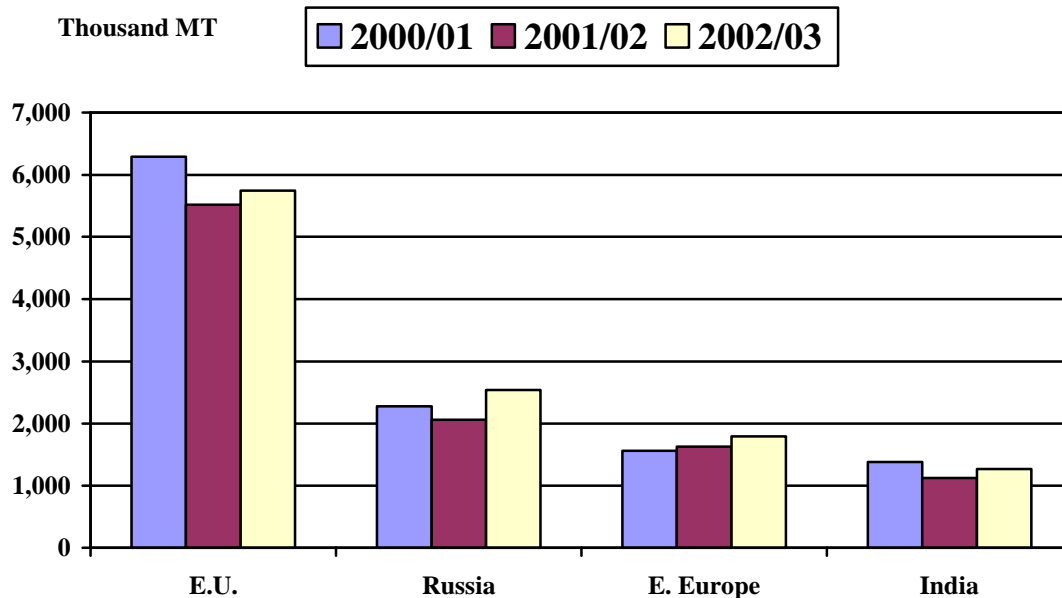




Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade

Total Consumption of Sunflowerseed Oil and Meal



Argentina, Russia and the Ukraine together produce about 45 percent of the world's sunflowerseed. To a lesser extent, sunseeds are also produced in China, India, France and the United States. Consumption of sunflowerseed oil and meal is dominated by the E.U., followed by Russia, Eastern Europe and India. Total world consumption of sunflowerseed oil and meal peaked in the late 1990's, and has been trending lower over the last several years. However, this year's dramatic increase in production in Russia and Ukraine pushed consumption of sunflowerseed oil and meal in these countries up 23 percent and 19 percent, respectively. The greater availability globally of sunflowerseed has lowered the world price premium for sunflowerseed oil versus other edible oils. This has prompted the E.U. to increase imports 15 percent, at a time when their sunseed production is expected to drop 9 percent. World consumption of sunflowerseed oil and meal is forecast to rise 9 percent and reach 17.8 million metric tons in 2002/2003.