



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 10/7/1998

GAIN Report #VE8015

## Venezuela

## Livestock

# Little Change in Venezuela's Hides & Skins Market 1998

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### Report Highlights:

Venezuelan hide production in 1998 is estimated at 39,000 Mt. and it is not projected to increase in 1999.

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Includes PSD changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Caracas [VE1], VE

## HIDES&SKINS, BOVINE

### PRODUCTION

Venezuelan hide production is calculated by multiplying average slaughter weight (500 kgs) by a conversion factor of 4.6 percent. In 1997 total hide production was estimated at 36,000 MT. In 1998 production is estimated at 39,000 MT. Hide production in 1999 is not expected to change significantly from 1998.

### CONSUMPTION

Hides in Venezuela are not high quality. Venezuelan leather is mostly used in shoes and purses. Low priced, high quality leather goods from Asia, Colombia and Argentina lead the market for finished leather products in Venezuela. However, demand for leather goods has fallen in the last three years as a result of inflation and declining real incomes.

### TRADE

Reliable data on Venezuelan hide imports is difficult to obtain. Nevertheless, the domestic leather goods industry has been depressed for the past two to three years leading to a decline in the imports of hides and skins. Imports in 1998 are unlikely. Exports in the three years covered in this report have been steady at around 3,000 MT. Exports generally go to Colombia, Italy and Mexico.

PSD Table						
Country:	Venezuela				<MT piece conversion	
Commodity:	Hides & Skins, Bovine					
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Calendar Year Begin		01/97		01/98		01/99
Beginning Stocks	2	4	3	3	0	4
Production In MT	39	36	39	38	0	38
Production In Pieces	1695	1565	1695	1695	0	1695
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	41	40	42	41	0	42
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	4	3	4	3	0	3
TOTAL Exports	4	3	4	3	0	3
Domestic Consumption	34	34	34	34	0	34
Ending Stocks	3	3	4	4	0	5
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	41	40	42	41	0	42
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0