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Argentina

Planting Seeds

Annual

2000

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Report Highlights:

The planted area of the three largest Argentine crops have more that offset the drop of the other minor crops.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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Production

Lack of rains during the spring in important zones of the Humid Pampas has adversely affected not only wheat seed yields, but also all species of forage production. Production of grass seeds which is centered in the northern zone of Buenos Aires Province, has decreased its yields around 20-30 percent compared with the previous season. In spite of a high stock levels from last year, overall supplies will be limited this year. Drought also decreased fescue production. Moreover, late frosts limited the setting of the seeds, so more seeds will be imported from the United States. Although some lots of rye grass was affected by rust, in general a good harvest of annual and perennial rye grass took place last December.

Planted Area

Table 1: Planted Area Comparison

	Planted Area 1999/2000	Planted Area 1998/99
Barley	194,000	242,000
Corn	3,645,000	3,268,000
Peanuts	219,000	337,000
Rice	201,000	291,000
Sorghum	840,000	880,000
Soybeans	8,550,000	8,392,000
Sunflowerseed	3,530,000	4,212,000
Wheat	5,942,000	5,263,000

Area planted to all field crops in Argentina in 1999/00 reached 23 million hectares, up 3 percent from the previous season. In the case of wheat, soybeans, and corn, area increased due to better profitability. The decreases in sunflowerseed and barley were caused by low international prices. The 30 percent reduction in rice area is the result of low international prices and lack of export markets, and in peanuts, because many farmers were discouraged by poor results in the last few years, and thus turned to other crops.

Supply and Distribution

Table 2: Supply and Distribution

Type	Area Planted (has)	Required Seed Tons	Residual Seed %	Certified Seed Tons	% Using Certified Seed
Corn	3,600,000	65,000	5	67,490	100,00
Sunflowerseed	3,550,000	18,0000	2	18,200	100,00
Grain Sorghum	840,000	7,000	5	7,490	100,00
Forage Sorghum	450,000	5,000	20	11,840	100,00
Soybeans	8,300,000	740,000	35	187,870	38,90
Wheat	5,900,000	590,000	30	135,000	32,70
Barley	174,000	20,000	25	19,800	100,00
Forages	1,400,000	25,200	8	12,000	51,70
Cottonseed	350,000	9,000	15	12.250	100,00

Source: SAGPyA

Prices

Table 3: Comparison of Retail Seed Prices, March 2000 with March 1999

Forage Seed	2000	1999
Agropiro Alargado	1.30	1.05
Alfalfa Valley imp. From US	6.20	5.90
Alfalfa Mede imp. From US	6.20	5.80
Oats selected and certified	0.24	0.20
Festuca certified	n/a	1.85
Lotus corniculatus imported	2.20	2.10
Phalaris imported certified	4.40	4.60
Rye grass annual imported	1.60	1.50
Red clover imported	3.00	2.85
Pampeana, local production	n/a	3.40

Data in US\$ per kilogram.

Field Crop Seeds	2000	1999
Hybrid sunflower	4.67	4.00
Flaxseed, certified	0.39	0.39
Hybrid corn	3.26	4.33
Soybean, certified	0.30	0.37
Sorghum, hybrid	2.12	2.92
Wheat, certified	0.20	0.20
Colza/Canola	5.50	2.43

Data in US\$ per kilogram

Trade - Argentine Seed Exports

During CY 1999 Argentina exported 53,007 metric tons of seeds valued at US\$ 63.7 million. Principal seed exports with percentage to the United States follows in parentheses: alfalfa 68 tons (0), cottonseed 1,698 (100), rice 148 (1), oats 54 (0), Italian grass 8 (0), barley 1 (1), fescue 53 (37), sunflowerseed 2,018 (476), vegetable 61 (33), flaxseed 5 (0), corn

30,547 (26,742), millet 41 (0), rapeseed 33 (0), soybeans (16,778 (16,293), sorghum 1,123 (6), clover 125 (2), and wheat 305 (0).

