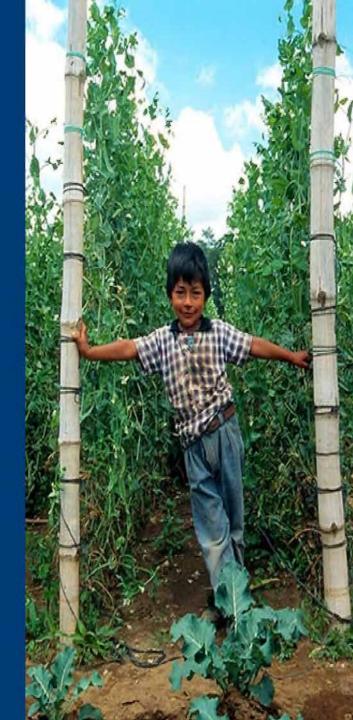


The DR/Central
American
Free Trade
Agreement:

What's at Stake for U.S. Agriculture?

Mechel S. Paggi Director Center for Agricultural Business CSU, Fresno

Organized Symposium AAEA Annual Meetings Providence, RI July 25, 2005



Outline

- Overview of Policy Environment& Why Regional Agreements
 - Specifics of DR/CAFTA
 - The Problem with Sugar

Implications for U.S. Agriculture

Overview of U.S. Regional Trade Agreements & Initiatives

- Agricultural Trade Benefits Many U.S. Producers
- Success is dependent on high quality, competitive prices and good delivery systems
- But terms of trade are heavily influenced by Policy
- Goals and Directions of Policymakers defined in Post 9-11 World somewhat Changed

US Trade Strategy

- Multilateral Trade Negotiations
 - World Trade Organization
- Regional Trade Agreements
 - Central American Free Trade Agreement
- Bilateral Trade Agreements
 - US-Australia Trade Agreement

Why Regional Agreements?

- 2d Best Solution After MTN
 - Slow Progress in WTO, (2007?)
- Economic Incentives
 - Open Markets
 - Create Economies of Scale
 - Increase Business Efficiency

Strategic Considerations

- Stem Illegal Immigration
- Secure Strategic Materials
 - Oil/Natural Gas
 - Fertilizer
- Create Buffer Against Terrorism
 - 'Seam State' Argument, Thomas Barnett, U.S. Naval War College (New Rule Sets Project2000)

