

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: United States Agricultural Exports to the Dominican Republic Reached an All-Time High During 2020 in Spite of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Country: Dominican Republic

Post: Santo Domingo

Report Category: Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

During 2020, U.S. total agricultural exports to the Dominican Republic increased by 6 percent, from US\$1.26 billion in 2019 to \$1.33 billion, reaching an all time high in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. The growth was driven by exports of bulk products such as corn, pulses and rice. During the same period, Dominican total agricultural exports to the U.S. increased by 6 percent, from \$455 million in 2019 to \$484 million.

U.S. Agricultural Exports to the DR

In 2020, U.S. total agricultural exports to the Dominican Republic increased by 6 percent, from \$1.26 billion in 2019 to \$1.33 billion. The growth was driven by exports of bulk products which increased by 26 percent, from \$308 million in 2019 to \$389 million in 2020. Intermediate products exports increased by 5 percent, from \$354 million in 2019 to \$371 million in 2020. Although consumer-oriented products continue to be the largest category of U.S. agricultural exports to the DR, in 2020 their export value declined by 4 percent, from \$602 million in 2019 to \$577 million.

Top U.S. Agricultural Product exports to the Dominican market:

Category/ product	Avg. Inter-annual Growth (2015-2020)	2019 exports (Thousand US\$)	2020 exports (Thousand US\$)	Growth (2019/2020)
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS	3%	1,264,056	1,337,056	6%
Consumer oriented	5%	601,562	577,214	-4%
Dairy products	4%	91,439	93,664	2%
Pork and pork products	13%	77,700	90,526	17%
Poultry meat and products	10%	77,776	80,910	4%
Prepared food	7%	54,916	53,747	-2%
Bulk	5%	308,352	389,333	26%
Tobacco	13%	124,811	171,329	37%
Corn	15%	64,058	95,341	49%
Wheat	-13%	68,524	43,683	-36%
Pulses	9%	24,358	42,865	76%
Intermediate	1%	354,141	370,509	5%
Soybean meal	-1%	184,376	174,210	-6%
Soybean oil	12%	90,395	121,262	34%

Source: GATS/USDA.

The decline of consumer-oriented exports to the Dominican market is explained by the reduced demand for these products due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, exports of beef and beef products declined by 49% (from \$66 million to \$34 million), driven by lower demand as a result of hotel and restaurant closures, a prime source of demand for higher quality cuts of beef. A similar scenario occurred with products such as wine, beer, snack foods and prepared foods.

Bulk products had the largest increase in 2020. This increase is explained by:

- A 49 percent growth in corn exports. Although local consumption of corn decreased due to weaker demand from the local poultry sector, the United States regained market share last year from competitors such as Brazil and Argentina, due to better prices and logistical challenges in South America.
- A 76 percent growth in bean exports, explained by weak local production during the year.

- A 76 percent growth in rice exports, explained by production shortages during last year's production cycle.

In the case of intermediate products, the lower demand of locally produced poultry and pork products from the hotel and restaurant sector forced local producers to reduce their production. This resulted in lower demand for inputs such as soybean meal, which decreased by 6 percent.

DR Agricultural Exports to the U.S.

In 2020, Dominican total agricultural exports to the United States increased by 6 percent, from \$455 million in 2019 to \$484 million. The growth was driven by exports of consumer oriented products which increased by 5 percent, from \$255 million in 2019 to \$269 million in 2020. Bulk products increased by 9 percent, from \$179 million in 2019 to \$194 million in 2020. Intermediate products exports remained stable at \$21 million.

