

Summary of Major Changes in the Export Forecast Since November

Commodities

Horticultural and poultry meat exports were raised boosted by strong demand and expectations for a weaker dollar -- the annual gain for horticultural exports is \$800 million!

Bulk commodity export volume is reduced 5.2 MMT to 117.7 MMT largely due to increased competition in corn and soybean markets, but year-over-year outlook for these products remains positive.

Countries

US agexports to Canada & Mexico were increased \$600 million to \$15.2 billion -- NAFTA partners now expected to account for 2/3 of total export growth in 2001.

The Asian forecast was reduced \$1 billion to \$20.2 billion -- increased competition in grains and oilseeds markets and weaker economic prospects dampen outlook.

Little change in export forecasts for EU, Russia, other world regions.