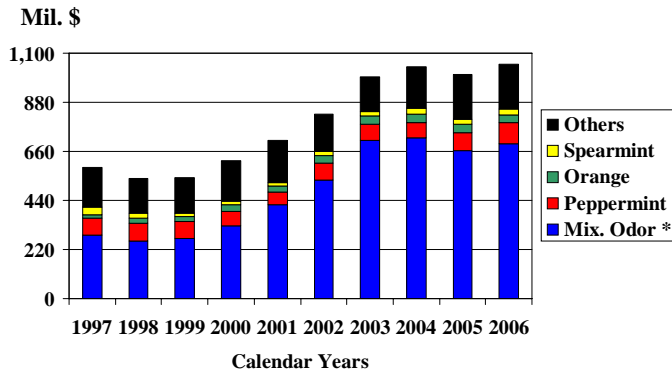




Tropical Products: World Markets and Trade

U.S. Exports of Essential Oils by Type

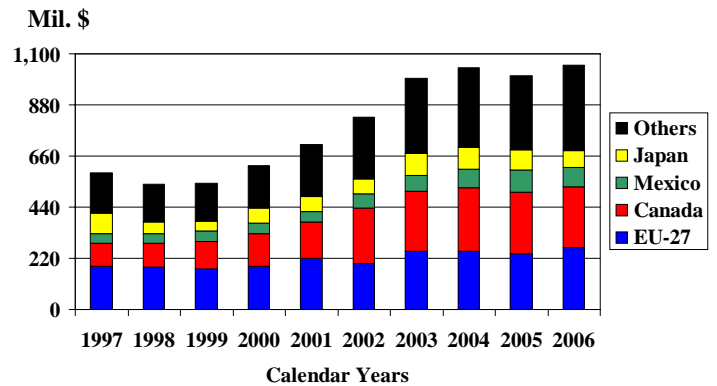
1997 - 2006



*Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, of a kind used in the food or drink industries.

U.S. Exports of Essential Oils by Country of Destination

1997 - 2006



U.S. exports of essential oils reached a record \$1.05 billion in calendar year (CY) 2006, up nearly 5 percent from 2005, and up 1 percent from the previous record in 2004. The EU is the largest market, accounting for 25 percent of the total in 2006. Canada accounted for a little less than 25 percent of the total. Essential oils are obtained from natural raw materials by distillation or through a mechanical pressing process. These oils are widely used in perfumery, cosmetic, aromatherapy, and pharmaceutical products, and to flavor food and soft drinks. Mint oils are widely used in chewing gum, toothpaste, mouthwashes and in a wide variety of confectionery and pharmaceutical products. Citrus oils are widely used by the soft drink industry, as well as to flavor confectionery and other food products. The term essential is used to indicate that the oils are the fragrant 'essence' of the plant.

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