Top Dominican Agricultural Product Exports to the United States market:

Category/ product	Avg. Inter-annual Growth (2015-2020)	2019 exports (Thousand US\$)	2020 exports (Thousand US\$)	Growth (2019/2020)
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS	4%	454,672	483,500	6%
Consumer oriented	11%	255,290	268,605	5%
Avocados	45%	33,953	40,463	19%
Canned food	10%	13,044	17,398	33%
Beverages prepared with sugar	-2%	16,895	14,294	-15%
Other mixed condiments	11%	11,083	13,385	21%
Greenhouse tomatoes	66%	5,485	8,144	48%
Chili peppers	183%	5,098	7,346	44%
Bulk	1%	178,750	194,361	9%
Raw cane sugar	5%	96,501	116,083	20%
Cocoa beans	-3%	66,743	57,650	-14%
Tobacco	18%	14,513	19,839	37%
Intermediate	-15%	20,633	20,534	0%
Sugar, Sweeteners, Beverage bases	-7%	14,926	15,495	4%

Source: GATS/USDA.

As shown in the chart above, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic Dominican agricultural exports to the U.S. remained strong. One factor is the increase in raw cane sugar exports to the U.S. market, from \$97 million in 2019 to \$116 million in 2020. The increase is due to the largest U.S. WTO tariff rate quota (TRQ) for sugar being allocated to the Dominican Republic during FY 2020.

Additionally, strong exports of avocados, canned food, mixed condiments, greenhouse tomatoes and chili peppers contributed to this growth.

ANNEX 1

Total Agricultural Exports From the United States to the Dominican Republic (2015-2020)						
<i>Values in Thousands of dollars</i>						
CATEGORY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Agricultural Products	1,132,954	1,174,281	1,198,947	1,316,657	1,264,056	1,337,056
Consumer Oriented Total	451,488	483,813	491,515	567,709	601,562	577,214
Dairy Products	77,558	75,608	78,261	86,864	91,439	93,664
Pork & Pork Products	53,245	56,309	70,815	92,635	77,700	90,526
Poultry Meat & Prods. (ex. eggs)	51,613	64,322	61,462	73,700	77,776	80,910
Prepared Food	39,823	42,586	39,740	43,432	54,916	53,747
Fresh Fruit	30,236	35,121	29,513	33,020	36,153	35,452
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	23,241	24,754	21,879	29,158	30,947	34,774
Beef & Beef Products	58,770	57,108	53,042	58,549	65,698	33,717
Condiments & Sauces	14,843	15,242	15,946	17,453	19,883	21,420
Wine & Beer	15,836	18,759	21,560	24,360	26,247	21,347
Processed Vegetables	18,103	17,762	16,246	16,331	21,151	21,028
Snack Foods NESOI	14,955	17,901	21,198	21,766	22,434	17,458
Non-Alcoholic Bev. (ex. juices)	5,240	5,949	5,982	7,520	12,397	12,946
Fresh Vegetables	3,993	5,385	7,390	9,682	12,593	12,156
Chocolate & Cocoa Products	10,553	11,987	13,559	11,536	13,601	10,964
Tree Nuts	7,142	7,147	8,920	10,379	10,183	8,509
Processed Fruit	7,973	7,331	6,747	8,200	7,100	7,958
Breakfast Cereals	8,122	7,807	6,570	6,778	6,691	7,586
Dog & Cat Food	3,231	3,098	3,311	3,054	3,780	4,394
Meat Products NESOI	1,935	1,951	2,485	4,067	4,056	4,149
Other Consumer Oriented	4,304	5,175	5,242	4,841	4,664	4,102
Eggs & Products	773	2,510	1,648	4,383	2,154	406
Bulk Total	325,583	293,438	305,199	368,533	308,352	389,333
Tobacco	99,804	79,879	82,595	94,796	124,811	171,329
Corn	85,562	87,197	94,947	165,419	64,058	95,341
Wheat	92,566	81,791	81,405	66,454	68,524	43,683
Pulses	38,317	32,062	19,453	19,913	24,358	42,865
Rice	8,251	10,655	21,075	12,343	12,969	22,864
Soybeans	55	59	3,479	7,967	9,267	11,052
Other Bulk Commodities	712	922	1,416	840	2,063	1,536
Cotton	286	849	764	788	2,268	653
Coarse Grains (ex. corn)	0	0	0	0	0	11
Oilseeds (ex. soybean)	31	23	66	12	34	0
Intermediate Total	355,882	397,031	402,233	380,416	354,141	370,509
Soybean Meal	190,263	223,800	174,074	187,595	184,376	174,210
Soybean Oil	86,542	84,230	140,500	107,011	90,395	121,262
Other Intermediate Products	36,724	36,847	36,992	35,976	28,078	29,272
Vegetable Oils (ex. soybean)	11,718	17,581	18,257	21,827	15,723	13,715
Planting Seeds	3,930	10,355	13,303	8,912	9,116	12,331
Feeds & Fodders NESOI	5,743	5,708	6,500	6,947	13,312	7,737
Animal Fats	11,509	10,240	6,180	6,488	5,608	4,462
Sugar, Sweeteners, Bev. Bases	4,486	4,500	3,503	2,634	3,524	3,705
Live Animals	2,054	2,901	2,292	2,696	3,844	3,535
Distillers Grains	294	657	383	301	35	146
Hides & Skins	2,577	178	240	17	94	100
Hay	43	32	12	12	38	35

