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THE AGRICULTURE AND TRADE OF BRITISH HONOURAS

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Agricultural Policies in the Western Hemisphere. Foreign Agr. Econ. Rpt. 36. October 1967.

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The Western Hemisphere Agricultural Situation. ERS-Foreign 187. May 1967.

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Peru--Market and Competitor for U.S. Farm Products. ERS-Foreign 157. June 1966.

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary - - - - -	iii
Background- - - - -	1
Agricultural Production and Trade - - - - -	3
U.S. Agricultural Trade with British Honduras - -	8
Sources Consulted - - - - -	10

SUMMARY

British Honduras may be able to increase agricultural exports and at the same time supply more of its own food needs if current agricultural development plans materialize. However, it will continue for the immediate future as a market for U.S. wheat flour, certain cereal preparations, animal feed, some dairy products, and fruits and vegetables and preparations. Consequently, agricultural trade between British Honduras and the United States may continue near the 1966 level of \$2.4 million exported to British Honduras and \$1.7 million imported by the United States.

Agriculture in British Honduras supplies an estimated 28 percent of the gross domestic product, 60 to 80 percent of total exports, and provides employment for about one-third of the labor force.

British Honduras has a high proportion of potential agricultural land to population, but much of this land lies idle. Recent legislation is designed to bring more unused land into production, by taxing agricultural lands not under approved development programs, but excepting farms of less than 40 hectares.

The relatively sparse population--now estimated at 109,000 for an area of 22,969 square kilometers--is both an asset and a liability. The small population does not overcrowd the country; neither does it supply the needed reserve of skilled and semiskilled labor, nor a satisfactory market for many goods and services. However, the population growth rate of 3.1 percent puts the country near the front of the population race with its geographical neighbors.

In spite of its relative abundance of agricultural land per capita, the country usually does not produce enough of the basic food crops to feed its people. The agricultural economy is based on export crops, of which the most important are sugar and citrus products.

Foodstuffs make up the largest group among imported commodities. About one-fourth of the calories in the daily diet are supplied by wheat flour, all of which is imported. Other important items in the diet supplied by imports are milk, beans, rice, fruits and vegetables, and fats and oils.



THE AGRICULTURE AND TRADE OF BRITISH HONDURAS

By

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BACKGROUND

British Honduras--or Belize as it is known in Central America--is a British territory, bordered on the north by Mexico, on the west and south by Guatemala, and on the east by the Caribbean. It was a part of the empire of the Mayas who disappeared from the area after the 10th century. The first English settlers came in the 17th century and established a thriving colony based on trade in forest products. The colony attained self-government at the beginning of 1964 and has set 1968 as a target date for achieving full independence.

British Honduras is 280 kilometers long and is 109 kilometers wide at its maximum expanse. With an area of 22,969 square kilometers, it is slightly larger than El Salvador or Massachusetts. In contrast to El Salvador, where there are 140 people per square kilometer, British Honduras averages only 5 per square kilometer.

More than one-third of the 109,000 total population is concentrated in Belize, the capital city. The ethnic composition of the population varies widely. It is made up of about 35 percent who are predominantly African; 8 percent are East Indian, Maya and Ketchi Indian, Chinese, and Syrian; 4 percent are European; and the remaining 53 percent are of mixed origin.

The climate is hot and rainfall averages from 1,270 millimeters per year in the north to more than 3,810 millimeters in the south. In 1965 representative maximum and minimum temperatures were as follows: Belize International Airport, 85.5° F. and 71.4° F. (29.7° and 21.9° C.); Central Farm, Cayo, 86.0° F. and 67.9° F. (30.0° and 20.0° C.). Rainfall at these stations totaled 71 and 62 inches (1,803 and 1,575 millimeters) respectively.

The country is divided into six districts: Corozal, Orange Walk, Belize, Cayo, Stann Creek, and Toledo. In the north the country is flat with large swampy areas along the coast. To the south the land rises to elevations of 610 to 915 meters. The highest point in the country is Victoria Peak in the Maya Mountains with an elevation of 1,122 meters.

The country's main economic activities are agriculture, forestry, fishing, and light industries, including processing of sugar and citrus fruit. There are

some small plants producing bakery products, soap, candles, cigarettes, and furniture. Rice milling, metal working, boat building, printing, and bottling of beverages round out the industrial picture. There is little evidence of mineral deposits that could be mined on a commercial scale.