Table 4: Alfalfa Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Bolivia	13	\$52,551	14	\$46,270
Brazil	2	\$11,700	1	\$3,300
Canada	1	\$8,364	0	\$450
Chile	0		4	\$21,990
Spain	0	\$38	0	
United States	21	\$74,400	0	\$704
France	0	\$1,430	0	
Paraguay	0		2	\$8,100
Peru	0	\$240	0	
United Kingdom	0	\$5	0	
S. Africa	0	\$1,020	0	
Uruguay	58	\$294,004	47	\$219,315
Total	95	\$443,752	68	\$300,129

Source: INDEC

Table 5: Cotton Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Bolivia	80	\$97,327	5	\$4,518
Brazil	0		0	\$12
United States	27	\$27,200	100	\$99,948
Paraguay	3,187	\$2,941,012	1,580	\$3,308,692
Switzer-land	0		0	\$9
Uruguay	36	\$50,400	13	\$18,467
Total	3,330	\$3,115,939	1,698	\$3,431,646

Source: INDEC

Table 6: Rice Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Brazil	133	\$70,517	0	
Spain	22	\$7,200	0	
Paraguay	29	\$13,785	126	\$39,725
United Kingdom	0	\$2	0	
Uruguay	0	\$10	23	\$12,166
Total	184	\$91,514	149	\$51,891

Source: INDEC

Table 7: Oat Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Brazil	6	\$1,680	0	
Chile	0		0	\$159
Spain	0		0	\$10
France	0	\$24	0	
Uruguay	444	\$113,600	54	\$11,880
Total	450	\$115,304	54	\$12,049

Source: INDEC

Table 8: Barley Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Brazil	3	\$2,250	0	\$1
Chile	0	\$11	0	
United States	1	\$995	1	\$891
France	1	\$555	0	\$296
Switzer-land	0		0	\$10
Uruguay	10	\$4,802	0	\$10
Total	15	\$8,613	1	\$1,208

Source: INDEC

Table 9: Festuca Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Bolivia	1	\$2,062	0	
Brazil	2	\$6,673	1	\$2,938
Chile	26	\$64,172	0	
United States	15	\$18,100	37	\$38,552
New-Zealand	0		14	\$30,082
Uruguay	115	\$269,594	0	\$1
Total	159	\$360,601	52	\$71,573

Source: INDEC

Table 10: Sunflowerseed Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Germany	0	\$1,999	0	\$1,772
Australia	0	\$1	0	
Austria	0	\$58	0	
Belgium	0		0	\$1
Bolivia	473	\$1,524,728	577	\$2,235,089
Brazil	70	\$229,707	187	\$631,720
Bulgaria	0		0	\$10
Chile	32	\$71,450	30	\$63,460
China	5	\$19,095	33	\$121,328
Spain	35	\$129,055	1	\$18,407
United States	112	\$399,385	476	\$1,176,728
France	10	\$35,325	2	\$8,080
Hungary	0	\$670	1	\$26,510
Italy	40	\$121,834	0	\$658
Mexico	0	\$450	0	
Netherlands	0	\$48	0	\$27
Paraguay	308	\$1,181,752	287	\$1,060,753
Peru	0		0	\$1,300
Rumania	0	\$1,360	0	\$1,488
South Africa	7	\$197,135	0	\$4,292
Switzerland	0		0	\$30
Thailand	8	\$20,970	26	\$72,816
Turkey	0	\$112	0	
Uruguay	640	\$2,693,320	395	\$1,648,683
Venezuela	60	\$270,234	0	
Zimbabwe	0	\$359	0	
Total	1,800	\$6,899,047	2,015	\$7,073,152

Source: INDEC

Table 11: Vegetable Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Germany	0		0	\$1,800
Australia	0	\$5,800	0	\$5,600
Brazil	0	\$4,200	0	\$26,164
Chile	8	\$158,148	13	\$268,451
Ecuador	0		0	\$1,250
United States	31	\$548,035	33	\$568,099
Italy	1	\$27,000	1	\$20,700
Japan	6	\$150,435	5	\$162,604
Mexico	0	\$4	0	
Paraguay	1	\$8,376	1	\$8,954
Uruguay	10	\$144,204	8	\$98,625
Total	57	\$1,046,202	61	\$1,162,247

Source: INDEC

Table 12: Flaxseed Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Germany	138	\$79,486	0	
Chile	0		5	\$1,100
Total	138	\$79,486	5	\$1,100

