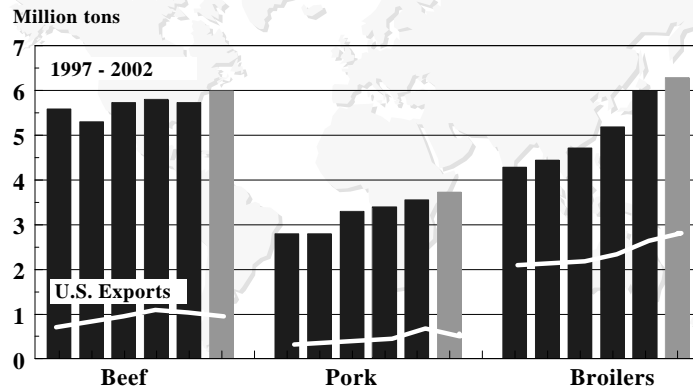




Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade

World Beef, Pork, and Broiler Trade Forecast to Reach Record High in 2002; Competition for Market Share Stiffens



World beef, pork, and poultry exports for 2002 are forecast to rise to new records. For beef and pork, the United States will be facing stiff competition in key markets, especially Japan. For poultry, U.S. exports are projected to continue growing, although Brazil is making gains in their world market share.

For 2002, total beef trade is forecast at a record 6 million tons, up 4 percent from last year. Most major beef exporters are forecast to increase exports, but the United States' beef exports are forecast to decline further from the record 2000 level as production falls and competition stiffens in world markets. Argentina and the European Union (EU) are projected to regain some 2001 market losses which resulted from outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in Argentina and the EU and increased detections of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the EU. Brazil is expected to bolster its already booming beef exports.

For 2002, total pork trade is forecast at a record 3.7 million tons, up 4 percent from last year. U.S. pork exports in 2002 are forecast to decline from the 2001 record as competition increases in Japan and Mexico. The EU is projected to regain some of its market share lost last year due to its FMD outbreak. Brazil and Canada's pork exports are projected to continue increasing as their hog industries expand.

For 2002, total broiler exports are forecast at a record 6.3 million tons, up 5 percent from last year. Broiler demand continues to rise mainly due to competitive prices and consumer concerns over alternative meats. Major exporters, the United States, Brazil, and Thailand, are forecast to increase exports supported by increased production, while the EU's exports are expected to decrease mainly due to high prices even with export subsidies.