.464 | 1.3 | 1.3 | | |
| Malt beer 2/ | 0.948 | 1.159 | 4.053 | 4.2 | 4.2 | | |
| Fruit juices 2/ | 1.115 | 1.037 | 4.113 | 4.5 | 4.3 | | |
| Cattle and calves 3/ | 0.583 | 0.566 | 2.131 | 2.1 | 2.1 | | |
| Swine 3/ | 1.305 | 1.489 | 5.112 | 5.1 | 5.7 | | |
| Beef and veal | 0.241 | 0.234 | 1.139 | 1.1 | 1.0 | | |
| Pork | 0.098 | 0.108 | 0.377 | 0.4 | 0.4 | | |
| Fruits, fresh | 2.764 | 2.898 | 12.516 | 12.9 | 12.9 | | |
| Fruits, processed | 0.442 | 0.475 | 1.942 | 1.9 | 1.9 | | |
| Vegetables, fresh | 2.066 | 2.208 | 8.184 | 8.6 | 8.6 | | |
| Vegetables, processed | 1.024 | 1.159 | 4.331 | 4.5 | 4.6 | | |
| Vegetable oils | 1.325 | 1.171 | 5.133 | 4.9 | 4.9 | | |
| Cocoa and products | 0.300 | 0.305 | 1.369 | 1.4 | 1.4 | | |
| Coffee and products | 0.382 | 0.379 | 1.596 | 1.7 | 1.7 | | |

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service analysis and forecasts using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

^{1/}Largely tobacco and planting seeds. 2/Billion liters. 3/Million head.

Regional Imports

Outlook for Fiscal Year 2021 Imports

Western Hemisphere

Regional imports from the Western Hemisphere are forecast to increase by \$300 million from the previous forecast to \$75.8 billion. Mexico is expected to remain the largest foreign supplier of agricultural goods to the United States, with Canada second, and the EU (including the UK) just behind as the third largest. Mexico's sales are forecast at \$29.4 billion, \$100 million less than the November forecast, due to decreases in expected imports of livestock. The forecast value of Canadian agricultural products sold to the United States is enhanced \$200 million to \$24.7 billion on upward adjustments to U.S. imports of meat products.

Imports from South America in FY 2021 are projected to rise \$200 million from the November forecast to \$15.0 billion. Imports from Brazil are expected to increase \$200 million from the previous forecast due to greater expected sales of sugar and sweeteners.

Europe

Imports from the EU for FY 2021 are forecast to be \$24.6 billion, a \$100 million increase from the November forecast due to increased imports of cheese products.

Asia

The forecast for imports from Asia is unchanged from the previous forecast at \$24.2 billion in FY 2021 as an expected increase of \$100 million in vegetable imports from China offsets an expected decrease of natural rubber product imports from Indonesia.

Oceania

The forecast for imports from Oceania is raised by \$100 million from the previous forecast to \$6.5 billion in FY 2021 because of anticipated increases in imports of meat products.

Africa and Middle East

Imports from Africa and the Middle East are expected to remain unchanged from the November forecast at \$3.0 billion and \$1.6 billion, respectively.