Source: INDEC

Table 13: Corn Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Germany	279	\$501,420	343	\$528,701
Belgium	0	\$33	0	\$978
Bolivia	254	\$370,924	493	\$615,044
Brazil	19	\$105,696	38	\$199,727
Canada	0	\$82	0	\$221
Chile	47	\$204,207	37	\$151,345
China	60	\$94,556	44	\$96,260
Colombia	0	\$20	0	
Korea Republic	1	\$7,385	0	
Costa Rica	0		0	\$39
Croatia	0	\$150	0	
Spain	12	\$96,750	0	\$8
United States	26,381	\$43,018,093	26,742	\$37,350,521
Estonia	0	\$4,709	0	
France	3		19	\$50,541
Hungary	0		17	\$13,632
India	0	\$66	0	
Italy	28	\$49,281	15	\$22,636
Japan	61	\$108,634	20	\$27,030
Mexico	2	\$1,500	0	
Nether-lands	1	\$6,380	14	\$33,967
Paraguay	131	\$166,662	175	\$183,456
Peru	74	\$106,946	93	\$132,712
Portugal	13	\$25,263	21	\$43,033
Puerto Rico	0	\$13	0	\$1,408
Rumania	0	\$1,000	0	
Russia	400	\$165,000	0	
South-Africa	6	\$12,315	822	\$1,161,235
Terr.Norteameric	0	\$72	0	
Turkey	96	\$179,487	0	
Uruguay	1,589	\$2,585,663	1,653	\$1,954,588
Venezuela	0	\$80	0	
Total	29457	\$47,812,387	30546	\$42,567,082

Source: INDEC

Table 14: Millet Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Chile	18	\$4,500	46	\$11,525
Spain	0	\$80	0	\$88
Uruguay	1	\$2,535	0	
Total	19	\$7,115	46	\$11,613

Source: INDEC

Table 15: Soybean Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Bolivia	4	\$861	3	\$3,833
Brazil	1	\$570	85	\$25,801
Canada	0		350	\$155,139
Chile	0		5	\$1,050
United States	16,650	\$7,426,713	16,292	\$7,049,541
Japan	3	\$9,240	0	
Paraguay	28	\$11,817	0	
Rumania	0	\$18	0	
South-Africa	0	\$15	3	\$1,582
Switzer-land	0		0	\$14
Uruguay	206	\$94,223	40	\$12,000
Total	16,892	\$7,543,457	16,778	\$7,248,960

Source: INDEC

Table 16: Sorghum Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Bolivia	566	\$753,643	466	\$583,588
Brazil	15	\$12,983	22	\$27,150
Chile	0	\$125	0	\$94
Colombia	0	\$11	0	
Korea Republic	0		0	\$168
United States	45	\$145,881	6	\$18,961
Mexico	14	\$14,000	0	\$140
Paraguay	87	\$114,392	65	\$94,260
Peru	0		0	\$280
South-Africa	0	\$1	0	
Thailand	0		0	\$25
Uruguay	620	\$560,571	562	\$476,114
Venezuela	0	\$82	0	
Total	1,347	\$1,601,689	1,121	\$1,200,780

Source: INDEC

Table 17: Clover Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Brazil	3	\$9,270	0	\$1,200
Chile	14	\$52,718	20	\$69,500
United States	0		20	\$42,258
Uruguay	80	\$264,070	85	\$278,550
Total	97	\$326,058	125	\$391,508

Source: INDEC

Table 18: Wheat Planting Seed Exports

Country	1998 Volume mt	1998 Value	1999 Volume mt	1999 Value
Germany	0	\$3	0	\$7
Bolivia	405	\$86,737	28	\$7,560
Brazil	0	\$4	0	
Canada	0	\$192	0	
Chile	0		275	\$24,725
France	0		0	\$8
Italy	0		2	\$1,001
Sri Lanka	0		0	\$30
Switzer-land	0		0	\$21
Total	405	\$86,936	305	\$33,352

Source: INDEC

Trade - Argentine Seed Imports

During the same period, Argentina imported 29,56 metric tons of seeds valued at US\$ 78.3 million. The United States accounted for 45 percent of total imports. Principal seed imports with percentage to the United States follows in parentheses: alfalfa 9,329 (7,180), cottonseed 268 (123); rice 6 (6), Italian grass 3,350 (650), fescue 618 (495), sunflowerseed 6,560 (404), vegetable 376 (149), corn 4,327 (2,530), soybean 437 (433), sorghum 1,543 (787), clover 1,505 (387).

