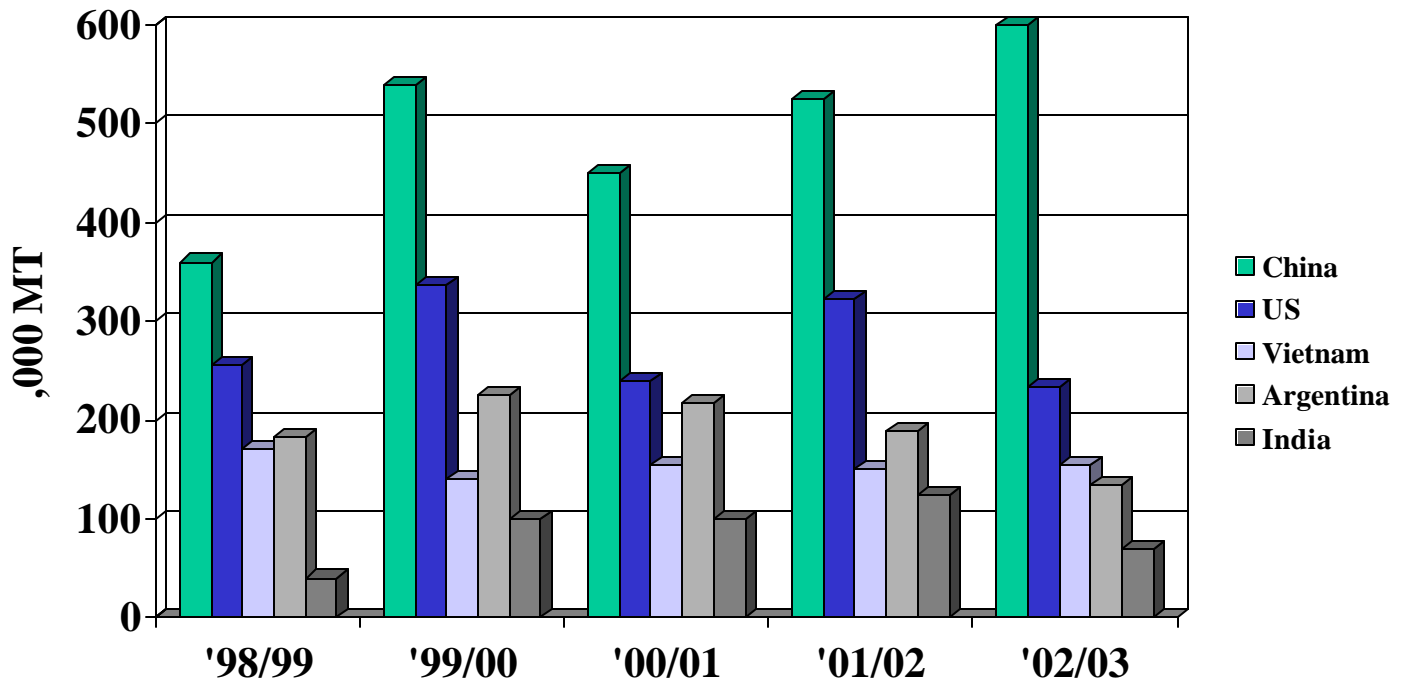




Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade

Chinese Peanut Exports Hit Record High



World peanut exports are expected to reach 1.48 million tons in 2002/03, with China accounting for nearly 40 percent of this trade. Chinese peanut exports are forecast to reach 600,000 tons this year, up from 525,000 tons exported in 2001/02. The world's other leading peanut exporters are the United States (exports of 234,000 tons), Vietnam (155,000 tons), Argentina (135,000 tons) and India (70,000 tons). An expected 3 percent increase in the size of China's peanut crop in 2002/03 (14.9 million tons – almost half of world production) is expected to keep China as the world's dominate peanut exporter. Other factors that helped boost China's trade are the forecast decline in the production and export of peanuts in the United States and Argentina. The leading export markets for Chinese peanuts are in the EU, Russia and Asia, particularly Japan.