Table 6-U.S. agricultural imports: Value by region, fiscal years 2020-21

| 5 | 0.1.1 | | - . | Forecast | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Region and country | October–D FY 2020 | FY 2021 | Fiscal year 2020 | Fiscal ye November | ear 2021 February | | |
| VALUE | 1 1 2020 | 112021 | 2020 | November | Tebluary | | |
| YALOL | | | Billion dolla | rs | | | |
| Western Hemisphere | 17.885 | 19.429 | 74.466 | 75.5 | 75.8 | | |
| Canada | 6.090 | 6.551 | 24.022 | 24.5 | 24.7 | | |
| Mexico | 6.709 | 7.445 | 29.405 | 29.5 | 29.4 | | |
| Central America | 1.215 | 1.136 | 5.725 | 6.0 | 6.0 | | |
| Costa Rica | 0.346 | 0.371 | 1.579 | 1.5 | 1.5 | | |
| Guatemala | 0.492 | 0.466 | 2.210 | 2.7 | 2.7 | | |
| Other Central America | 0.377 | 0.299 | 1.936 | 1.8 | 1.8 | | |
| Caribbean | 0.122 | 0.138 | 0.701 | 0.7 | 0.7 | | |
| South America | 3.749 | 4.159 | 14.613 | 14.8 | 15.0 | | |
| Argentina | 0.403 | 0.349 | 1.418 | 1.4 | 1.4 | | |
| Brazil | 0.931 | 1.126 | 3.234 | 3.2 | 3.4 | | |
| Chile | 0.424 | 0.437 | 2.749 | 3.0 | 3.0 | | |
| Colombia | 0.674 | 0.703 | 2.682 | 2.6 | 2.6 | | |
| Peru | 0.884 | 1.031 | 2.698 | 2.9 | 2.9 | | |
| Other South America | 0.433 | 0.513 | 1.832 | 1.7 | 1.7 | | |
| Europe and Eurasia | 6.532 | 7.111 | 25.533 | 26.3 | 26.4 | | |
| European Union-27+UK 1/ | 6.096 | 6.637 | 23.901 | 24.5 | 24.6 | | |
| Other Europe | 0.436 | 0.474 | 1.632 | 1.8 | 1.8 | | |
| Asia | 5.071 | 5.510 | 22.110 | 24.2 | 24.2 | | |
| East Asia | 1.397 | 1.620 | 5.837 | 6.1 | 6.2 | | |
| China | 0.859 | 0.960 | 3.654 | 4.1 | 4.2 | | |
| Other East Asia | 0.538 | 0.660 | 2.183 | 2.0 | 2.0 | | |
| Southeast Asia | 2.973 | 3.030 | 13.304 | 15.1 | 15.0 | | |
| Indonesia | 0.826 | 0.664 | 3.010 | 3.4 | 3.3 | | |
| Malaysia | 0.229 | 0.235 | 1.035 | 1.0 | 1.0 | | |
| Thailand | 0.715 | 0.689 | 3.056 | 3.2 | 3.2 | | |
| Vietnam | 0.491 | 0.534 | 2.096 | 3.1 | 3.1 | | |
| Other Southeast Asia | 0.712 | 0.908 | 4.107 | 4.4 | 4.4 | | |
| South Asia | 0.701 | 0.860 | 2.969 | 3.0 | 3.0 | | |
| India | 0.619 | 0.752 | 2.596 | 2.7 | 2.7 | | |
| Oceania | 1.397 | 1.378 | 6.122 | 6.4 | 6.5 | | |
| Australia | 0.898 | 0.821 | 3.456 | 3.8 | 3.9 | | |
| New Zealand | 0.466 | 0.511 | 2.556 | 2.6 | 2.6 | | |
| Africa | 0.663 | 0.700 | 3.194 | 3.0 | 3.0 | | |
| Sub-Saharan | 0.559 | 0.534 | 2.578 | 2.6 | 2.6 | | |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 0.148 | 0.141 | 0.876 | 0.9 | 0.9 | | |
| Middle East | 0.359 | 0.430 | 1.463 | 1.6 | 1.6 | | |
| Turkey | 0.240 | 0.274 | 0.932 | 1.0 | 1.0 | | |
| World total | 31.962 | 34.635 | 133.222 | 137.0 | 137.5 | | |

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service analysis and forecasts using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

^{1/} The United Kingdom (UK) remained in the EU Customs Union through December 31, 2020.

Reliability Tables

Table 7-Reliability of quarterly U.S. export projections, by commodity and quarter