Strategic Considerations

Closing the Gap Between Functioning Core & Nonintegrating Gap Nations





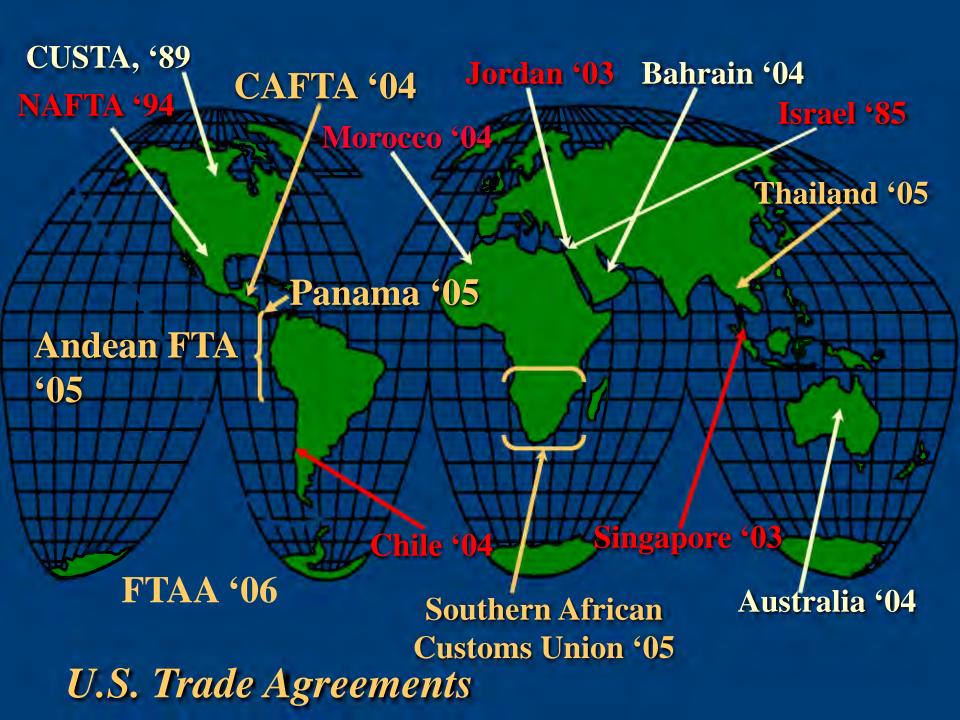


Table 1. Current regional and bilateral free trade agreements involving the United States.

Country/agreement	Date/status
Israel	1985 (agricultural agreement 1996–2001)
Canada	1986 [grandfathered into NAFIA]
NAFTA (Mexico & Canada)	1994
Jordan	2001
Singapore	2004
Chile	2004
Australia	2006
CAFTA (Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala)	Regotiations concluded January 2004; awaiting submission of implementing legislation to US Congress
Dominican Republic (added to CAFTA)	Regotiations concluded March 2004; awaiting submission of implementing legislation to US Congress
Panama (to be added to CAFTA)	Regotiations began April 2004
Morocco	Regotiations concluded in March 2004; implementation legislation passed US Congress; awaiting ratification by Moroccan Parliament
Bahrain	Regotiations concluded in May 2004; awaiting submission of implementing legislation to US Congress
SACU (South African Customs Union: Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, South Africa)	Regotiations began in June 2003
Thailand	Regotiations began in June 2004
Colombia, Ecuador and Peru	Regotiations began in May 2004
Bolivia	Expected to Join Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru talks later
0man	Not fication to Congress of Intent to negotiate, November 2004
United Arab Emirates	Not fication to Congress of Intent to negotiate, November 2004

But: These Folks are Here to Stay As Competitors and Consumers And in Some Cases Partners And Collaborators



French Winemaker
In New Winery JV
In China



Chilean Fruit Exporter



China
Foreign Markets/US Products
Nicaragua







CAFTA/DR

U.S. merchandise trade with the CA/DR region, 2000-03

(US\$ million)

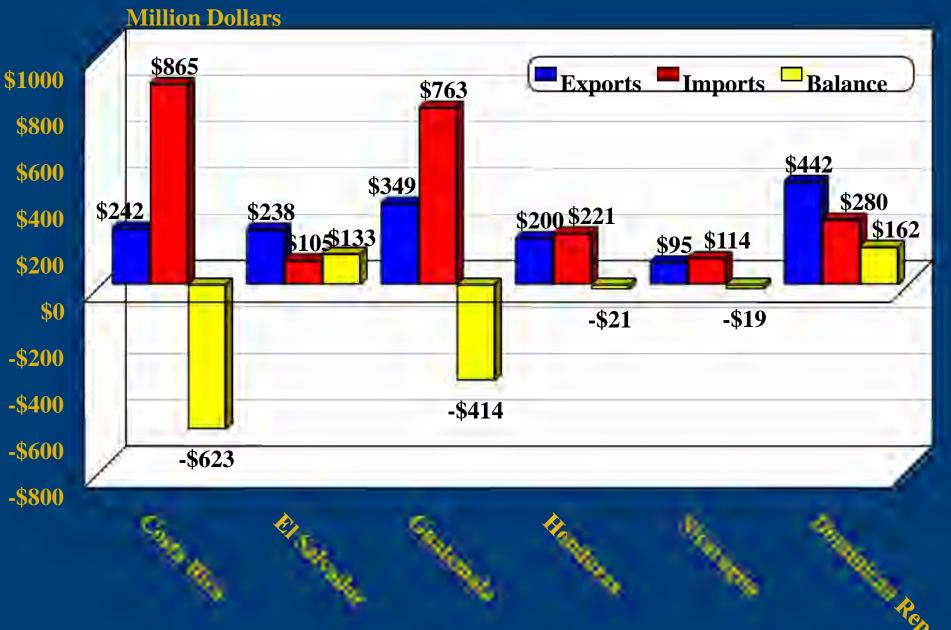
	(03\$ million)			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
U.S. exports	13,202	13,025	13,532	14,372
U.S. imports	16,150	15,304	16,013	16,862
Trade balance	-2,948	-2,279	-2,481	-2,490
Total imports	16,150	15,304	16,013	16,862
Dutiable ¹	5,477	3,504	3,273	3,340
Duty free	10,673	11,800	12,740	13,522
NTR	8,596	4,830	4,634	4,924
CBERA	1,744	1,940	2,252	2,193
CBTPA	149	4,959	5,936	6,167
GSP	182	162	82	236
Duty-free imports as a percentage of total imports (percent)*	66.1	77.1	79.6	80.2

