

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 6/9/2015

GAIN Report Number:

Botswana

Post: Pretoria

Agricultural Economic Fact Sheet

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the Economy

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Report Highlights:

Agriculture accounts for about three percent of Botswana's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with diamonds and tourism the main contributors to economy. Agricultural potential is limited due to the Kalahari Desert that occupies a large area of the country. As a result, about 85 percent of Botswana's agricultural output is derived from livestock production, mainly cattle. Post estimates that Botswana imported US\$632 million worth of food and agricultural products in 2014.



Botswana

Agricultural Economic Fact Sheet

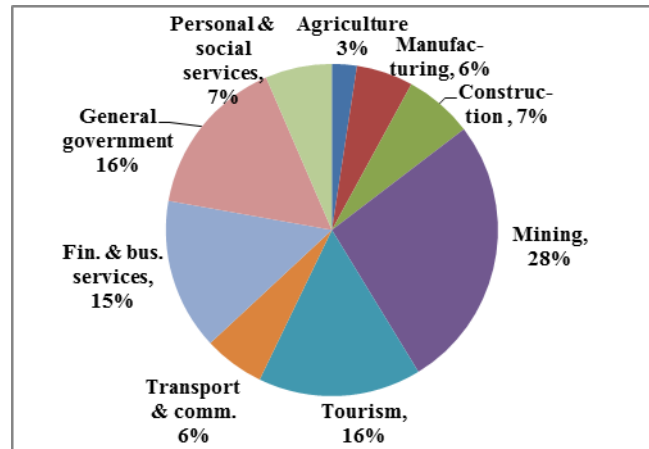
Foreign Agricultural Service
United States Embassy in South Africa
(updated June 2015)

General

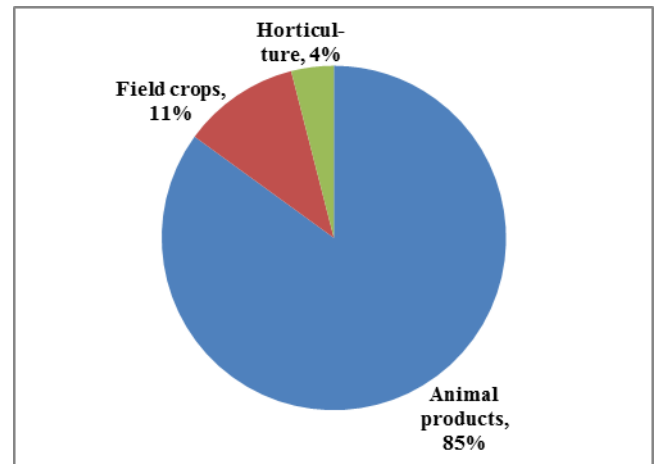
- Botswana is **one of the least populated countries in Africa** with a population of only 2 million people and a population density of less than 3 persons per square kilometre.
- **Diamonds and tourism are the main contributors** to Botswana's US\$15.8 billion economy.
- Botswana is the **world's second largest producer of diamonds** after Russia, and the largest in Africa.
- **Diamonds represented 85 percent of Botswana's total exports** of US\$7 billion in 2014.
- **Agriculture accounts for about 3 percent** of Botswana's GDP.
- About **85 percent of Botswana's agricultural output is derived from livestock production**, mainly beef, with a cattle population of about 2.2 million.
- Botswana's **agricultural potential is limited** due to the Kalahari Desert that occupies a large area of the country.
- **Subsistence/traditional farming are the norm** with less than a 1,000 commercial farming enterprises.
- **Crop area represent less than 1 percent of the total land area** with corn, sorghum, millet and pulses the major crops being planted.

<u>Economic Facts</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
GDP at current prices (billions)	\$14.6	\$14.8	\$15.8
GDP/capita	\$7,082	\$7,118	\$7,505
Real GDP growth	4.1%	5.9%	4.5%
Ag % of GDP	2.9%	2.5%	2.5%
Total Population (million)	2.0	2.0	2.0
Inflation	7.5%	5.8%	4.4%
Food inflation	8.0%	5.4%	3.0%
Unemployment rate	20%	20%	20%
Average exchange rate	P7.6/US\$1	P8.4/US\$1	P 9.0/US\$1

Composition of the Economy:



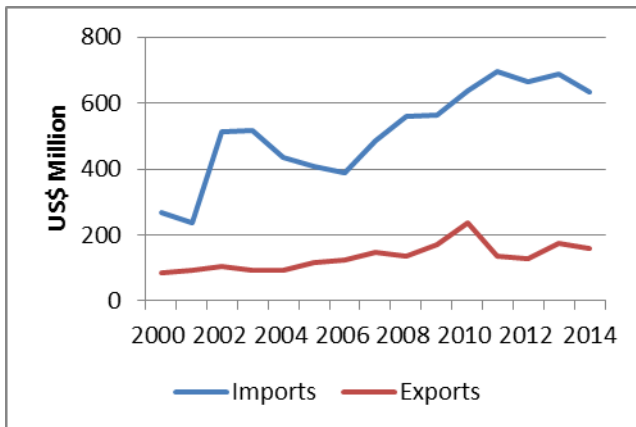
Sector Distribution of Agricultural Production:



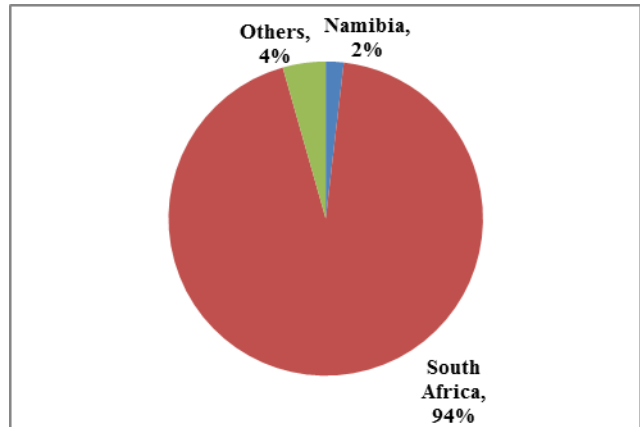
Agricultural Trade

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Agricultural exports (millions)	\$127	\$187	\$160
% of total Botswana exports	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%
Agricultural imports (millions)	\$729	\$674	\$632
% of total Botswana imports	9.1%	10.0%	10.3%

Trends in Angola's Agricultural Trade:



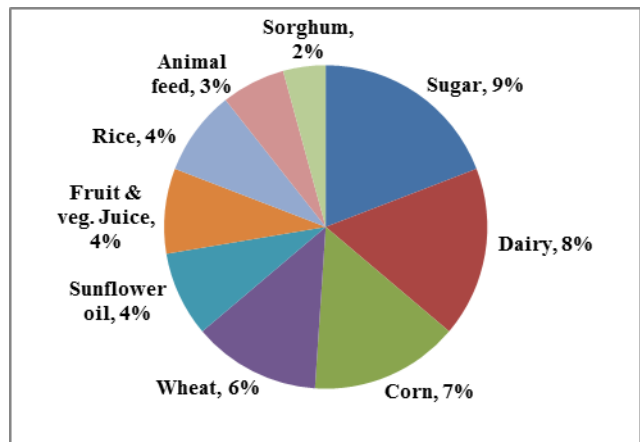
Agricultural Import Countries:



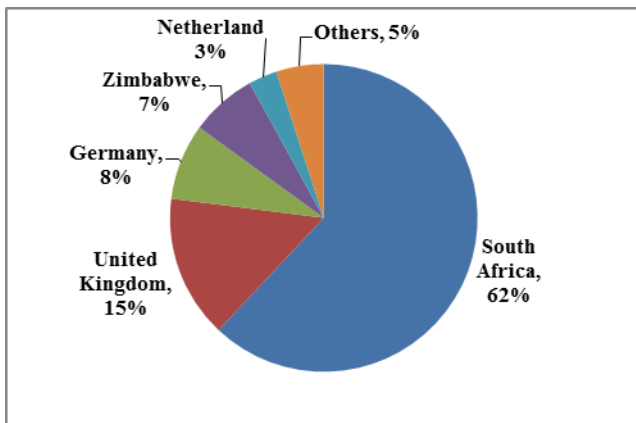
US – Botswana Agricultural Trade

(US\$ millions)	2012	2013	2014
Botswana ag exports to US	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.2
Botswana ag imports from US	\$0.5	\$0.5	\$0.5

Major Agricultural Products Imported:



Agricultural Export Destinations:



Agricultural Products Exported:

