



South American Beef Supply ARGENTINA

For the Period January 1 - March 31

Graded Slaughter	2001	2000	% chg
Steers (400 -580 kg)	932,382	891,198	4.6
Light Steers (280-370 kg)	616,091	520,996	18.3
Bulls	42,430	36,324	16.8
Cows	437,048	407,614	7.2
Heifers	536,041	460,013	16.5
Calves	405,966	341,917	18.7
TOTAL	2,969,958	2,658,062	11.7

For the period January 1 - March 31

Beef Exports	2001	2000	% chg
Tonnes product weight			
Chilled	30,012	42,678	-29.7
Quarters	5,383	6,555	-17.9
Processed	10,560	11,988	-11.9
Offals	17,248	20,161	-14.4
Total	63,203	81,382	-22.3

Note: Graded Slaughter represent about 65% of total cattle slaughter in Argentina.

URUGUAY

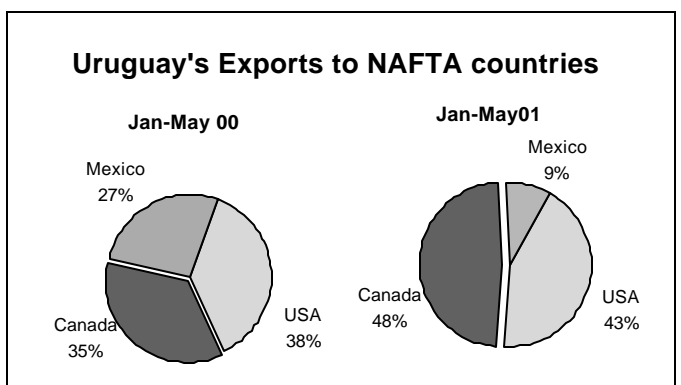
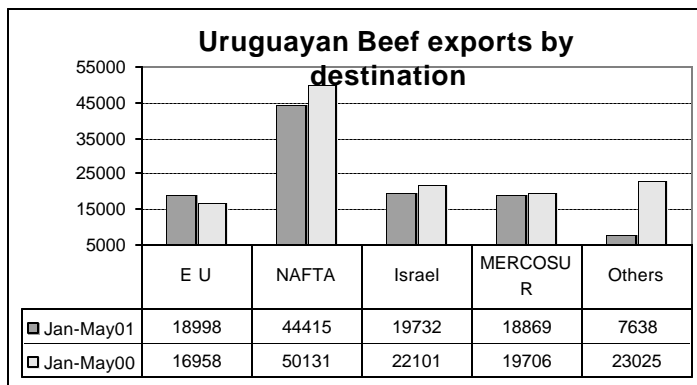
For the Period January 1 - May 30

Slaughter (head)*	2001	2000	% chg
Cows	302,802	355,545	-14.8
Bulls	10,797	14,225	-24.1
Steers	361,845	439,342	-17.6
Calves	14,305	24,964	-42.7
TOTAL	689,749	834,076	-17.3

For the Period January 1 - May 31

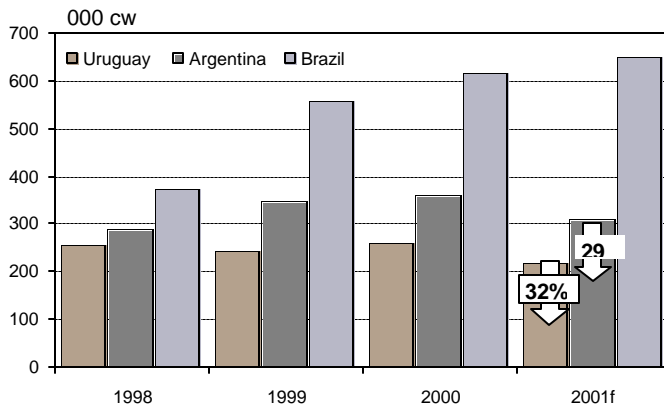
Exports by Product	2001	2000	% chg
Tonnes -shipping weight			
Chilled	25,564	20,819	22.8
Frozen	75,043	62,475	20.1
Processed	9,046	2,521	258.8
Total	109,653	85,815	27.8

* Slaughter in licensed processing plants



Source: National Meat Institute of the Republic of Uruguay

South American Beef Exports



Source: USDA

FMD situation

The OIE has formally declared the eastern regions of Brazil FMD free with vaccination. These regions carry 116 million of Brazil's 164 million cattle.

In response to the FMD outbreaks, the US, Canada and other major importing countries have imposed strict measures on fresh and frozen beef from Argentina and Uruguay.

It is expected that the total beef exports for Argentina may decrease by 29% and for Uruguay by 32% from the USDA's previous forecast for the year 2001. Both countries are forced to deal with their excess supply; Uruguay's export dependence amounts to approximately 55% while Argentina's averaged about 13%.

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