About 47 percent of the country's total area is forested and lumber and logs are among its main export commodities. On the basis of a land use survey made by the British Government in 1953-54 it is estimated that there are nearly 1.0 million hectares of cultivable land in the country, but only one-fifth of this is cultivated. Under the "milpa" or shifting type of cultivation practiced by so many native farmers, only about 34,000 hectares are under actual cultivation at any one time. Under this system a milpa (a farming unit of about 2.6 hectares in area) is cleared, the brush burned, and land cultivated for 2 or 3 years until weeds choke off all other growth. Then the milpa is abandoned to brush again and the "milpero" moves on to repeat the process on another parcel of land.

If the weather is favorable the farmer can produce enough staple crops plus a few vegetables to feed his family. A few chickens or other poultry and perhaps several pigs furnish some meat and fat, but the average diet is nutritionally inadequate.

Land still held by the Crown, mostly in the southern part of the country, totals more than 1.2 million hectares, or 60 percent of the country's total area. Most of the remainder is held by large estates, one of which owns 405,000 hectares.

Agricultural Development

Working in the forests is the traditional way of life for many British Hondurans. The first settlers to the country were attracted by its vast forest resources and forest products were the country's main export commodity until comparatively recent times.

However, the forests have been severely exploited and have from time to time been devastated by hurricanes. Because of depletion of the forest resources, the country has been forced to turn more to agriculture as a source of exportable commodities. In 1946, agriculture accounted for around 18 percent of the gross domestic product, compared with 21 percent for forest products. By 1959, the share of forest products in the GDP had declined to 10 percent while agriculture accounted for 27 percent. Greatest gains have been made in sugar and citrus, which in 1965 accounted for 57 percent of total domestic exports.

One of the factors most favorable to agriculture in British Honduras is the high proportion of usable land to population. But much of this land is unused and held by absentee owners. To encourage the development of such lands, the Legislature passed a Rural Land Utilization Ordinance, effective January 1967, which imposed taxes on all of the better agricultural land, except for land under approved programs of development, and parcels of land of less than 40.5 hectares.

In 1961 a Government of British Honduras delegation visited the United Nations in New York. As a result of this visit, the United Nations Technical Assistance Board paid for a mission to make an economic survey of the country and assist in the preparation of a development plan. A Seven Year Development Plan was issued by the Government in late 1963 for 1964-70, using as a guide the mission's report. The main emphasis of the plan is on agriculture and the services that will contribute most to its development, particularly education and transportation. Capital investment from abroad and from local sources is encouraged.

Since agricultural development will depend on access to markets, road building has a high priority. In addition to hard-surfacing two main roads--from Belize to the north and from Belize to the west--new connecting roads from promising agricultural areas will be constructed, and the existing system of feeder roads will be extended.

There is a great need for education and technical training at all levels if the Government's agricultural development efforts are to be effective. It is especially important that the small subsistence farmers be made aware of improved agricultural techniques in order to raise the low level of productivity of this group. In 1964, a United Nations Educational Planning Mission studied the British Honduras educational system and made a series of recommendations for its reorganization and improvement. However, financial problems have limited the implementation of these recommendations.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND TRADE

British Honduras' economic well-being depends upon the extent to which it can expand the output of agricultural commodities for export, and reduce expenditures of foreign exchange for food commodities, some of which could be produced locally.

In 1965, sugar and citrus products accounted for three-fourths of the value of agricultural exports. Other products exported in limited quantities were: Live animals, eggs, honey, cocoa beans, hides and skins, and chicle.

Agricultural production primarily for domestic use includes corn, rice, beans, fruit and vegetables, sweetpotatoes, cassava, and meat. Average daily per capita food consumption in terms of calories was 2,020 in 1959-61 (table 1). Protein in the daily diet was estimated at 52.9 grams and fat at 52.5 grams. The USDA-recommended minimum nutritional level for the Central American area is 2,450 calories, 60 grams of protein, and 42 grams of fat. Wheat flour, all of which is imported, is the chief source of calories and supplies about one-fourth of the total. Imports regularly supply a large part of the beans and rice consumed and almost all of the milk. Other imports include potatoes, fruit, vegetables, and edible fats and oils.