Table 19: Alfalfa Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	1,341	\$4,947,946	1,017	\$3,008,892
Canada	154	\$487,678	110	\$294,652
Chile	80	\$466,640	69	\$378,161
France	208	\$623,241	177	\$543,725
Holland	15	\$46,419	0	
Italy	360	\$969,625	167	\$368,569
Singapore	92	\$357,273	43	\$155,895
South Africa	63	\$248,717	103	\$356,187
United States	7,260	\$28,601,793	7,180	\$28,147,320
Uruguay	0		40	\$168,824
Venezuela	34	\$158,768	68	\$255,856
FreeZone La Plata	0		355	\$1,427,410
Total	9607	\$36,908,100	9329	\$35,105,491

Source: INDEC

Table 20: Cottonseed Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	0	\$11	0	\$2,128
Israel	0	\$472	0	\$1,704
Paraguay	0		0	\$74
United States	121	\$727,048	123	\$564,557
Free Zone La Plata	0		145	\$694,451
Total	121	\$727,531	268	\$1,262,914

Source: INDEC

Table 21: Rice Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Brazil	15	\$7,002	0	\$51
Colombia	0		0	\$131
Italy	0		0	\$151
Puerto Rico	0	\$247	0	\$878
United States	7	\$10,067	0	\$551
Uruguay	3	\$1,162	6	\$2,493
Total	25	\$18,478	6	\$4,255

Source: INDEC

Table 22: Oat Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Chile	374	\$109,619	393	\$124,987
France	0	\$219	0	\$239
Paraguay	178	\$50,413	270	\$68,943
Spain	0	\$134	0	
Sweden	0		0	\$98
United States	0	\$156	0	\$209
Uruguay	0		18	\$7,242
Total	552	\$160,541	681	\$201,718

Source: INDEC

Table 23: Italian Grass Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	7	\$10,119	0	
Belgium	12	\$10,787	20	\$12,065
Canada	0		111	\$111,903
Chile	50	\$55,275	0	
Denmark	79	\$115,770	186	\$161,582
France	0	\$58	2	\$3,048
Germany	701	\$496,976	885	\$612,400
Holland	1	\$1,472	77	\$66,869
New Zealand	107	\$197,288	250	\$412,966
South Africa	0	\$55	11	\$11,666
United Kingdom	0		80	\$66,262
United States	808	\$947,412	650	\$726,924
Uruguay	423	\$307,935	1,078	\$464,152
Total	2,188	\$2,143,147	3,350	\$2,649,837

Source: INDEC

Table 24: Barley Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
France	0	\$2,141	0	\$1,680
Germany	37	\$24,796	0	
Mexico	0	\$22	0	
United States	16	\$13,001	0	\$193
Total	53	\$39,960	0	\$1,873

Source: INDEC

Table 25: Rye Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Canada	0		0	\$56
Germany	0		6	\$8,294
United States	0		4	\$3,762

Total	0	0	10	\$12,112
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Source: INDEC

Table 26: Fescue Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	14	\$19,600	0	
Canada	10	\$14,065	0	
Chile	40	\$57,084	0	
Denmark	5	\$8,003	8	\$14,718
France	0	\$1,745	1	\$2,376
Germany	12	\$20,020	29	\$43,344
Holland	0		15	\$25,514
Italy	137	\$212,742	0	
New Zealand	17	\$37,209	1	\$4,710
Panama	0		8	\$11,967
Peru	6	\$9,640	50	\$101,751
Sweden	0		0	\$28
United States	1,103	\$1,835,137	495	\$757,483
Uruguay	25	\$58,881	11	\$15,342
Total	1369	\$2,274,126	618	\$977,233

Source: INDEC

Table 27: Timothy Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Denmark	1	\$970	0	
Germany	1	\$1,594	2	\$2,206
United States	1	\$747	1	\$1,230
Total	3	\$3,311	3	\$3,436

