

These pressures to export are the counterpart to the pressures not to import, that is, to depend more heavily upon domestic production as described elsewhere. Both types of measures interfere with the full functioning of comparative advantage, and often spawn countermeasures in other countries which lead to further interference with trade.

TABLE 10.—ESTIMATED EXPORT PAYMENTS ON U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS—AVERAGE PER UNIT AND TOTAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1966

Commodity	Unit	Average per unit (dollars)	Total (million dollars)
Wheat grain.....	Bushel.....	0.467	354.3
Wheat flour.....	Hundredweight.....	1.05	45.5
Grain sorghums.....	Bushels.....	.095	23.0
Rice, milled.....	Hundredweight.....	1.805	54.7
Cotton, upland.....	Bale.....	28.75	87.9
Cotton, extra-long staple domestically produced.....	do.....	50.00	.4
Tobacco, unmanufactured.....	Pound.....	.05	.3
Flaxseed.....	Bushel.....	.2325	1.2
Linseed oil.....	Pound.....	.01585	1.3
Peanuts.....	do.....	.07	12.4
Milk, nonfat dry.....	do.....	.036	9.8
Butter.....	do.....	.299	2.0
Milkfat (butteroil, anhydrous milkfat, ghee, etc.).....	do.....	.368	3.7
Cheese.....	do.....	.087	.1
Chickens, whole.....	do.....	.056	.2
Total.....			596.8

Source: ERS-USDA, "Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States," Economic Research Service, USDA, June 1967.

IV. TRADE PROBLEMS AND POLICIES AMONG ADVANCED COUNTRIES

The flow of trade in agricultural products that originates in or is absorbed by advanced countries constitutes approximately 73 percent of the world total. The dominant component among advanced countries consists of Temperate Zone agricultural products. The major net importing areas are West Europe and Japan, while the major net exporting areas are North America and Oceania. Trade within regions is important in Europe and in North America. The net recent position and changes in imports and exports since 1953-54 are indicated in table 11.

Despite rather substantial increases in the flow of trade among developed countries, major obstacles still exist; commercial conflict among developed countries has increasingly focused on agriculture. Rapidly expanding agricultural production based upon the technological revolution in agriculture and the stimulus of national support policies has led to a situation where the principal problem of exporters is to find outlets for excess production. Many of the policies that now influence trading relationships were developed for a purpose quite different from that which they now serve. The main impetus for the programs now in effect in most countries stems from the need for rapidly expanding food output during and following World War II. While the central objective in agricultural policy has shifted to income protection, other important objectives are sought. With the exception of a few small countries where agricultural exports represent a substantial share of gross national product, emphasis is placed on accommodation of agricultural policy to internal economic, political, and social requirements.