| | Rootr | | uared err I 2016–20 | | 1/ | | | cast erro cal 2020 | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|------------------------|-----|------|----------|------|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Commodity | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug |
| Export value | | | RMSE | | | | F | Percent | | |
| Grains and feeds | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 0 | -2 | -1 | -2 | C |
| Wheat | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0 | -4 | 2 | -3 | -1 |
| Rice | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 10 | -1 |
| Coarse grains | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 5 | 2 | -3 | -3 | 1 |
| Corn | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 14 | 10 | 3 | -3 | 1 |
| Feeds and fodders | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | -3 | -3 | -2 | -2 | C |
| Oilseeds and products | 2.7 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.1 | -6 | -1 | -1 | -7 | -7 |
| Soybeans | 2.7 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.1 | -7 | 0 | 2 | -8 | -10 |
| Soybean meal | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -2 | 3 | -4 | -4 | -4 |
| Soybean oil | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -34 | -29 | -29 | -8 | 2 |
| Livestock, dairy, and poultry | 2.6 | 1.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Livestock products | 1.7 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| Beef and veal | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 8 | 1 |
| Pork | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -6 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| Beef and pork variety meats | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | C |
| Hides, skins, and furs | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -2 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 17 |
| Poultry and products | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 8 | -1 |
| Broiler meat | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 6 | 6 | 19 | 16 | Ċ |
| Dairy products | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -15 | -10 | -7 | -4 | 1 |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 3 | 3 |
| Cotton | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 3 | 9 | 11 | -7 | -4 |
| Planting seeds | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 9 | 3 |
| Horticultural products | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| Fruits and vegetables, fresh | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Fruits and vegetables, fresh | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 1 |
| Tree nuts | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 2 |
| | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 5 |
| Sugar and tropical products | | | | | 2.6 | -1 | 1 | | -6 | -5 |
| Major bulk products | 7.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 4.1 | 1.4 | - i 1 | 2 | 2 3 | -6 0 | -t -1 |
| Total agricultural exports | 6.8 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 2.9 | 1.4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | U | -1 |
| Export volume | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 3.3 | 3.2 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | -2 | -6 | 3 | -2 | C |
| Rice | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 18 | 18 | 21 | 18 | 5 |
| Coarse grains | 9.4 | 9.3 | 8.8 | 5.9 | 1.3 | 10 | 1 | -5 | 0 | 1 |
| Corn | 9.5 | 9.3 | 8.9 | 6.0 | 1.4 | 17 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Feeds and fodders | 0.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.7 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 | -2 |
| Soybeans | 6.2 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 2.6 | -2 | -2 | 0 | -8 | -6 |
| Soybean meal | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.3 | -3 | -5 | -6 | -4 | -3 |
| Soybean oil | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -38 | -38 | -30 | -7 | 1 |
| Beef and veal | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 5 | -6 |
| Pork | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -7 | -4 | -4 | 0 | 4 |
| Beef and pork variety meats | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 10 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 2 |
| Broiler meat | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -1 | 0 | 0 | -2 | C |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 3 | 55 | 55 | 3 | 3 |
| Cotton | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | -8 | -3 |
| Major bulk products | 11.7 | 11.5 | 12.5 | 8.4 | 2.7 | 3 | -1 | 0 | -3 | -3 |

Notes: 1/ Root mean squared error (RMSE) is the squared root of the average squared difference between the forecast and actual values.

 $Sources: USDA, Economic \ Research \ Service \ and \ USDA, For eign \ Agricultural \ Service.$