Source: INDEC

Table 28: Sunflowerseed Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	0	\$237	0	\$3,112
Bahamas	0		14	\$16,022
Bolivia	1,901	\$1,971,703	1,176	\$1,414,512
Brazil	24	\$45,536	22	\$57,056
Chile	2,361	\$3,676,984	3,755	\$6,098,832
France	2	\$42,623	2	\$33,971
Germany	0	\$99	0	\$9,150
Holland	0	\$4,742	0	\$313
Hungary	0	\$140	0	
Israel	2	\$20,580	8	\$48,167
Italy	2	\$14,757	0	\$903
Mexico	6	\$29,115	0	
Paraguay	6	\$24,292	17	\$68,456
Puerto Rico	0	\$983	0	\$520
Romania	0		2	\$6,754
Russia	0		0	\$61
South Africa	270	\$701,389	1,129	\$2,561,407
Spain	26	\$203,473	31	\$191,626
Terr.Norteameric	9	\$44,947	0	
Turkey	17	\$65,249	0	
United States	783	\$2,236,669	404	\$1,247,668
Uruguay	9	\$28,784	0	
Yugosla-via	0		0	\$47
Total	5418	\$9,112,302	6560	\$11,758,577

Source: INDEC

Table 29: Vegetable Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Belgium	1	\$5,859	1	\$24,997
Bolivia	0	\$56	0	
Brazil	0	\$43,718	0	\$37,553
Chile	37	\$867,035	27	\$673,322
Costa Rica	0		0	\$28,569
Denmark	20	\$172,319	20	\$158,145
Ecuador	0	\$12,938	0	
France	22	\$538,878	27	\$662,203
Germany	31	\$173,844	26	\$195,312
Holland	54	\$919,020	47	\$1,111,017
Israel	0	\$438,549	0	\$361,167
Italy	32	\$288,984	40	\$274,091
Japan	13	\$604,729	16	\$634,656
Mexico	0	\$450	0	\$10,884
South Africa	0	\$970	21	\$118,776
South Korea	1	\$55,920	0	\$570
Spain	1	\$110,899	1	\$34,854
Taiwan	0	\$3,614	0	\$169
United States	106	\$3,825,472	149	\$4,320,176
Uruguay	5	\$13,187	1	\$1,826
Venezuela	2	\$27,913	0	
Free Zone La Plata	0	\$554	0	\$3,735
Total	325	\$8,104,908	376	\$8,652,022

Source: INDEC

Table 30: Flaxseed Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	0	\$47	0	
Belgium	0		0	\$130
France	0	\$639	0	
Free Zone La Plata	0	\$145	0	
Total	0	\$831	0	\$130

Source: INDEC

Table 31: Corn Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	0	\$148	0	\$24
Belgium	0	\$22	0	
Bolivia	0	\$66	0	\$134
Brazil	540	\$721,069	1,494	\$2,172,678
Bulgaria	0	\$60	0	
Canada	0		22	\$37,659
Chile	969	\$1,492,417	79	\$127,081
Costa Rica	0		1	\$3,124
France	45	\$76,116	59	\$126,725
Germany	21	\$27,008	1	\$3,765
Holland	0	\$2,477	0	\$48
Israel	0		0	\$86
Italy	52	\$77,520	72	\$124,428
Mexico	17	\$25,436	0	\$594
Peru	0		0	\$38
Philippines	0		0	\$48
Portugal	0	\$833	0	\$804
Puerto Rico	13	\$179,220	1	\$4,140
South Africa	45	\$270,099	65	\$109,892
Spain	1	\$4,246	0	
Terr.Norteameric	108	\$495,723	3	\$16,151
Thailand	0	\$356	0	\$54
United States	6,874	\$13,322,599	2,530	\$9,105,407
Uruguay	0		0	\$56
Venezuela	0		0	\$52
Zambia	0	\$2,592	0	\$220
Zimbabwe	0	\$49	0	\$49
Total	8685	\$16,698,056	4327	\$11,833,257

Source: INDEC

Table 32: Peanut Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
United States	15	\$26,629	0	\$57
Total	15	\$26,629	0	\$57

Source: INDEC

Table 33: Rapeseed Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	0		0	\$87
Canada	1	\$10,441	0	\$1,843
Denmark	0	\$2,935	0	\$150
France	0	\$5,093	0	\$29
Italy	1	\$1,712	1	\$1,517
Japan	0	\$10,499	0	\$1,092
Sweden	19	\$52,998	0	\$552
Total	21	\$83,678	1	\$5,270

