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Approved by:

JAMIE ROTHCHILD

U.S. Embassy, Sofia

Prepared by:

MILA BOSHNAKOVA

Report Highlights:

Bulgarian imports of U.S. meat in 1998 increased more than three times compared to 1997 (US\$1.2 million versus US\$0.36) due to expanded marketing activities. However, the U.S. share of this US\$38 million market is still small. The major U.S. competitors are Australia (beef) and Germany (pork). At the same time, Bulgaria imports a significant amount of processed meat products (US\$9.0 million) from EU countries (Germany, Belgium, Austria, Holland) which reduces demand for "raw" meat products. U.S. opportunities should continue to exist for special pork cuts, beef for processing and edible pork and beef offal. Niche market opportunities should also remain for higher value beef steaks.

Includes PSD changes: Yes

Includes Trade Matrix: Yes

Annual Report

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1998, the livestock sector saw some positive developments due to a relatively stable economic situation, sufficient feed supply, higher consumer income, and liberalized trade. In 1999, the oversupply of meat on the world market has limited Bulgaria's ability to export and pushed domestic prices down. Despite increased distress slaughtering, ending stocks are expected to increase slightly due to higher (female) beginning stocks and a stable birth rate. The higher local production and relatively low meat prices, will likely discourage imports of beef and pork.

Local meat production in 1999 and the year 2000 should increase from 359,000 MT to 394,000 MT. Pork holds the largest share at 66% followed by beef (20%) and lamb, mutton (14%). Due to the lack of export markets and relatively low domestic prices, higher domestic consumption is forecasted. At the same time, MY 99/00 meat imports will likely decline to 22,000 MT of beef (mainly for further processing) and 4,000 MT (mainly higher-value pork cuts).

Consumption of meat/meat products is expected to increase gradually during 1999 and the year 2000 due to higher supply and lower prices.

Despite the increase in total beef imports in 1998 (30%), the United States share remained at 2.6%. Bulgaria imported 684 MT (US\$809,000) of US beef in 1998 compared to 530 MT (US\$325,000) in 1997 or an increase of 149% in value and 30% in tonnage. Bulgarian imports of U.S. pork were 296 MT (US\$352,000) compared to 42 MT (US\$35,000) in 1997 or an increase of about six-fold in tonnage and ten-fold in value. The U.S. market share of the pork market increased from 1.4% in 1997 to 4.6% in 1998.

According to major importers, the increase in Bulgarian meat imports from the U.S. was a result of broader U.S. promotion efforts including more intensive face to face contact. Prospects for 1999, however, are for lower U.S. meat exports to Bulgaria mainly due to stronger Australian and EU price competition and continued unsolved issues related to restrictions on hormone use.

Over the next several years, U.S. marketing opportunities should exist for beef and hides and skins. These are the largest import markets in the livestock sector (US\$31 million and US\$42 million in 1998, respectively). Bulgaria did not import any US hides and skins in 1998. Some opportunities also should exist in the pork market (1998 imports totaled US\$7.0 million) for certain higher-value cuts and for beef and pork edible offal (US\$3.0 million).

CATTLE

PRODUCTION

General

The data in the P, S, and D table for cattle was revised based on final official figures for cattle and cow numbers as of January 1, 1998 and 1999. The 1999 growth in numbers was 9.6% for cattle and 8.9% for cows. The calf crop for 1998 was revised downward due to a lower than expected birth rate for cows and heifers (85% actual compared to projected 92%). The same birth rate is expected for 1999 and the year 2000 since feed availability and technology should not change significantly.

The number of slaughtered animals in 1998 was revised downward since larger farmers were encouraged by a good dairy market which offered them better prices. In 1999 and the year 2000, however, a higher slaughter number is forecasted due to increased stocks, lower dairy prices, and projected slightly higher feed prices which currently stimulates higher slaughter rates. Imports of live cattle are projected to increase slightly in MY1999/00 but it is not noted in GAIN tables since it is not likely to be over 1,000 heads. The loss rate is estimated to be the same for the three consecutive years.

The beef/veal production data in the P,S, and D table in 1998 has been revised based on the slaughter data from the P,S, and D table for cattle numbers and the estimated average live weight at slaughtering (about 400 kilos/head). The forecast is for the same average slaughtered live weight in 1999/00.

In 1998, grain/feed production was abundant and low-priced. Expectations for 1999 are for still sufficient (depending on exports) but higher-priced grain and feed due to lower production, increased prices of other inputs such as fuel, electricity, heat and imported veterinary medicines (due to expected inflation with the denomination of the local currency in July and current high exchange rate of the U.S. dollar), which should lead to some difficulties in livestock production and higher slaughter rates.

Although the private share of cattle and cows increased to about 100%, more than 60% (70% in 1997/98) of cattle are held by small and medium sized farms with up to 10-15 animals. Most experts, however are unanimous that husbandry practices in 1998 and in 1999 have improved and are more efficient. The GOB financial programs also helped for some improvement of practices at farms (see policy).

Production Factors

Agricultural and land reform: Land restitution and privatization has been accelerated and it is expected that land reform should be finalized by the middle of 1999. The GOB is currently developing a policy for stimulating the agricultural land market. Therefore, a positive effect on livestock industry should be expected by the year 2000.

Feedstuffs: Grain production in 1998 was abundant and met local demand. Prices were

low due to oversupply and mediocre quality. Other components such as soybean meal also had lower prices in 1998 - 1999, about US\$280-300/MT and currently about US\$220-240/MT. The price of imported feedstuffs was also stable. Production of compound feed, however, was low, about 750,000 MT, due to sluggish demand and prevailing role of on-farm direct feeding and on-farm feed mixing.

Projections for 1999 are for higher prices of wheat and corn due to expected lower production which should meet local demand. Prices of imported feed such as soybean meal and feed components should follow the world market prices.