| Table 8–Reliability of quarterly U | | | | | | r | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|-----|-------|------|------|-----------|-----|------|
| | Rootn | - | uared erro | | ∃) 1/ | | Fore | cast erro | rs | |
| | | Fisca | 1 2016–20 | 020 | | | Fis | cal 2020 | | |
| Region and country | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. |
| Export value | | | RSME | | | | P | ercent | | |
| Asia | 4.6 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.2 | -9 | -4 | -2 | -4 | -5 |
| East Asia | 3.8 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.8 | -13 | -6 | -4 | -7 | -6 |
| Japan | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 12 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| China | 5.3 | 4.0 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 2.3 | -56 | -36 | -18 | -24 | -18 |
| Hong Kong | 0.9 | 8.0 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 57 | 57 | 31 | 9 | 9 |
| Taiwan | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 19 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 4 |
| South Korea | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 |
| Southeast Asia | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | -2 |
| Indonesia | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Philippines | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -1 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 |
| Malaysia | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 39 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 2 |
| Thailand | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 10 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Vietnam | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| South Asia | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.1 | -2 | -2 | 8 | 8 | 3 |
| India | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 8 | 8 | 29 | 29 | 8 |
| Western Hemisphere | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| North America | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 8.0 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| Canada | 0.9 | 8.0 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Mexico | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 |
| Caribbean | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Dominican Republic | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Central America | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -5 | -5 | -5 | 5 | 5 |
| South America | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0 | -1 | -6 | -6 | -3 |
| Brazil | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -14 | -14 | -14 | -14 | -14 |
| Colombia | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0 | -3 | -3 | -3 | 0 |
| Peru | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 33 | 33 | -3 | -3 | -3 |
| Venezuela | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -42 | -42 | -42 | -42 | -13 |
| Europe and Eurasia | 1.3 | 1.2 | 8.0 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 22 | 19 | 10 | 4 | 1 |
| European Union-27+UK 2/ | 1.2 | 1.1 | 8.0 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 21 | 19 | 10 | 3 | 0 |
| Other Europe | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 2 |
| FSU-12 3/ | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 32 | 32 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Russia | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 57 | 57 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Middle East | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 4 |
| Turkey | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 19 | 19 | 27 | 27 | 2 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 14 | 14 | 6 | 6 | -2 |
| Africa | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 2 | -3 | 0 | -3 | -3 |
| North Africa | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 0.6 | 0.2 | -3 | -11 | -11 | -11 | -3 |
| Egypt | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | -6 | -17 | -17 | -17 | -6 |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 10 | 10 | 16 | 10 | -1 |
| Nigeria | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 41 | 41 | 65 | 41 | -6 |
| Oceania | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

Notes: 1/Root mean squared error (RMSE) is the squared root of the average squared difference between the forecast and actual values. 2/The United Kingdom (UK) remained in the EU Customs Union through December 31, 2020. 3/The 15 Republics of the Former Soviet Union (FSU) minus the 3 Baltic Republics.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 9–Reliability of quarterly U.S. import projections, by commodity and quarter

| Table 9–Reliability of quarterly U.S | | | | | | arter | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------|---------|-----|-------|-------|------|-----------|-----|--------|
| | Rootn | nean squ | | | ≣) 1/ | | Fore | cast erro | rs | |
| | | Fiscal | 2016–20 | 020 | | | F | iscal 202 | 20 | |
| Commodity | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. |
| | | | | | | | | | - | |
| Import value | | F | RSME | | | | P | ercent | | |
| Livestock, dairy, and poultry | 1.2 | 1.0 | 8.0 | 0.5 | 0.2 | -3 | -4 | -4 | -4 | -2 |
| Livestock and meats | 1.2 | 0.9 | 8.0 | 0.6 | 0.3 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -6 | -2 |
| Cattle and calves | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -11 | -5 |
| Swine | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 60 | 20 | 20 | 20 | -20 |
| Beef and veal | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | -16 | -15 | -15 | -10 | -5 |
| Pork | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 9 | 9 | 2 | -5 | 2 |
| Dairy products | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 2 | -1 | -1 | 2 | -1 |
| Cheese | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 19 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Grains and feed | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.3 | -9 | -4 | -3 | -3 | -2 |
| Grain products | 8.0 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -11 | -3 | -1 | -1 | 0 |
| Oilseeds and products | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | -2 | -2 |
| Vegetable oils | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 5 | 5 |
| Horticulture products | 4.4 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 1.7 | -4 | -1 | -1 | -4 | -1 |
| Fruits, fresh | 0.9 | 0.9 | 8.0 | 0.6 | 0.3 | -5 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 2 |
| Fruits, preserved | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 6 | -3 |
| Fruit juices | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 21 | 21 | 15 | 4 | -7 |
| Nuts and preparations | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 23 | 23 | 19 | 19 | 8 |
| Vegetables, fresh | 0.9 | 0.9 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 0.5 | -15 | -15 | -14 | -16 | -9 |
| Vegetables, processed | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -1 |
| Wine | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | -2 | -2 |
| Malt beer | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -1 | 3 | 6 | -6 | -6 |
| Essential oils | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cut flowers and nursery stock | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -6 | -6 | -1 | -1 | -1 |
| Sugar and tropical products | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Sweeteners and products | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -8 | -8 | -6 | -4 | -4 |
| Confections | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -6 | -6 | -6 | 0 | 0 |
| Cocoa and products | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -5 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -5 |
| Coffee beans and products | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Natural rubber | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 26 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Other imports | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 19 | 26 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| Total agricultural imports | 7.8 | 7.1 | 5.3 | 3.9 | 2.2 | -3 | -1 | -1 | -2 | -1 |
| · · | | | | | | | | | | |
| Import volume | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wine | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -11 | -4 | -4 | -11 | -11 |
| Malt beer | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | -6 | -6 |
| Fruit juices | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 24 | 24 | 29 | 12 | 2 |
| Cattle and calves | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -6 |
| Swine | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -4 | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 |
| Beef and veal | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -12 | -10 | -10 | -12 | -3 |
| Pork | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Fruitsfresh | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | -1 |
| Fruitsprocessed | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | -2 |
| Vegetablesfresh | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -2 | -1 | -1 | -3 | -1 |
| Vegetablesprocessed | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -3 | -3 | -3 | -3 | -1 |
| Vegetable oils | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1 | 3 | 5 | -3 | -3 |
| Cocoa and products | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| Coffee beans and products | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -6 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 2 7 |

