

QUICK OVERVIEW OF COLOMBIA

COLOMBIA 2006

Land Area: 1.1 million km²
Population: 46.3 million
Total GDP: US\$ 135.8 billion
GDP/Capita: US\$ 2,935
GDP Growth Rate: 6.8%
Capital City: Bogota
Language: Spanish



TRADE WITH CANADA (CAN \$Millions)

Canada-Colombia Agri-Food Trade	2005	2006	Jan-Nov 2007	Canadian Top 5 Agri-Food Exports	2005	2006	Jan-Nov 2007
	Total Agri-Food Exports	129.047	138.902		203.118	Non-durum wheat	57.897
Total Agri-Food Imports	293.312	319.528	259.090	Lentils, dried, shelled	22.108	17.536	29.741
Agri-Food Trade Balance	(164.265)	(180.627)	(55.972)	Barley	5.295	11.814	19.486
				Durum wheat	2.378	8.010	0.872
				Peas, dried, shelled	6.995	7.320	13.839

Agribusiness presents many opportunities for Canadian companies as Colombian growers seek agriculture expertise and new farm technology. Plant and animal science, such as genetics, is also needed for livestock breeding and tackling crop diseases. The Agri-Food and Processed Food Sector has seen solid growth since the 1990s due to rapid urbanization and a demand for convenient, processed food. There is major demand for poultry, beef, pork, beer, snacks, eggs, fresh fruit and cereals.

Colombia Annually Pulses and Beans Consumption

	Kg/Per Capita	Total MT	Total Containers
Pulses	6.2	295,200	12,500
Beans	3.7	170,200	7,500

Reasons to be in Colombia ...

- Third most populous country in Latin America (46 million people) demanding high quality agri-food products;
- Conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement negotiations between Canada and Colombia;
- The Free Trade Agreement will eliminate tariffs on key agricultural exports; Colombia's current applied tariff averages are 16.6% for agricultural goods,
- Agri-food exports most affected by tariffs are cereals (wheat and barley) and pulses (lentils and peas); pork and beef are also subject to tariffs that range from 20% to 80%.
- Canadian agri-food exporters can expect greater market access once the Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement is implemented; and,
- One-on-one meetings with Colombian buyers.