Includes reduced-duty imports under CBERA and CBTPA.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

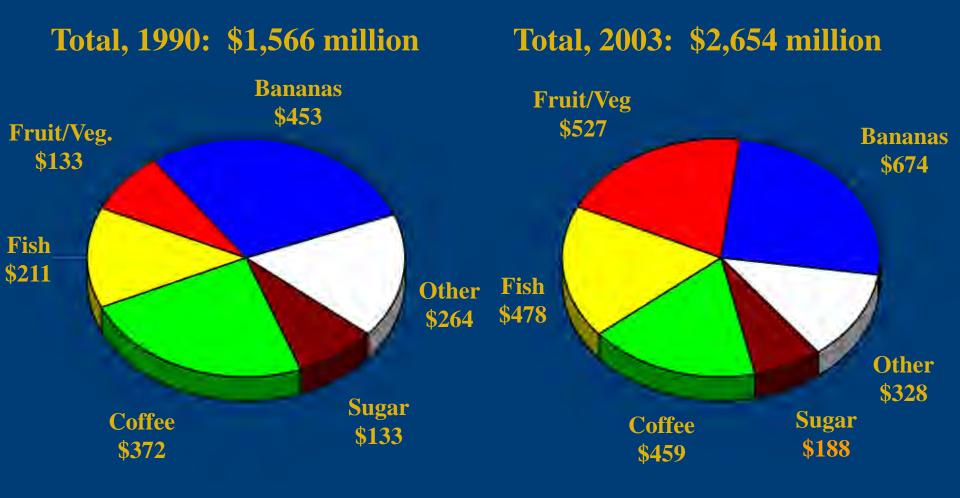
*Over 90% For Ag Products

U.S. Ag Trade with DR-CAFTA, 2003



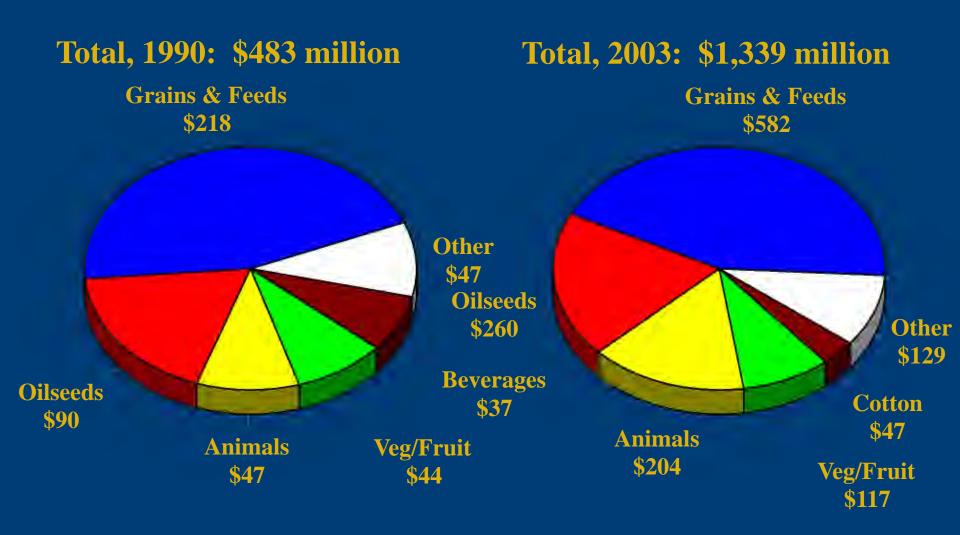
Source: Foreign Trade Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