Source: GATS/USDA.

ANNEX 2

Total Agricultural Exports From the Dominican Republic to the United States (2015-2020)						
<i>Values in Thousands of dollars</i>						
CATEGORY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Agricultural Products	411,177	417,378	423,926	508,592	454,672	483,500
Consumer-Oriented	173,876	213,305	237,069	318,598	255,290	268,605
Other Consumer Oriented	37,872	36,158	70,182	73,688	74,431	82,731
Fresh Vegetables	32,414	49,080	47,362	47,880	49,222	54,986
Other Fresh Fruit	14,012	25,612	37,496	43,073	44,333	51,969
Snack Foods	14,701	17,997	19,324	21,155	21,260	25,257
Processed Fruit & Vegetables	34,099	31,844	23,487	21,484	21,295	22,492
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	2,175	2,751	2,794	3,929	4,399	7,967
Tree Nuts	11,883	9,090	8,464	6,615	6,727	7,472
Nursery Products	4,355	4,373	4,476	4,505	4,691	5,028
Wine and Beer	13,113	31,075	16,920	88,161	22,802	3,928
Roasted & Instant Coffee	1,209	1,055	2,078	2,965	3,680	2,800
Bananas and Plantains	6,560	2,608	1,578	2,792	623	1,829
Cheese	620	639	577	645	644	1,104
Spices	268	662	852	1,371	824	653
Other Dairy Products	596	362	1,479	332	297	390
Red Meats, FR/CH/FR	0	0	0	0	62	0
Bulk Total	184,972	156,255	160,571	161,140	178,750	194,361
Raw Beet & Cane Sugar	93,980	92,427	101,826	99,082	96,501	116,083
Cocoa Beans	80,269	51,704	43,010	47,079	66,743	57,650
Tobacco	9,136	10,790	14,566	14,272	14,513	19,839
Coffee, Unroasted	1,086	993	863	538	880	462
Other Bulk Commodities	339	342	203	126	114	289
Wheat	0	0	0	0	0	31
Rubber & Allied Products	160	0	104	40	0	5
Rice	0	0	0	3	0	0
Tea, Incl Herb	2	0	0	0	0	0
Intermediate Total	52,329	47,818	26,286	28,855	20,633	20,534
Sugars, Sweeteners, Bev Bases	32,695	36,240	13,708	18,011	14,926	15,495
Other Intermediate Products	12,111	7,021	8,845	6,243	3,044	2,279
Cocoa Paste & Cocoa Butter	6,086	2,991	1,907	1,964	135	1,117
Essential Oils	1,169	1,048	1,065	1,614	1,556	628
Feeds & Fodders	78	63	275	251	233	621
Tropical Oils	145	227	372	464	394	257
Other Vegetable Oils	0	101	19	125	213	97
Planting Seeds	23	14	52	107	87	41
Live Animals	22	114	11	76	30	0
Hides & Skins	0	0	31	0	14	0

Source: GATS/USDA.

Attachments:

No Attachments.