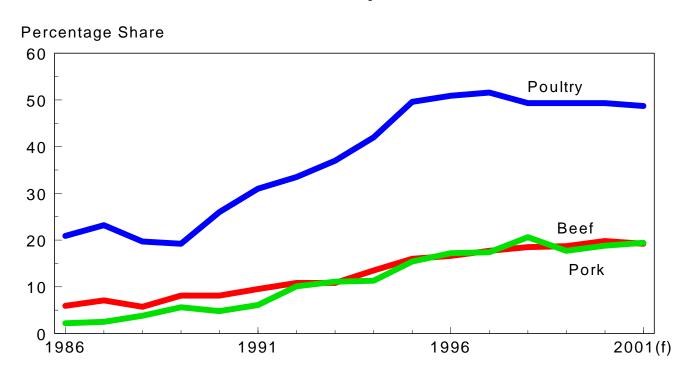


Foreign Agricultural Service Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade

Circular Series DL&P 2-00 October 2000

U.S. Share of World Meat Exports Increased Significantly Since mid-1980's, but Competition Is on the Rise



Over the past 15 years, the U.S. share of world meat exports increased significantly, facilitated, in part, by market access agreements that liberalized trade. Stronger competition from other meat exporting nations has limited the growth of U.S. market share in recent years. For poultry, the United States is forecast to dominate the export market in 2001 with 48 percent of world trade, down marginally from the 2000 estimate. Brazil and China are major competitors with the United States in the poultry export market. For beef, the 2001 U.S. export share is forecast at 19 percent of world exports. Australia and Canada represent the principal competition, but Brazil and Argentina are up and coming suppliers, especially if they overcome the recent setback due to foot and mouth disease (FMD) occurrences. For pork, the U.S. is forecast to slightly increase its market share in 2001 to 19 percent of world exports. A large cutback in the EU pork subsidy level will likely generate some additional opportunities for U.S. pork exporters.