Prices: 1998 farm gate prices moved in line with inflation (only 1% for 1998) and were on average 25% higher for cattle and 40% higher for calves compared to 1997 (MinAg data). In the second half of 1998 and in 1999, prices started to slide down due to stagnation on the world market, collapse in exports to traditional export markets, difficult transportation to the EU as a result of conflict in ex-Yugoslavia, imports of cheaper meats, higher local supply, reduced feed prices and relatively constant local consumption. Lower farm-gate prices in 1999 should stimulate a higher slaughter rate due to farmers' fears for even lower future prices and to repay for already done production expenses. Therefore, production of meat will likely increase. According to the MinAg, farm-gate prices of cattle will likely be lower in 1999 to 1,500 leva/kilo in live weight for calves (US\$0.82) and 1,300 leva/kilo for cattle (US\$0.71).

Credit: Most banks are requiring 120% - 150% collateral based on the local Banking Law which makes commercial credit very expensive despite a low annual interest rate, about 6%. In 1998 and 1999, the Government "Fund Agriculture" improved its activity and started offering a variety of programs including six special credit programs for the livestock sector (see production policy).

Production Mix

Production and consumption of meat in 1998 and in 1999 (000 MT/%)								
	Production on meat in CWE				Consumption of meat in CWE			
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Beef	67	19%	80	20%	96	25%	98	25%
Pork	235	65%	258	66%	238	61%	242	61%
Mutton Lamb	57	16%	56	14%	54	14%	54	14%
Total	359	100%	394	100%	388	100%	394	100%

Production Technology

There has been no significant change in technology or the mix of breeding types since last year's report. According to the MinAg, some change in the breeding types towards more breeds for mixed use (meat and milk) is possible in the long-term, 3-5 years.

In 1998 and 1999, the use of preventive measures such as vaccinations and medicine increased compared to 1997 due to financial stabilization and more stringent veterinary requirements.

Production Problems

There were several cases of TB (1998) and anthrax (March 1999) found on cattle, however, the preventive measures were taken in time.

Since March 1998, the country has been ear-marking cattle, sheep and goats in former areas of FMD and measles which should be completed in 1999. This initiative is sponsored by the EU program PHARE. This requirement must be met for Bulgaria to export livestock to the EU.

CONSUMPTION

Consumption of all types of meat in 1998 increased due to stabilization of average income and better supply at more reasonable prices. Still the percent of people who consume their own on-farm production is high, about 38% average for all types of meat (latest research data, April 1999).

The data for meat consumption in the P,S and D table was revised downward for 1998 due to lower production as result of a reduced slaughtering. The forecast is for slight growth in consumption by 2% in 1999 and 4% in the year 2000 due to higher supply, lower prices and stable income.

There was no change in the consumption pattern for different types of meat (see production mix). As in previous years, beef was mainly used for processing and this trend should continue in the near future. Recently, imported high value beef steaks were promoted on the market. This product has a very narrow market niche and currently is marketed only at high class restaurants.

During the first half of 1999, the demand for imported beef for processing was slightly weaker. Small and medium cattle farmers increased the slaughtering of dairy animals as dairy prices continued to drop.

Prices

Please see tables #5 - #7.

TRADE

Imports

Imports of live cattle in 1998 increased 390% and the apparent major exporter was Austria. The average price per head of imported pregnant heifers was about US\$1,300. The demand for live breeding cattle is growing and imports in 1999 and 2000 should be higher but will not likely exceed 1,000, therefore, these imports are not listed in the P,S and D table. Reportedly, some commercial companies imported breeding cattle from the Netherlands and Austria in 1999. Although there is an interest in importing U.S. breeding cattle, EU export subsidies and higher transportation cost for U.S. imports increase competitiveness.

In 1998, beef imports exceeded the AgOffice forecast and reached 26,000 MT (US\$31.0 million) or an increase of 30% compared to 1997. Prospects are for a slight decrease in 1999 to 22,000 MT and to 18,000 MT in the year 2000 due to expected higher local supply and lower domestic prices.

According to Bulgarian statistics, the major supplier of imported beef in 1998 was Australia followed by Poland and New Zealand. According to the trade, Australia offered competitive prices and very good payment terms to local importers. The other large supplier, Poland, had a competitive advantage in relatively good prices, proximity and import preferences based on CEFTA agreement. Reportedly, Spain reduced exports to Bulgaria since local processors were not satisfied with the quality.

According to traders, imports from the U.S. increased due to more reasonable prices, increased promotion and more intensive business contacts.

Imports of edible beef and pork offal in 1998 also increased to reach over 9,000 MT of which the U.S. share was 13%. The major U.S. competitor was Germany. Bulgaria imported mainly beef/pork tongue and tripe (see table #8). According to the trade, there are very good prospects for U.S. edible offal exports to Bulgaria due to its good quality and competitive prices.

Exports

Bulgarian exports of live cattle in 1998 decreased from 2,162 head to 1,050 head since exports were allowed only for ear-marked animals (see production problems). Most of the animals were exported to Greece and Philippines. The AgOffice forecasts a stable export level in 1999 and the year 2000.

Exports of beef were 17% lower in 1998, due to better marketing conditions in the country. The major markets of Bulgarian beef were Romania and Russia.

Trade Matrixes

The trade matrices for 1997 and 1998 are derived from official trade information. It is

assumed that the data in metric tons is correct while the value in dollars is underestimated due to frequent under invoicing done by importers to avoid payments of ad valorem duties.

Note: Since early 1999, the GOB has been using a new reporting methodology which could affect both 1998 and 1999 information. In this new system, for a country of destination (origin) to be reported, at least three companies have to declare their exports/imports. The countries excluded from the particular commodity traded, will be included in the category of "other" or "unknown". The "total" reported for each respective commodity will, however, include the actual quantity and value of trade.

POLICY

Production and Consumption policy

In 1998 and 1999, the "Fund Agriculture" continued to release soft loans for the livestock sector (see 1998 report) which enjoyed a great interest. A total of 7.0 billion leva (US\$3.8 million) loans were released for purchasing 3,200 pregnant heifers in 1998. In 1999, there were available funds for purchasing breeding stock, up to 150 pregnant heifers, 650 sows, 1,500 sheep and 30,000 layers as well as for purchasing equipment for livestock raising. A special credit line (US\$17 million) provided soft credit for 50% of feed requirements for any type of livestock and poultry.

Beginning in the year 2000, the MinAg should allocate 2.5 billion leva per year (US\$1.4 million) for maintenance of breeding stocks (distributed in special farms in Shoumen, Sofia and Balchik).

In 1998 and 1999, the GOB approved a Veterinary Activity Act and a number of veterinary regulations (for licensing of slaughtering houses, about controlling different diseases etc.) which followed EU legislation. These regulations introduced more stringent veterinary requirements for production and processing of meat.

The Food Law was approved by Parliament in March and is effective from July 2, 1999 (Official Gazette,). The Law should accelerate the adoption of modern standards in the meat processing industry. It also stipulates new labeling requirements for food products and requires more stringent food safety norms. The most important change was mandatory labels on Bulgarian language on all food products including imported meat products. Detailed information about these regulations is available per request at the AgOffice, Sofia.

Trade Policy

According to the latest changes in the trade regime in January 1998, there are no duty free import quotas for live cattle, however, imports are at 0% import duty. Imports of other

cattle for slaughtering are levied 5% plus 140 ECU/MT (HS#020190).

Exports of beef and live cattle are subject to simple registration with the MinTrade.
Exports of livestock including cattle are not subject of any permits or export taxes.

In 1999, there are reduced duty import quotas for beef as follows:

HS#0202 - 1,000 MT at 0% import duty.

HS#0201 30 00 0, 0202 30 10 0, 0202 30 50 0, 0202 30 90 0 - 500 MT at 10% import duty.

HS# 0201 10 00 0, 0201 20 20 0, 0201 20 30 0, 0201 20 50 0, 020120 90 0, 0201 30 00 0 - 1,000 MT at 10%

HS#0202 10 - 2,000 MT at 10%

HS# 0202 20 30 0, 0202 20 50 0 - 10,200 MT at 8.5% of which 8,149 MT for the EU countries and 2,051 MT for others

HS#0202 20 30 0, 0202 20 50 0 - 1,000 MT at 0%

HS#0202 30 - 4,100 MT at 10%

Prepared or preserved meat, meat offal and blood: HS# 1602 49 00, 1602 50 00 - total 1,100 MT at 34% of which 900 MT for the EU countries and 200 MT for others.

There are import quotas for EU countries for exports to Bulgaria:

Beef - HS#0202 20 30, 0202 20 50 - 8,149 MT at 8.5% import duty.

Meat products - HS#160210, 1602 20 - 50 MT at 28% import duty; HS#1602 49, 1602 50 - 950 MT at 34% import duty.

Import from CEFTA countries can be levied at the following maximum duties:

HS#0102 10 - 0%; HS#0102 90 - 15%

HS#0201 - 25%; HS#0202 - 25%; HS#1602 10, 1602 20 - 15%

Those duties are valid for all CEFTA members with the exception of Poland and Slovenia for which these duties are applied within the following quotas:

Poland - HS#0201 - 120 MT for 1999; 140 MT for the year 2000 - 25% import duty.

Slovenia - HS#0102 90 - 20 MT for 1999 at 15% import duty, HS#0201 and 0202 - 20 MT for 1999 at 25% import duty

Other CEFTA quotas:

Imports from Czech Republic and Slovakia:

HS#1601 - 100 MT for Czech Republic and 100 MT for Slovakia - at 10% import duty;

Import from Slovenia: HS#1601 - 50MT at 50 % reduction from the basic tariff.

In April 1999, the GOB issued a decree (Decree #63, Official Gazette #34 of April 5, 1999) about new duties on imports of meat products (HS#1601), see GAIN Report BU 9017. New duties (640 ECU/MT) per metric ton basis were introduced due to under invoicing upon imports which was leading to dumping prices of imported from EU meat products, 8,500 MT in 1998, on the local market. At the same time, the GOB introduced an import quota of 1,500 MT of meat products at 40% import duty.

The VAT is 20% (since January 1999) and cross-border fee is 1%. Bulgarian phyto and veterinary rules are being adjusted to the European standard and WTO requirements. The newest veterinary import regulations for livestock and livestock products were issued in December 1998 and are more liberal. They are available per request at AgOffice Sofia.

In June, 1999, the GOB temporarily banned imports and domestic sales of the following products due to the "dioxin affair" (Ordinance RD 09-849 of June 11, 1999 and ordinance RD 09-823 of June 6, 1999):

- domestic sales of perishable meat products including poultry meat and eggs imported from Belgium, the Netherlands and France, produced in the period January 15 - June 1, 1999 are banned. Available stocks of these products must be liquidated by the National Vet Agency.
- imports of live cattle from the Netherlands, France and Germany are allowed if officially certified that animals originate from farms which did not use feed contaminated with dioxin.
- imports of live cattle from Belgium are not allowed.
- imports of animal origin products from Belgium, France and The Netherlands are not allowed.

The "dioxin affair" is not likely to have a significant impact on meat imports. However, imports of other than poultry products (meat products, salami etc.) from Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands will likely be reduced. It should increase consumption of locally produced meat products.

Tariff Table, 1999

The current duties for live cattle and beef/veal are:

HS# 0102 10 00 0 Breeding cattle - 0%
HS# 0102 90 00 0 Other - 5% plus 140 ECU/TNE
HS# 0202 10 00 - 5% plus 244 ECU/TNE
HS# 0202 20 10 0, 0202 20 30 0, 0202 20 50 0 - 5% plus 244 ECU/TNE
HS# 0202 20 90 0 - 5% plus 102 ECU/TNE
HS# 0202 30 10 0, 0202 30 50 0, 0202 30 90 0 - 5% plus 97 ECU/TNE

MARKETING

So far, five major livestock markets were established in the country with the financial assistance of the European PHARE program (in Vulchi Dol, Sevlievo, Razgrad, Stara Zagora, and Chaskovo) and another four have developed on their own.

Bulgarian meat processors were very active in 1998 and 1999. Many have invested in new processing facilities, modern equipment and retail outlets. Currently, there are 550 newly established private meat processing enterprises and 34 privatized former state facilities. Processors also started active advertizing and generally better promotion.

Competitor's Activities

The most active in promotion and marketing continued to be Australia, Argentina and Uruguay. Spain also started to promote some meat products (ham and fillet). Promotional activities were done mainly by local companies importing from these countries (special promotions, dinners and seminars) but also by diplomatic offices.

U.S. Market Opportunities

The beef market in Bulgaria continues to be good and the prospects are optimistic despite expected lower total imports. Therefore, AgOffice recommends a continuation of market promotion activities in coordination with the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

PSD Table, Cattle

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Animal Numbers, Cattle				(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Total Cattle Beg. Stks	612	612	630	671	0	710
Dairy Cows Beg. Stocks	389	389	400	424	0	447
Beef Cows Beg. Stocks	1	1	1	1	0	1
Production (Calf Crop)	420	402	435	440	0	470
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	1032	1015	1065	1111	0	1180
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	3	1	4	1	0	1
TOTAL Exports	3	1	4	1	0	1
Cow Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calf Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Slaughter	381	325	391	380	0	440
Total Slaughter	381	325	391	380	0	440
Loss	18	18	20	20	0	22
Ending Inventories	630	671	650	710	0	717
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1032	1015	1065	1111	0	1180
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix, Cattle, 1998 and 1997

Import Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	head
Commodity	Animal Numbers, Cattle		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Imports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.				
Others				
Austria	181	290		
The Netherlands		162		
Germany		182		
Total for Others	181	634	0	0
Others not Listed		256		
Grand Total	181	890	0	0

Export Trade Matrix, Cattle, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	head
Commodity	Animal Numbers, Cattle		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Exports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.				
Others				
Greece	1611	420		
Denmark	62			
Philippines	489	575		
Total for Others	2162	995	0	0
Others not Listed		55		
Grand Total	2162	1050	0	0

PSD Table, Beef and Veal

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Meat, Beef and Veal				(1000 MT CWE)(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Slaughter (Reference)	381	325	391	380	0	440
Beginning Stocks	7	9	7	4	0	5
Production	79	67	81	80	0	91
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	22	26	24	22	0	18
TOTAL Imports	22	26	24	22	0	18
TOTAL SUPPLY	108	102	112	106	0	114
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Dom. Consumption	99	96	101	98	0	102
Other Use, Losses	2	2	3	3	0	4
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	101	98	104	101	0	106
Ending Stocks	7	4	8	5	0	8
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	108	102	112	106	0	114
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix, Beef and Veal, 1998 and 1997

Import Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	metric tons
Commodity	Meat, Beef and Veal		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Imports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.	528	684		
Others				
Australia	2384	10938		
New Zealand	0	3088		
Poland	5014	4103		
Spain	1698	932		
Uruguay	426	878		
Argentina	943	800		
Ukraine	2721	793		
Germany	0	829		
Norway	0	572		
Hungary	0	322		
Total for Others	13186	23255	0	0
Others not Listed	6506	1496		
Grand Total	20220	25435	0	0

Export Trade Matrix, Beef and Veal, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	metric tons
Commodity	Meat, Beef and Veal		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Exports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.				
Others				
Russia	73	41		
Ukraine	5	2		
Malta	0	5		
Romania	0	67		
Cyprus	0	1		
Germany	11	1		
Turkey	0	1		
Greece	48			
Georgia	80			
Macedonia	24			
Total for Others	241	118	0	0
Others not Listed	112	176		
Grand Total	353	294	0	0

SWINE

PRODUCTION

General

The data in the P, S, and D table for animal numbers was revised based on official GOB statistics for stocks as of January 1, 1999. The birth rate for three consecutive years is 19.1. The number of slaughtered animals in 1997 was revised downward based on statistical data. The loss rate remained unchanged (5.2% -5.5% to total supply due to relatively good feeding).

During 1998, swine stocks increased by 16.3%. This revitalization in the sector started by the middle of 1998 and was a result of sufficient feed supply, stable consumption and satisfactory farm-gate prices. In 1999, however, pork prices went significantly down due to world and domestic oversupply, cheaper imports, lack of exports and only slight increase in local consumption. Many farmers increased slaughter rates and started selling pigs at very low prices, reportedly, below the production cost. Therefore, the AgOffice is forecasting a 15% increase in the animal slaughter and an increased slaughter rate from 60% (to total supply) in 1998 to 62% in 1999 and 61.8% in the year 2000. The forecast for 1999/00 is for a slightly higher number of live swine.

The data in the P, S and D table for 1998 for pork was revised based on the slaughter data in the P, S and D table for swine numbers. Since the slaughter number in 1998 was lower, pork production is also reduced. The average slaughter weight is estimated at 115 kilos/pig based on trade information. It is possible this index will decrease in 1999 due to distress slaughtering at some farms. The forecast for 1999/00 is for a higher number of slaughtered animals and production of pork.

Production Factors

In 1998, the relative share of the private sector increased to about 100%. Most pig farms started to enlarge their stocks in 1998 and 1999 and, currently, the majority of commercial supply is secured by four-five major producers. Still about 40% of supply is produced by small-medium farms.