U.S. Agricultural Imports from Central American



Source: U.S. Trade Internet System, www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade

U.S. Agricultural Exports to Central America



Source: U.S. Trade Internet System, www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade

Basics of the Agreement

Tariff Elimination

General Approach:

All products go to zero

Linear cuts from applied rates

Staging: Immediate, 5, 10, and 12/15 years

Backloaded cuts for some sensitive products

Tariff-Rate Quotas

Limited to sensitive products

Zero in-quota duty

TRQs In addition to existing WTO quota commitments

Country-specific TRQ's

Safeguards

Applies to limited number of products

Volume-based

Expires once duties are eliminated

Export Subsidies

No export subsidies on intra-CAFTA trade unless other countries use them

Domestic Support Programs

Pursue jointly in the WTO

Average Tariff Rates for Selected Commodities

Weighted Average of 6 DR-CAFTA Countries

Values in Percentage

Commodity	Applied ¹	Bound ²
All Fruits	15.0	45.0
All Vegetables	15.0	45.0
Beef	16.2	101.0
Butter	9.7	88.1
Cheese	25.2	61.7
Com	11.7	106.4
Cotton	15.0	40.5
Pork	21.8	54.5
Poultry	20.2	176.7
Rice	39.7	67.2
Soybean Meal	6.6	36.0
Soybean Oil	8.9	78.5
Wheat	0.7	107.7

Rice							
Central America Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:						
Tariffs eliminated over 18 years (Costa Rica 20 years) Tariff cuts backloaded Safeguard Initial rough rice TRQ – 343,000 MT, growing 2-5% annually Initial milled rice TRQ – 39,750 MT, growing 5% annually	Current zero duty locked-in immediately						
Corn							
Central America Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:						
Yellow corn: duty phase-out over 15 years Initial TRQ of approximately 1 million MT Costa Rica – immediate duty-free White corn: Initial TRQ of 83,000 MT, growing 2% annually No out-of-quota duty phase-out Costa Rica – no TRQ, linear 15 year phase-out	Current zero duty locked-in immediately						
Sugar							
Central America Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:						
Duty phased-out over 15 years	Additional initial TRQ of 109,000 MT TRQ grows by 2% in perpetuity No out-of-quota duty reduction						

Dairy

Reciprocal Arrangement

Total initial TRQ of nearly 6,000 MT, growing at 5% annually

Tariff phase-out over 20 years

Tariff cuts backloaded

Safeguards

Horticultural Products

Central American Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:
Immediate duty-free access for many U.S. priority products Duties on most other products phased-out over 5- 10 years French fries: CA-4: Immediate duty-free access for frozen french fries Costa Rica: "Canada Parity" Costa Rica: TRQ for fresh onions and potatoes No out-of-quota duty phase-out	Current zero duty is locked-in immediately

Selected Commodity D	etails						
Beef							
Central American Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:						
Immediate duty-free access for "prime" and "choice" cuts Other cuts phased-out over 15 years Duties on other products, including offals, phased-out over 5-10 years	Total initial TRQ of 20,940 MT, growing 5% annually In addition to existing U.S. WTO quota Country-specific TRQ CAFTA TRQs open only after WTO quota fills						
Pork							
Central American Commitment:	U.S. Commitment:						
Tariff phase-out over 15 years Total initial TRQ of 9,450 MT, growing 5-15% annually Immediate duty-free access for bacon and some offal products	Current zero duty is locked-in immediately						
Poultry							
Central American Commitment:	U.S. Commitment						
CA-4: TRQ (leg quarters) established at greater of 21,810 MT or 5% of regional production Tariff phase-out 18 years Costa Rica: 300 MT TRQ (leg quarters), growing at 10% annually Tariff phase-out 17-years Other products phased-out more quickly, many within 10 years	Current zero duty is locked-in immediately						