Notes: 1/ Root mean squared error (RMSE) is the squared root of the average squared difference between the forecast and actual value.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 10-Reliability of quarterly U.S. import projections, by country and quarter

| Table 10–Reliability of quarterly l | | | ared erro | | | ıcı | Fore | cast erro | rs | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------|-----------|-----|-------|---------|------|-----------|-----|------|--|
| | 1100111 | | 2016–20 | • | -/ '/ | | | cal 2020 | | | |
| Region and country | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. | Aug. | Nov. | Feb. | May | Aug. | |
| | | | | | J | | | | • | | |
| Import value | | F | RSME | | | Percent | | | | | |
| Western Hemisphere | 3.5 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.3 | -5 | -3 | -3 | -5 | -3 | |
| Canada | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.4 | -4 | -4 | -3 | -5 | -3 | |
| Mexico | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.8 | -9 | -5 | -4 | -8 | -3 | |
| Central America | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -4 | -2 | -2 | -6 | -2 | |
| Costa Rica | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | -5 | -5 | |
| Guatemala | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -5 | 0 | 0 | -5 | 4 | |
| Other Central America | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | -70 | -69 | -69 | -69 | -69 | |
| Caribbean | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| South America | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | -2 | 0 | 1 | -1 | -4 | |
| Argentina | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | -1 | -1 | |
| Brazil | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | |
| Chile | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 5 | -5 | |
| Colombia | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -3 | |
| Peru | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -15 | -11 | -7 | -11 | -7 | |
| Other South America | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -18 | -7 | -7 | -7 | -7 | |
| Europe and Eurasia | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 8.0 | 0.6 | -1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | |
| European Union-27+UK 2/ | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 8.0 | 0.4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | |
| Other Europe | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -8 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | |
| Asia | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | |
| East Asia | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | -2 | |
| China | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 7 | |
| Other East Asia | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -22 | -18 | -18 | -18 | -18 | |
| Southeast Asia | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | |
| Indonesia | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 16 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | |
| Malaysia | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -3 | -4 | -4 | -3 | -3 | |
| Thailand | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -15 | -8 | -8 | -8 | 1 | |
| Vietnam | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 19 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | |
| Other Southeast Asia | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 0.4 | -3 | -3 | -3 | -3 | -3 | |
| South Asia | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| India | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | |
| Oceania | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 | -2 | -3 | -3 | 3 | 3 | |
| Australia | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 | -2 | -2 | -2 | 7 | 7 | |
| New Zealand | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| Africa | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | -6 | -6 | -6 | -6 | -9 | |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | -9 | |
| Middle East | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | |
| Turkey | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | |

Notes: 1/Root mean squared error (RMSE) is the squared root of the average squared difference between the forecast and actual value. 2/The United Kingdom (UK) remained in the EU Customs Union through December 31, 2020. Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

The quarterly Outlook for Agricultural Trade of the United States report is developed from contributions by analysts from USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service. The World Agricultural Outlook Board reviews and approves the report. Below are the names of those who have contributed to its development.

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