Farm-gate prices in 1998 were satisfactory and increased 1.4% for sows and 1.0% for fattened pigs compared to 1997 (MinAg data). Prices in 1999, however, declined significantly (reportedly, the reduction in swine/pork prices is the largest compared to other animals and meats). Most recently reported prices are for 1,000 leva/kilo and below 1,000 leva/kilo or far below production cost (estimated at 1,500 leva/kilo) at medium-small farms.

Production Mix

See table in Production Mix in the Cattle, Beef/Veal section.

Production Technology

The birth rate, death rate and converting factors have remained the same. Reportedly, medicinal and vaccine practices in 1998 and 1999 improved due to enlargement of farms and more efficient management.

Production Problems

Several cases of plague and brucellosis outbreaks were reported in 1998 (February, June) and 1999 (May). In 1998, about 3,200 pigs were killed due to plague outbreaks at 8 farms. At the end of 1998, the National Vet. Agency approved a special Decree about veterinary measures against plague which stipulated mandatory vaccination.

CONSUMPTION

Despite lower than expected supply, consumption in the 1998 (P,S,&D table) remained almost the same as projected (only 1% lower). The forecast is for continuation of this trend, 1.6% increase in consumption in 1999 and 2% in the year 2000, due to expected higher stocks, slaughtered animals, pork production, lower prices and stable purchasing power.

TRADE

There were no imports of breeding swine in 1998 although imports were duty free.

In the P,S,&D table, 1998 pork exports were revised downward based on official statistics. Bulgaria reduced significantly pork exports in 1998 due to the collapse of the major export market, Russia and FSU countries. The average export price was US\$1,930/MT. Bulgaria has an export quota to the EU of 345 MT for the period June 1998-July 1999 at 20% of the basic import duty. This quota will hardly be used since local hogs are vaccinated against plague and this pork is not allowed by the EU. This quota will be increased to 360 MT (1999-2000) and 375 MT(2000-2001). It is projected that exports might be restored in 1999 to 50% of its 1997 level and further on in the year 2000 due to some revitalization of the Russian market and higher local supply.

Imports were revised significantly upward based on statistical data and due to higher than expected demand for special cuts, mainly higher value parts such as fillet. The average import price was US\$1,107/MT. Due to expected higher production in 1999/00 and higher import duties in 1999, imports should decline to about 4,000 MT.

Pork imports in 1998 increased 112% and exceeded significantly forecasted levels. The

major suppliers of pork to Bulgaria were Germany and Belgium due to their lower export prices as a result of subsidies, proximity and favorable payment terms.

Bulgarian imports of U.S. pork increased in 1998 from 42 MT to 296 MT and its market share went up from 1.4% to 4.6%. The success was a result of increased marketing activities (see cattle section). Reportedly, in 1999 traders continue to import U.S. frozen pork cuts in smaller quantities. In general, however, locally produced pork is considerably less expensive and more demanded.

In 1999, import duties for live swine and pork are as follows:

HS# 0103 10 00 0 Breeding animals - 0%

HS# 0103 91 00 0, 92 00 0 Other - 241 ECU/TNE

HS# 0203 11, 0203 12, 0203 19 fresh and chilled pork - 25% or minimum 664 ECU/TNE

HS# 0203 21, 0203 22, 0203 29 frozen pork - 40% or minimum 622 ECU/TNE

In spite of the above import duties, pork imports in 1999 are actually in a non limited import quota for HS#0203 at 25% or minimum 391 ECU/MT (increased from 235 ECU/TNE in 1998) for the period January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1999.

The maximum import duty for CEFTA countries for HS#0203 is 25%. For Slovenia this duty applies only within the quota of 40 MT for 1999.

There are no other quotas for the EU and for countries with which Bulgaria has FTZ agreements (Turkey).

POLICY

Production and consumption policy

The most important factor for the development of the swine industry in 1998 and 1999 was low-priced and sufficient feed. The local pork has become more competitive compared to imported product. By the end of 1999 and in the year 2000, however, feed prices should be higher which may lead to more expensive local meat.

MARKETING

Currently, market opportunities for U.S. pork are not very good since the average local price is lower than the international. Some change is expected by the beginning of the year 2000 when local prices should also rise as a result of more expensive feed.

PSD Table, Swine

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Animal Numbers, Swine				(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
TOTAL Beginning Stocks	1480	1480	1533	1721	0	1800
Sow Beginning Stocks	183	183	190	201	0	215
Production (Pig Crop)	3500	3500	3630	3840	0	4100
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	4980	4980	5163	5561	0	5900
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sow Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER SLAUGHTER	3137	3000	3250	3450	0	3650
Total Slaughter	3137	3000	3250	3450	0	3650
Loss	310	259	325	311	0	350
Ending Inventories	1533	1721	1588	1800	0	1900
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	4980	4980	5163	5561	0	5900
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

PSD Table, Pork

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Meat, Swine				(1000 MT CWE)(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/20 00
Slaughter (Reference)	364	345	325	380	0	401
Beginning Stocks	8	8	6	1	0	6
Production	247	235	256	258	0	271
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	3	6	2	4	0	2
TOTAL Imports	3	6	2	4	0	2
TOTAL SUPPLY	258	249	264	263	0	279
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	3	0	5	3	0	5
TOTAL Exports	3	0	5	3	0	5
Human Dom. Consumption	238	238	240	242	0	247
Other Use, Losses	11	10	11	12	0	13
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	249	248	251	254	0	260
Ending Stocks	6	1	8	6	0	14
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	258	249	264	263	0	279
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix, Pork, 1998 and 1997

Import Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	metric tons
Commodity	Meat, Swine		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Import for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.	42	296		
Others				
Germany	0	2008		
Belgium	72	872		
Denmark	232	535		
Canada	96	482		
Czech Republic	89	361		
The Netherlands	107	336		
United Kingdom	0	259		
Sweden	147	219		
Greece	72	350		
France	170	337		
Total for Others	985	5759	0	0
Others not Listed	1955	288		
Grand Total	2982	6343	0	0

