

Special Notes

1. Total EU exports and imports:

The figures relating to the exports and the imports of the EU as a whole do not include intra-Community trade.

It must be noted that:

- the exports from a particular country - whether they are seeds, oils or meals – can include products which have not been obtained in the exporting country ; The Netherlands, for example, may export soybean meals which have been previously imported from Belgium, Germany or even third countries such as the USA, Brazil,....
- the imports of a particular country from any other country can include products which do not originate in the exporting country; Belgium and the United Kingdom, for example, may import soybeans from the Netherlands which originate in the USA, Brazil, etc... and have merely passed through Rotterdam in transit.

2. Consumption sheets:

With regard to the EU consumption sheets, for oils and fats as well as for meals, they can be established in two different ways:

a. by adding up the balances of each member state.

The fact that intra-Community trade has been left out of the import and export figures should have no impact on the total EU figures since each import from a member state represents an export to another and vice-versa.

b. by only taking into account the Community production and the extra-Community trade, i.e. imports from and exports to third countries.

The figures obtained by applying either method should be identical. However, there are some slight differences which are probably due to:

- delays in recording statistical figures. An export operation may be recorded in the exporting country (The Netherlands for example), whereas it has not yet been recorded in the importing country (Italy for example). This tends to happen most frequently in December/January.
- the fact also that the real country of destination is not always recorded when the export takes place because it may not be known at the time. As an example: a French rapeseed oil is exported to Rotterdam. It is recorded in France as being an export to The Netherlands, but in fact, it is only passing through Rotterdam on its way to a third country.

In these statistics, for oils and fats as well as for meals, we have followed the first method, namely the adding up of national balances.

Due to individual rounding figures may not add up to the totals shown.