The Trouble with Sugar

(with apologies to Star Trek)



Special Report 03-3 December 2003 Impacts of the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement on the U.S. Sugar Industry

Prepared for Senator Byron Dorgan
Won W. Koo Richard D. Taylor Jeremy W. Mattson
Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies
Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics
North Dakota State University
Fargo, ND 58105-5636

"If the United States imports more than 500 thousand tons of additional sugar, a limited number of sugar producing regions in the United States would be able to remain viable. Wholesale price of sugar would be about 20 cents in the United States with an additional import of 500 thousand tons, and would decrease further as additional imports increase."

The current U.S. proposal on sugar under CAFTA could permit the Central American countries to export more than one million tons of sugar to the United States within a few years. Even if the second tier tariff is not included in the final agreement, incremental access, as requested by the CAFTA countries, could be in the range of 300,000 tons per year. In addition, with expected additional imports of sugar under various FTAs, such as NAFTA and FTAA, total additional U.S. imports of sugar could exceed one million tons, which would hurt the U.S. sugar industry significantly.

- If the United States imports more than 2 million tons of additional sugar from the CAFTA countries, the world price of sugar would increase from 8 cents/pound to 10 cents/pound and the U.S. domestic wholesale price would decrease to 13 cents/pound. At this price level, the United States would import more than 80% of its domestic consumption.

The Problems with Sugar?

Agribusiness & Applied Economics Report No. 561 April 2005 2005 Outlook of the U.S. and World Sugar Markets, 2004-2013 Won W. Koo & Richard D. Taylor

"The United States signed a trade agreement with the Central American countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. CAFTA allows 107,000 metric tons of additional sugar to be imported into the United States in the first year of implementation of the agreement, and increases by about 3,000 metric tons per year. The level allowed does not have a significant impact on the price of U.S. sugar or world trade flows. Recent trade agreement and negotiations with Australia do not include increased sugar imports."

Based on LSU work and NDSU average production 2000-2004 in US Of 7,755,000 metric tons. The US price decline resulting from increased Import volume at end of 15 years of around 150,000 metric tons would be 0.93 ¢ per pound or about \$171 million decline in revenue for the sector. First year effects estimated at 0.63 ¢ per pound

The Problems with Sugar?

"DR-CAFTA is a case in point. The agreement allows the six member countries to boost their sales to the United States market by 107,000 tons. Put in context, domestic production of sugar for the 2003/2004 fiscal year was 7.8 million tons. Consequently, this agreement in isolation will not significantly affect the industry. The rise in access will be equivalent to \$80.5 million per year, when fully implemented. This compares to total cash receipts for sugar producers in 2002 of \$2.1 billion." (About 3.8% after 15 years)

Source: AFBF

Table 2: Changes in Prices and Quantities Resulting from Alternative US Market Access Scenarios

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	¢/I	¢/I			
	20.66	7.43	4,416	3,716	8,946
100	20.03	7.44	4.370	3.700	8.984
150	19.73	7.44	4,347	3,693	9,003
500	17.71	7.46	4,190	3,637	9,141
1,000	15.13	7.49	3,972	3,558	9,344
2,000	10.96	7.56	3,560	3,401	9,775
3,089	7.63	7.63	3,148	3,233	10,284

Source: Kennedy, 2005

The Problems with Sugar

CAFTA...

A bad deal for America's 146,000 sugar workers. A bad deal for America.

The trade pact with Central America will cost American sugar farmers their jobs.

- The U.S. government estimates that CAFTA will send more American sugar workers to the unemployment line than workers from any other industry, by far. And these estimates don't even account for mounds of Mexican sugar that soon will have unlimited access to our market under NAFTA.
- CAFTA + NAFTA = the shafta for U.S. sugar producers' jobs.
- CAFTA-plus NAFTA sugar, plus sugar imported from nearly three dozen other countries as agreed to under the WTO, plus stored U.S. sugar that would be released because of these trade deals-equals more than 1 million tons of surplus sugar. That much sugar would depress prices to levels well below production costs, endangering the livelihoods of thousands of U.S. sugar farmers and factory workers.

CAFTA will take millions from American sugar farmers.

- At a minimum, the unneeded sugar imported under CAFTA would drop sugar prices enough to cost America's sugar farmers more than \$180 million, according to Louisiana State University estimates.
- Factor in the 1 million tons of stored U.S. sugar that could be released as a result of CAFTA, and sugar prices plummet nearly 40 percent, calculates North Dakota State University economists. Such a drop could cost U.S. sugar producers as much as \$1.7 billion.

CAFTA sets a dangerous precedent.

• America is negotiating trade pacts with 21 other sugar exporters that will all expect similar, sweetheart deals. These countries export nearly 25 million tons of sugar annually.

A deal with Central America is no deal for the United States.

• CAFTA only gives America market-access to a group of countries whose combined GDP is barely the size of New Haven, Connecticut. What's worse, the U.S. government has said that CAFTA will actually increase our trade deficit with the region to \$2.4 billion.

The choice is clear...

Support America's efficient sugar farmers. Say no to CAFTA - a deal that has little economic upside, puts U.S. farmers out of work, and forces America to import unneeded sugar from a region with appallingly low labor and environmental standards.

Proposed Solutions to the Problems with Sugar

 June 28th Senate action based on keeping current import "trigger" at 1.532 million short tons until 2007, "pay" CAFTA suppliers not to send excess sugar and do a feasibility study on sugar for ethanol program

Two options: USDA would make sure that the extra sugar does not enter the U.S., or USDA would purchase that sugar and send it to non-food use, such as ethanol production.

Details:

USDA could pay exporting countries in either cash or export commodities -- the difference between the world market price and the U.S. price. For example, if the world sugar price is 8 cents and the U.S. price is 22 cents, we would pay the 14-cent difference to CAFTA countries for them to not send their sugar to the United States. The payment could come either in cash, or send them tons of U.S. agricultural commodities of their choosing. "

USDA could purchase the CAFTA sugar as it enters the United States and convert it to non-food use, mainly ethanol.

The Reported Option is to pay the DR-CAFTA countries in U.S. ag commodities.

Implications for U.S. Agriculture

CAFTA Before and After

CAFTA Effect on Central American Tariffs

Before

CAFTA Day 1

Average Applied Tariff

- Simple 11.2%
- Trade weighted 10.4%

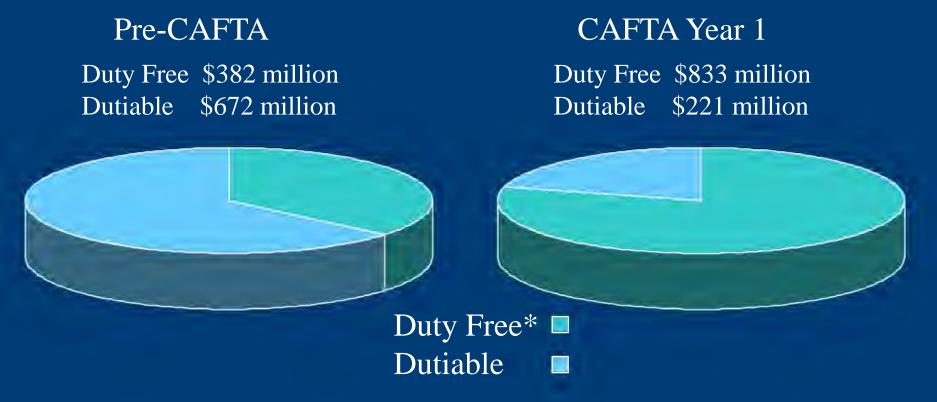
Average Applied Tariff*

- Simple 6.7%
- Trade weighted 3.2%

^{*} Based on current trade and including TRQ in-quota access

CAFTA Before and After

U.S. Agricultural Exports to Central America



^{*}Includes both immediate tariff elimination and duty-free in-quota access

Table 2
Impact of DR-CAFTA on Member Countries' Imports of U.S. Agricultural Products
In \$1,000