Export Trade Matrix, Pork, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	metric tons
Commodity	Meat, Swine		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Exports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.				
Others				
Armenia	326	50		
Romania	11	4		
Cyprus	5	4		
Malta	6	7		
Ukraine	18	8		
Russia	6251	120		
The Netherlands	62	0		
Georgia	33	0		
Latvia	4	0		
Total for Others	6716	193	0	0
Others not Listed	6	64		
Grand Total	6722	257	0	0

SHEEP AND GOATS

PRODUCTION

General

Animal numbers were revised in the P,S, and D table based on official data as of January 1, 1998 and 1999 for sheep and goats. In 1999, there was an 8.5% increase in number of goats and 2.6% decrease in sheep stocks compared to 1998 (see table #1). The lamb crop for 1998 was unchanged and the birth rate (1.2) and loss rate (2.9% to total supply) remained the same for 1999 and the year 2000. The number of slaughtered animals increased since exports of mutton and lamb replaced banned exports of live animals. The forecast is for a slight increase in stocks by the end of 1999, mainly as a result of expected higher number of goats and stopped decrease in number of sheep.

Meat production in the 1998 P,S and D table was revised slightly upward based on higher number of slaughtered animals. The average live weight per slaughtered animal was estimated at 39-40 kilos/head. The forecasted production in 1999 should be slightly lower based on projected reduced number of slaughtered animals, therefore, some imports are expected.

The private share in this sector increased in 1997 to reach almost 100% with still a large percent raised on small and medium sized farms. According to the latest data, 66% of farms have from 3 to 10 sheep and 33% of farms, from 11 to 50 sheep.

Production Factors

According to most trade experts, farm-gate prices in 1998 did not satisfy the majority of producers and were below production cost, at the same time prices were quite high for exports. Recent research showed that the average profitability in sheep sector varies between 2.8% and 8%. See price tables #5- #7.

Production Problems

There were cases of listeriosis in 1998 (April), scab (December), and rabbis in 1999(May), however, the precautions were taken in time.

CONSUMPTION

Consumption in 1998 was the same as projected and should stay stable in 1999 and the year 2000. Mutton and sheep still have the lowest share in production (14%-16%) and consumption (14%) with the peaks in consumption around Eastern in April and around a national holiday in May.

TRADE

The trade data in the 1998 P,S and D table for exports of live sheep and lamb were revised considerably down based on official statistical data and due to the continuing ban on exports to the EU. At the same time, Bulgaria did not export to the Middle East countries due to reportedly not high prices of Bulgarian live sheep. Therefore, no exports of live sheep and goats are forecasted for 1999 and the year 2000. Imports of live sheep and goats are not expected.

Bulgaria was able to increase its meat exports despite the ban on the live sheep, therefore, the meat trade export data for 1998 was revised 13% upward based on official statistical data. Italy, Greece and Jordan remained the major export markets for Bulgarian mutton and lamb.

In 1999, export taxes for live sheep and goats were terminated. There are no quotas for imports of live sheep and goats and meat from them.

POLICY

Production and Consumption Policy

See cattle and beef section for GOB policy.

Trade Policy

The EU ban on imports of live sheep and cattle from Bulgaria because of the measles and FMD outbreak continued in 1998 and 1999 due to incomplete ear-marking. Currently, Bulgaria is negotiating with the EU to lift the ban if animals are under quarantine for 30 days prior to exports. If the ban will be lifted, exports of live sheep and lambs can start not earlier than the fall of 1999.

Bulgaria has export quotas for sheep and goat meat - 5,388 MT for 1998 and 5,469 MT for 1999. An increase of 5% is expected for the year 2000. Three plants were approved in 1999 for exports to the EU - in Svishtov, Silistra, and Shoumen. According to the MinTrade, in 1998, Bulgaria exported 3,192 MT of mutton and lamb under these quotas to the EU.

Current import duties for live sheep, goats and respective meat are:

HS# 0104 10 00 1 Breeding animals - 10%

HS# 0104 10 00 9 Other - 278 ECU/MT

HS# 0204 10 00 0 - 10%

HS# 0204 21 00 0, 0204 22 10 0, 0204 22 30, 0204 22 50 0, 0203 22 90 0,
0204 23 00 0 - 15%

HS# 0204 30 00 0 - 10%

HS# 0204 41 00 0, 0204 42 00 0, 0204 43 00 0, 0204 50 00 0 - 15%

Imports from CEFTA countries of HS#0204 (mutton and lamb meat) is at 0% import duty

with the exception of Slovenia for which the 0% duty is only within a quota of 10 MT.

PSD Table, Sheep and Goats

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Animal Numbers, Sheep				(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
TOTAL Beginning Stocks	3814	3814	3934	3822	0	3900
Ewes, Beginning Stocks	2900	2900	2990	2889	0	2925
Production (Lamb Crop)	3480	3480	3580	3467	0	3510
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	7294	7294	7514	7289	0	7410
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	20	0	30	0	0	0
TOTAL Exports	20	0	30	0	0	0
Ewe Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lamb Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Slaughter	3150	3272	3284	3189	0	3300
TOTAL Slaughter	3150	3272	3284	3189	0	3300
Loss	190	200	200	200	0	200
Ending Inventories	3934	3822	4000	3900	0	3910
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	7294	7294	7514	7289	0	7410
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

PSD Table, Mutton and Lamb

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Meat, Lamb, Mutton and Goat				(1000 MT CWE)(1000 HEAD)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/20 00
Slaughter (Reference)	3150	3272	3284	3189	0	3300
Beginning Stocks	2	2	1	1	0	0
Production	55	57	58	56	0	57
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	1	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL Imports	1	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	58	59	59	58	0	58
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	3	4	4	4	0	4
TOTAL Exports	3	4	4	4	0	4
Human Dom. Consumption	53	54	54	54	0	54
Other Use, Losses	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	54	54	54	54	0	54
Ending Stocks	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	58	59	59	58	0	58
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Export Trade Matrix, Mutton and Lamb, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix				
Country	Bulgaria		Units:	metric tons
Commodity	Meat, Lamb, Mutton and Goat		Partial Begin	
			Partial End	
Exports for:	1997	1998	1998	1999
	Full	Full	Partial	Partial
U.S.				
Others				
Croatia	333	209		
Italy	1216	1190		
Greece	193	2888		
Denmark	6	0		
Jordan	277	0		
Switzerland	6	0		
United Kingdom	12	0		
Total for Others	2043	4287	0	0
Others not Listed	1745			
Grand Total	3788	4287	0	0

HIDES AND SKINS

PRODUCTION

General

Production of bovine hides and skins is based on the conversion factor given in the reporting instructions (ten percent of bovine meat production). 1998 production in the P,S, and D table was revised downward based on lower bovine meat production. 1999 and 2000 production is derived in the same way. The average weight of one piece remained 13 kilograms.

CONSUMPTION

General

The level of consumption is based on the domestic supply available after exports. As in 1997, leather factories could not offer attractive prices and contract terms to producers to stimulate domestic production and preferred using imported hides and skins due to their better quality. In the P,S and D table consumption in 1998 has been revised downward due to lower supply despite lower exports. Another reason for lower consumption was difficult marketing of ready finished products.

In 1998 and 1999, leather consumers complained against illegal and low-priced imports of leather products (such as shoes, handbags, jackets) from Turkey, Greece, Syria and China. Therefore, local companies could not market their finished products which led to lower hides and skins consumption. Since a significant change in this situation is not expected, the AgOffice projects only a slight increase in consumption in 1999 and the year 2000.

TRADE

Imports and exports were revised downward in the 1998 P,S and D table according to official data. Trade was down due to lower consumption (imports) and mediocre quality (exports). As in 1997, despite this reduction in imports, this market is still the largest in value - US\$42 million in 1998.

In 1998, bovine hides and skins continued to be imported mainly from Italy and Turkey. Most of Italian exports were destined for production of shoes in Bulgaria which afterwards is exported back to Italy. Reportedly, this type of production in the first half of 1998 exceeded annual 1997 production and reached 7.0 million pairs of shoes.

Currently, 80% of enterprises in the sector (7 large factories) are private and by the end of

1999, privatization should be entirely completed. There are also about 500 newly established small and medium size (up to 20 workers) private processors (mainly producers of shoes). According to industry data, in 1998 about 70% of leather products produced in Bulgaria were exported. Production prior to 1990 used to be 25 million pairs but has significantly declined to only 6.0 million in 1997 and 8.1 million in 1998 (the latest official data). Local shoes consumption is estimated at 9-10 million pairs of which 600,000 high quality legally imported and over 6 million low-priced illegally imported pairs (industry data).

Bulgaria did not import any U.S. hides and skins in 1998 compared to 78 MT (US\$460,000) in 1997. There are still good niche market opportunities for U.S. hides and skins because of the size of import market and expected revitalization and export potential of leather industry (most processors import hides and skins if needed for exports). The major constraints for U.S. exporters are the traditional ties with Italy and Turkey as well as price competition.

In 1998, Bulgaria continued to export hides and skins to traditional markets: Italy and Greece.

In 1999, Bulgaria terminated export taxes for hides and skins, and wool.

Current import duties for bovines hides and skins, and wool are as follows:

4101 - 0%

4104 - 0% with the exception of 4104 31, 4104 39 - 5% (reduced from 10% in 1998).

5101 - 0%

5103 - 10% (reduced from 21% in 1998)

5105 - 5% (reduced from 10% in 1998)

Imports of hides and skins (HS#4101-4104) and wool (HS#5101 -5105) from EU, EFTA, CEFTA countries and Turkey are at 0% import duty.

There are no duty free import quotas for 1999 for hides and skins and wool.

PSD Table, Hides and Skins

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	Hides & Skins, Bovine				(1000 MT)(1000 PCS)	
	Revised		Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
		1998				
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production In MT	8	6	8	8	0	9
Production In Pieces	608	461	623	623	0	692
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	6	4	6	4	0	3
TOTAL Imports	6	4	6	4	0	3
TOTAL SUPPLY	14	10	14	12	0	12
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	4	2	4	3	0	3
TOTAL Exports	4	2	4	3	0	3
Domestic Consumption	10	8	10	9	0	9
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	14	10	14	12	0	12
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix, Hides and Skins, 1998 and 1997

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Bulgaria		
Commodity	Hides & Skins, Bovine		
Time period		Units:	metric tons
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	78	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Russia	1144		373
Turkey	395		1100
Italy	2060		1614
The Netherlands	332		194
France	175		201
Germany	0		60
Brazil	0		49
Sudan	42		121
India	49		38
Greece	0		13
Total for Others	4197		3763
Others not Listed	542		100
Grand Total	4817		3863

Export Trade Matrix, Hides and Skins, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Bulgaria		
Commodity	Hides & Skins, Bovine		
Time period		Units:	metric tons
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Greece	256		677
Czech Republic	19		3
Turkey	155		22
France	0		4
Germany	43		7
Macedonia	0		30
The Netherlands	0		28
Italy	1087		842
Austria	153		0
Spain	652		0
Total for Others	2365		1613
Others not Listed	273		208
Grand Total	2638		1821

PRODUCTION

General

Official statistics for tallow and grease do not exist. Production is estimated based on GAIN instructions since official statistics do not include tallow from cattle nor from on-farm production. The methodology of calculating is the same as in 1998 report.

The data in the P,S, and D table is revised based on slaughter data in respective tables, therefore, production in 1998 was revised upward. Exports in 1998 were higher than projected and consumption declined slightly. There were no imports in 1998. Increased production in 1999/00 should lead to higher consumption, limited or no imports and higher exports.

TRADE

Exports in 1998 were destined mainly to traditional markets - Albania and Turkey.

Trade Regime

There is not a duty free import quota for lard, tallow and grease for 1999. Current import duties are as follows:

1501 - 25% with the exception of 1501 00 90 0 - 15%

1502 - 20% (reduced from 23% in 1998) with the exception of 1502 00 10 9 - 15%.

Imports from CEFTA countries are at 0% import duty.

PSD Table, By-Products, Tallow and Grease

PSD Table						
Country	Bulgaria					
Commodity	By-Products,Tallow & Grease				(1000 MT)	
	Revised		Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
		1998				
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	9	10	9	12	0	13
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	9	10	9	12	0	13
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	0	2	0	3	0	3
TOTAL Exports	0	2	0	3	0	3
Domestic Consumption	9	8	9	9	0	10
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	9	10	9	12	0	13
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Export Trade Matrix, By-Products, Tallow and Grease, 1998 and 1997

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Bulgaria		
Commodity	By-Products, Tallow & Grease		
Time period		Units:	metric tons
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	32		32
France	25		217
Albania	1043		1407
Turkey	192		677
Moldova	17		0
Russia	3		0
Total for Others	1312		2333
Others not Listed	0		117
Grand Total	1312		2450

Table 1. National number of livestock as of January 1, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 in the country and in the private sector in 1,000 head

	1996	1997	1998	1999
Cattle	632	582	612	671
Cows	371	358	389	424
Hogs	2140	1500	1480	1721
Sows	234	157	183	201
Sheep	3383	3020	2848	2774
Ewes	2386	2000	2130	2058
Goats	833	849	966	1048
Poultry	18609	16227	14766	15686
Layers	10615	8957	8524	8896

Table 2. Growth in numbers of livestock in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 (previous year = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	1999
Cattle	99.0	92.1	105.2	109.6
Hogs	107.8	70.1	98.7	116.3
Sheep	99.6	89.3	94.3	97.4
Goats	104.8	101.9	113.8	108.5
Poultry	97.3	87.2	91.0	106.2

Table 3. Livestock productivity in 1996, 1997 and 1998 in the country			
	1996	1997	1998
Milk yield, liters			
Cows	3074	3102	3148
Ewes	50	50	50
Wool per sheep, kg	3.187	3.253	3.241
Eggs per layer, number	177	175	184

Table 4. Livestock products in 1996, 1997 and 1998			
	1996	1997	1998
Meat, carcass weight, slaughtered in slaughterhouses, 1,000 MT	569	512	N.A.
Milk, million liters	1,390	1,436	1,588
Wool, 1,000 MT	9	7	8
Eggs, million pieces	1,734	1,583	1,690

Table 5. Consumer price index for livestock products in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 (December of the respective year to December of the previous year = 100)				
	1995	1996	1997	1998
Meat	111.6	311.5	997.2	76.7
Pork	102.9	292.1	1175.9	68.3
Veal and beef	116.3	260.0	1124.2	84.1
Poultry	112.7	427.9	643.6	75.7
Meat products	107.0	297.7	927.9	80.5
Milk	110.7	340.9	777.6	100.7
Cheese	102.1	312.1	835.1	82.1
Butter	126.0	373.7	657.3	98.8
Eggs	125.6	318.6	783.7	79.5
Total food	123.6	406.6	710.8	95.2

Table 6. Farm-gate, wholesale and retail prices of livestock products for 1996 - 1998 in leva per kilogram			
	1996	1997	1998
Cattle			
farm-gate			
live weight	86.5	1,411	1,500
carcass weight	166.3	2,709	2,880
wholesale	170.0	4,200	4,500
retail	250.0	5,500	5,700
Veal			
farm-gate			
live weight	105.5	1,461	1,760
carcass weight	199.5	2,761	3,300
wholesale	230.0	4,500	4,700
retail	400.0	6,000	6,500
Mutton			
farm-gate			
live weight	91.1	1,009	1,132
carcass weight	214.1	2,371	2,500
Wholesale	250.0	3,000	3,200
Retail	350.0	4,300	4,500
Lamb			
farm-gate			
live weight	118.7	2,582	2,935
carcass weight	269.9	4,500	4,700
wholesale	380.0	5,871	6,000
retail	450.0	6,000	6,500
Pork			
farm-gate			

live weight	111.1	2,093	1,902
carcass weight	166.5	3,200	2,900
wholesale	230.0	5,300	4,700
retail	310.0	8,600	5,300

Table 7. Farm-gate prices of livestock for slaughtering and eggs as of July 1997, 1998 and 1999 in leva per kilogram in live weight and per unit

	1997	1998	1999
Cattle	1,700	1,500-2,000	1,600
Calves	2,000	1,600-2,500	1,700
Pigs	2,300	1,800-2,200	1,900
Sows	NA	1,600-1,900	1,800
Broilers	1,750	1,550-1650	1,700
Lamb	2,700	3,000	3,000
Sheep	900	1,000	1,130
Eggs	95	80-95	80
Wool, raw (kg)	NA	NA	700-1,700
Hides and skins (kg)	NA	NA	1,600-1,900

Table 8. Trade Matrix for 1998, Edible Meat Offal (from cattle, pigs and sheep and goats) by Countries in MT			
Export		Import	
Ukraine	1	Poland	195
Russia	1	Argentina	183
Saint Vincent and grenadine	1	Spain	184
Malta	2	Australia	218
Unknown	21	Austria	205
		Canada	1,062
		Denmark	265
		Belgium	422
		France	467
		The Netherlands	1,255
		Germany	2,101
		Greece	1,108
		USA	1,194
Total	26	Total	9,225 US\$3.2 million