

North America, there is little prospect for major shipments, except on concessional terms.

Fruit and vegetable consumption per capita is relatively high throughout western Europe. The major trade flows are intra-European from the Netherlands and Mediterranean countries to other European countries. Shipments of canned products from North America are increasing, however. European production has increased at the relatively rapid rate of 3 percent per year. With consumption levels already high, it appears that this rate of expansion cannot be maintained in the future. While our exports to west Europe have increased, the expansion has not been rapid and cannot be expected in the future to represent large quantities.

Trade relations with western Europe are closely tied to agricultural income policy. With the exception of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, incomes in agriculture lag, sometimes substantially, behind those in other sectors. The central focus of policy to maintain or increase incomes in agriculture continues to be implemented through variety of direct price supports and policies that directly interfere with agricultural trade. Further, as economic growth continues and incomes expand in nonfarm sectors, the scope and complexity of measures taken tend to increase coverage so that virtually all commodities receive some form of market protection in most countries.

Price support and supplementary measures have led to widely dispersed price levels and hence in the relationship to world price levels. These relationships for wheat are shown in table 13. A similar pattern exists for other grains and dairy products. Adequate data to indicate the overall effectiveness of support measures with consistent comparison between countries and change through time are not easily available but the general pattern is that prices have increased though sometimes not commensurate with general inflation; hence real prices have declined somewhat.

TABLE 13.—WHEAT: SELECTED PRICE DATA

Country	Price in United States dollars per bushel, 1963-64	Ratio of support prices to import value 1962
Denmark.....	1.58	92
United Kingdom.....	1.63	97
Ireland.....	1.83	105
France.....	1.94	111
Greece.....	2.01	118
Netherlands.....	2.09	112
Austria.....	2.12	124
Belgium.....	2.12	123
Italy.....	2.20	129
Sweden.....	2.30	129
Spain.....	2.30	121
Portugal.....	2.34	137
Germany.....	2.38	139
Norway.....	3.20	187
Switzerland.....	3.68	215
Finland.....	4.22	204

Source: FAO Developments in Agricultural Price Stabilization and Support Policies, 1959-64, CCP 65/5, Mar. 22, 1965.