	1999-2001	2024 Impo	rts from US		
Selected Commodity	Imports from United States	Without DR-CAFTA	With DR-CAFTA	DR-CAFTA Difference	
Beef	10,050.4	27,258.2	74,332.7	47,074.5	
Butter	709.6	1,793.7	3,091.5	1,297.8	
Cheese	5,514.1	8,024.4	25,022.7	16,998.4	
Corn	230,721.4	447,558.4	505,932.5	58,374.1	
Cotton	50,558.4	87,729.8	115,331.9	27,602.1	
Pork	11,008.1	95,438.1	203,388.9	107,950.8	
Poultry	17,634.5	114,743.9	292,786.7	178,042.9	
Rice	96,999.0	220,910.4	312,421.1	91,510.7	
Soybean Meal	140,421.3	292,351.5	348,923.6	56,572.0	
Soybean Oil	28,895.3	59,132.4	87,521.9	28,389.6	
Wheat	121,821.0	218,977.3	281,164.2	62,186.9	
Subtotal	714,333.2	1,573,918.0	2,249,917.8	675,999.8	
Other Selected Commodities					
Fruit	88,768.7	196,738.8	278,281.1	81,542.3	
Sugar & Tropical Product	111,754.7	247,682.9	350,340.0	102,657.1	
Tallow	62,489.3	138,495.7	195,898.0	57,402.3	
Vegetables	69,560.7	154,168.0	218,065.9	63,898.0	
All Other Commodities	587,601.5	1,302,306.9	1,842,073.7	539,766.8	
Total	1,634,508.1	3,613,310.3	5,134,576.5	1,521,266.2	

Note: Assumes constant 1999-2001 prices; hence, value estimates reflect changes in quantities only.

Table 4-4
U.S.-CA/DR FTA: U.S. imports from CA/DR and CA/DR imports from the United States (landed, duty paid)

		J.S. imports		CA/DR imports from the United States				
Sector	Base value before FTA	Change aft	er FTA full mentation ¹	Base value before FTA	Change after implement	er FTA full mentation		
	million do	ollars	percent	millio	n dollars	percent		
Textile, apparel, and leather products	11,763.9	3,067.5	26.08	5,350.0	802.8	15.01		
Sugar manufacturing	329.3	113.2	34.38	0.4	0.6	166.38		
Meat products	79.4	13.2	16.74	204.0	84.1	41.24		
Dairy products	4.7	2.9	62.18	22.9	5.9	25.77		
Sugar crops	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	NA		
Grains	0.1	0.0	-0.99	722.8	157.3	21.77		
Cattle and horses	0.7	0.0	-2.06	3.4	0.3	10.23		
Transportation equipment n.e.c.2	4.5	-0.2	-4.01	170.0	42.0	24.72		
Motor vehicles and parts	16.0	-0.4	-2.45	372.9	180.4	48.37		
Animal products n.e.c.	61.8	-0.9	-1.44	37.3	1.7	4.51		
Wood products	156.5	-7.7	-4.91	127.5	42.5	33.38		
Metals nec and metal products	154.6	-10.5	-6.80	134.0	14.2	10.59		
Ferrous metals	300.3	-14.4	-4.78	325.8	57.3	17.57		
Other manufactures	469.6	-16.9	-3.61	1,031.1	234.6	22.75		
Petroleum, coal, chemicals, rubber, plastic	473.8	-17.4	-3.68	3,147.8	406.1	12.90		
Other crops	746.0	-19.3	-2.59	237.6	17.3	7.28		
Coal, oil, gas, other mineral	220.9	-23.2	-10.49	35.5	13.4	37.86		
Other processed food and tobacco products	1,126.2	-25.5	-2.27	639.7	53.5	8.37		
Vegetables, fruits, and nuts	1.717.5	-31.5	-1.84	53.8	7.7	14.23		
Electronic equipment	1,041.7	-56.4	-5.41	1,976.8	110.2	5.58		
Other machinery and equipment	1,902.9	-96.4	-5.07	2,010.7	400.6	19.93		
Services ²		-100.0	-5.75	710.4	32.8	4.62		
Total		2,776.2	12.44	17.314.03	2.665.6	15.40		

^{*} The simulated FTA consists of tariff and quota liberalization.