Source: INDEC

Table 34: Bluegrass Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Brazil	0		0	\$4,950
Denmark	4	\$8,400	2	\$6,152
Germany	11	\$22,819	3	\$5,456
Holland	0		3	\$5,819
Sweden	0		0	\$56
United States	23	\$41,740	7	\$17,238
Total	38	\$72,959	15	\$39,671

Source: INDEC

Table 35: Soybean Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Bolivia	7	\$2,400	0	\$414
Brazil	161	\$83,363	0	\$64
Chile	2	\$2,944	0	
Colombia	0	\$38	0	\$35
Costa Rica	0	\$53	0	\$886
Germany	0	\$352	1	\$538
Mexico	60	\$229,593	0	
Puerto Rico	3	\$5,967	0	\$506
South Africa	0		3	\$8,012
Taiwan	0	\$8	0	
United States	802	\$1,711,112	433	\$743,379
Total	1035	\$2,035,830	437	\$753,834

Source: INDEC

Table 36: Sorghum Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	1,897	\$2,094,776	756	\$880,764
Bolivia	48	\$22,296	0	
Brazil	0	\$540	0	
Colombia	0		0	\$46
France	0	\$93	0	\$81
India	0	\$47	0	
Jamaica	0	\$597	0	\$3,904
Mexico	0	\$199	0	
Puerto Rico	0	\$1,094	0	
South Africa	0		0	\$50
United States	1,214	\$1,507,741	787	\$955,143
Uruguay	72	\$74,236	0	\$56
Total	3231	\$3,701,619	1543	\$1,840,044

Source: INDEC

Table 37: Clover Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Australia	210	\$511,532	84	\$174,396
Belgium	20	\$54,271	0	
Canada	37	\$73,351	132	\$146,760
Chile	565	\$1,426,090	372	\$871,647
Denmark	17	\$42,361	0	
France	0		0	\$80
Germany	66	\$156,840	42	\$82,629
Italy	121	\$306,107	22	\$47,495
New Zealand	124	\$316,769	194	\$440,357
Singapore	2	\$5,372	0	
South Africa	3	\$9,144	9	\$17,536
United States	237	\$644,134	387	\$831,156
Uruguay	32	\$66,059	257	\$520,902
Free Zone La Plata	0		6	\$13,032
Total	1434	\$3,612,030	1505	\$3,145,990

Source: INDEC

Table 38: Wheat Planting Seed Imports

Country	1998 Volume	1998 Value	1999 Volume	1999 Value
Belgium	0		0	\$45
Canada	0		0	\$57
Chile	0		1	\$1,368
France	0	\$427	0	\$1,419
Italy	7	\$6,501	26	\$13,319
Mexico	0	\$267	0	\$74
Spain	0	\$616	0	
United States	0	\$124	0	\$713
Total	7	\$7,935	27	\$16,995

Source: INDEC

NOTE: "0" indicates less than 1 metric ton for all trade tables.

Government Regulations

National Register of Cultivars (RNC)

The Register was created in accordance with the Seeds and Phyto-genetic Developments Lw #20247. Article 9 of the Seeds Law required that all cultivars identified or marketed for the first time in Argentina, be registered. Registration with the NRC only authorizes the marketing of the plant varieties within Argentina and does not grant title to ownership. The following information must be submitted for varieties of alfalfa, grains and oilseeds: growing pattern, comparative yield tests, health and technological quality characteristics.

National Register for Cultivar Ownership (RNPC)

The Register was created in compliance with the Seeds and Phyto-genetic Development Law which states in Article 19, that the right of ownership of plant breeders who develop new plant varieties should be protected as a recognition to their effort to improve plant varieties. In Argentina, plant varieties are protected with a title to ownership. Registration does not automatically authorize the breeder to market the cultivar.

Plant breeders must register the variety with both Register (the National Register for Cultivar Ownership and the National register of cultivars) to receive the title to ownership and the authorization for marketing.

In December 1994 Argentina signed the 1978 UPOV agreement (the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants), based in Geneva, Switzerland, joining other forty-five member states. The UPOV agreement seeks to provide cooperation, and grant similar rights to the breeders in all the member states, thus offering a homogeneous and harmonized status.

Variety Approval:

In Argentina, the affidavit that the applicants must submit to the RNC and the RNPC, includes information on plant variety, test results, administrative and legal aspects, and the technical specifications.

The Bureau for Registration of varieties verifies that:

1) the origin of the variety has been reported (indispensable to receive the title to ownership),
2) the variety is different, homogeneous and stable, 3) that the suggested name is appropriate, to avoid confusion, 4) affidavit requesting registration, 5) annex I, 6) annex II: botanical description of the variety, 7) annex III: fundamentals of the new variety, 8) annex IVa, IVb, and IVc: procedures to maintain the purity of the variety; genetic origin, development method, background information on variety improvement, GMO properties of the variety, respectively.

Fees for registering a variety at the RNPC:

Analysis of the application - differentiation:	\$100
Title to ownership:	\$369
Annual fee:	\$125

Foreign Applicants:

Foreign applicant should submit their application through an agent who has legal address in Argentina. The agent shall attach a duly authenticated copy of the power of attorney stating the agent's authorization to act, signed by the breeder/owner of the variety.

The power of attorney shall include: 1) The signature of the grantor, duly certified by a notary, clearly indicating his/her name and authority to sign the power of attorney (e.g. that the signer is the legal representative of the company, such as the chairman, etc), 2) the power of attorney shall be authenticated by: The Consulate in the country of origin or The Apostille of The Hague Convention Agreement. If the power of attorney is not in Spanish, a translation by a certified translator is required.

Summary of GMO Testing Requirements for Release into the Environment:

The Argentine Secretariat of Agriculture with the counseling of the National Advisory Committee on Farming Biotechnology, developed a form that must be completed by interested parties wishing to release a GMO into the environment. The form requires a detailed description of the biosafety measures that will be applied, and information on the molecular biology of the transformation event. The form was designed based on requirements of UNEP, EPA and APHIS, Canadian rules, and EU and OECD recommendations.

A rule issued by the Secretariat, states the isolation and post-harvest controls for all crops released in Argentina. These isolation requirements were defined as a result of consultation with experts in various crops, and the characteristics of the sites where these crops are grown (e.g. topography, predominant wind, presence of diseases).

Every time a company wishes to release a GMO into the environment, the company must submit an application for assessment to the CONABIA. If the application is not rejected, the release is recommended subject to confinement rules, as specified in the Secretariat's resolution.

All applications are analyzed on a case by case basis. A new application to CONABIA is also required if a company releases the same transformation event in the following crop year.

If in the same crop year and for the same transformation event, a company applies for a permit for a laboratory/nursery testing (e.g. to collect embryos), and requests authorization to release the transformation event, the company must submit a different application, because the release is subject to other biosafety rules. In all cases, laboratory/nursery tests and releases into the environment are overseen by specially trained INASE and SENASA inspectors.

The cost of these inspection is stated in a resolution issued by the Secretariat and must be paid by the breeders as follows:

- inspection within a radius of 400 km. \$400 per inspection,
- inspection at > 400 km. \$500

The cost was calculated based on travel costs and lodging for 2 days for the inspector.

On average, all crops are inspected every year at least three times: one inspection when the crop is seeded, to verify isolation requirements; one inspection to verify the efficacy of the modified gene, and one inspection at the time of harvest to observe

the end use of the harvested product, and the elimination of the harvest waste (which is burnt and the green residue in the field is tilled and buried).

In the following crop years, a post-harvest inspection of the plots is required to verify the presence of volunteer plants. Destruction of volunteer plants is mandatory.

All inspectors are experts in field observations and know the characteristics of the test material. The inspectors are required to inspect a similar plantation in the same area to identify weeds, insects, and assess the health status of the crops and the possible impact of the transgenic crop on the agro-ecosystem.

Inspectors are required to submit a report after each inspection. At the end of the crop year, the inspector's report is compared to the Final Report submitted by the Technician appointed by the company as responsible for the test.

GMO authorized for marketing in Argentina:

- Soybean expressing the protein CP4 EPSPS with glyphosate tolerance;
- Corn transformed by event # 176 resistant to lepidopteran pests;
- Corn transformed by event T14 and T25 with gluphosinate ammonium tolerance;
- Corn transformed by event MON 810 resistant to lepidopteran pests; and
- Cotton transformed by event MON 531 resistant to lepidopteran pests.

For full list of field releases, please see the CONABIA web site at the following location:
<http://siiap.sagpya.mecon.ar>