Source: GTAP version 6, prerelease 1 data and Commission calculations.

² The decline in U.S. imports of many products is a result of the reallocation of resources in the small economies of the partner countries, as they shift output to take advantage of increased export opportunities in other products such as textiles and apparel, and sugar.

³ No U.S. tariffs or other quantitative import measures for services were removed in this analysis. The changes in trade arise from trade balance, changes in demand, and factor supply. See text.

Example of Impacts of Effective Preferential Access

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		Million Common	0.00	43,00	Statement.	9.75 GOO	22.50	1 1/2	- 10	-01		8.8.0*	8.8	5.5.04

Regional Preference Before and After CAFTA

				Imports			Tariff	Before	CAFTA		r CAFTA		hanges
	Country	Total	U.S.	Leading countries, excluding U.S.		RO W	MFN	Index US/Fre e	Index US/MFN	Ind ex US/ Fre e	Index US/MFN	Ind ex US/ Fre e	Index US/MFN
COMMODITY	Com code	(US\$'000)	(%)		(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
8 0 9 PEACHES, 3 NECTARINES, 0							Ī						
	Costa Rica	1,026	54.2	Chile	45.	0	14	-14	0	0	12.2	14	12.2
	Dominican Republic	67	89.4	Chile	10.	0	20	-20	0	0	16.6	20	16.6
	El Salvador	693	53.0	Chile	37.	9.	15	-15	0	0	13.0	15	13.0
	Guatemala	931	59.5	Chile	39.	0.	15	-15	0	0	13.0	15	13.0
	Honduras	148	57.1	Chile	30.	12	15	-15	0	0	13.0	15	13.0
Source: Pagg	Nicaragua _J i, Yamazaki, Josl	23 ing, 2005	42.5	Costa Rica	52.	5.	15	-15	0	0	13.0	15	13.0

DR-CAFTA Demographics

Pop. (mil)	GDP/ Person	Poverty %	Lit. %	Ag. Pop. %
3.9	\$8,300	20.6	96	20
6.5	\$4,600	48	80.2	30
13.9	\$3,900	75	70.6	50 \
6.7	\$2,500	53 /	76.1	34
5.1	\$2,200	50	67.5	42
8.7 44-9	\$6,300 \$4.633	25 45-3	84.7	17 32.2
	(mil) 3.9 6.5 13.9 6.7 5.1	(mil) Person 3.9 \$8,300 6.5 \$4,600 13.9 \$3,900 6.7 \$2,500 5.1 \$2,200 8.7 \$6,300	(mil) Person % 3.9 \$8,300 20.6 6.5 \$4,600 48 13.9 \$3,900 75 6.7 \$2,500 53 5.1 \$2,200 50 8.7 \$6,300 25	(mil) Person % 3.9 \$8,300 20.6 96 6.5 \$4,600 48 80.2 13.9 \$3,900 75 70.6 6.7 \$2,500 53 76.1 5.1 \$2,200 50 67.5 8.7 \$6,300 25 84.7

Summary

- Benefits of DR/CAFTA Likely Slow in Coming And More Linked to Economic Development and Stability
- •Cost of DR/CAFTA Likely Small, some selected Commodities like melons maybe more effected
- •Real Benefits in Maintaining Competitive Preference With other Countries into Selected Markets
- •Failure to pass House may spell doom for Doha
- •Concessions to sugar suggest storm clouds for special products issues in Doha

Want More

CAFTA/DR Light: Current Choices Article

CAFTA/DR Specialty Crop Specific:
 Article on Website:
 www.cati.csufresno.edu/cab

 CAFTA/DR Full Strength: USITC Report on their website