Crop Production

Sugarcane has been grown commercially in British Honduras for about a century. Production is now centered in the northern part of the country between the New and Hondo rivers. Despite thin soil in certain parts of the

area, and sparse rainfall, yields are comparatively good and the cane to sugar ratio averages between 7 and 9 tons of cane per ton of sugar. 1/

In 1963 a subsidiary of a British firm acquired the existing sugar milling facilities in British Honduras. This company expanded and improved the existing sugar mill and later erected another mill at Tower Hill which began operations in January 1967.

In the past, a Government ordinance had limited the amount of cane supplied to the mill from company lands to one-third of its needs, the remainder to come from independent farmers. However, with the opening of the new mill at Tower Hill, the share of the company was increased to two-thirds, that of private growers reduced to one-third. It is expected that the shares will be readjusted each year until the company and independents each furnish 50 percent.

The operation of the mills is quite efficient. The major part of the sugar produced is unrefined although a small amount is more highly refined for local consumption. The bagasse, or residue left after the juice is extracted from the sugarcane, is used as fuel for the mills. About 19,000 tons of molasses, another byproduct, will likely be produced in 1967. Sometimes considerable quantities are dumped into the river, but this entire quantity is expected to be shipped to the United States for conversion into industrial alcohol or for use in cattle feed. The sugarcane area is relatively free of plant disease. Light infestations of frog hopper are kept under control by hand dusting.

Sugar production has increased steadily since 1962 when output was estimated at 26,000 tons from about 4,500 hectares of cane harvested (table 2). The 1967 crop is expected to yield 61,000 tons from about 11,000 hectares. Of this, 37,600 tons will be shipped to Great Britain and Canada under Commonwealth price arrangements. In addition, British Honduras' quota in the U.S. market through September 30 (basic quota plus special allocations) totaled 13,318 tons. Domestic consumption is estimated at 3,000 tons.

The Stann Creek Valley is described in the Chronicle of the West Indies Committee as the "valley of the orange blossom promise." In this narrow valley, which extends from the sea 39 kilometers into the foot-hills of the Maya mountains, is centered a thriving citrus production and processing industry. Citrus is grown in small quantities throughout the country, but the Stann Creek Valley is the citrus capital. Two big companies, one controlled by Jamaican interests, the other an affiliate of a Canadian Company, together with a few smallholders account for the total output of citrus in the valley. The area in producing trees in 1967 for the whole country was estimated at over 1,800 hectares in oranges and nearly 400 in grapefruit.

At the present time citrus disease problems are negligible; leaf cutting ants are a minor problem. Except for 1961, when the orange crop was almost totally destroyed by hurricane Hattie, the trend in orange production has been generally upward. In 1960, almost 23,000 tons were produced and in 1966, the output reached nearly 39,000 tons. However, excessive rainfall adversely affected the setting of blossoms and the 1967 crop is expected to be sharply reduced. Grapefruit production was greatly reduced by the 1961 hurricane, increased through 1964, but declined in 1965, 1966, and 1967.

1/ All tonnages in this report are metric.

The United Kingdom is the largest market for fresh citrus fruit and most of the citrus products. The United States and Canada each account for around 15 percent of citrus exports--mostly frozen concentrate.

The staple food crops of British Honduras are rice, corn, and red kidney beans. The bulk of these crops is produced by small farmers throughout the country with some of the private estates also contributing small quantities. Domestic production, even in good agricultural seasons, often fails to meet domestic requirements of corn and rice. Bean production regularly fails to meet local needs. Fusarium wilt and blight affect beans and vegetable crops. Birds and "drunken baymen" bees often cause substantial damage to crops in the field.

The Toledo District is the principal rice area. The Government imported 2,300 kilograms of improved seed for the 1965 crop in an effort to improve quality and yield of the rice crop. Those growers who used the imported seed more than doubled their yields from 1.7 to 3.6 tons per hectare. Production reached an all-time high of nearly 3,500 tons, but the quality of the crop was poor.

A good corn crop of 5,500 tons was obtained in 1965, due partly to good weather and partly to the use by some farmers of imported seed. Yields of 4.5 tons per hectare were obtained by some of the farmers who used imported seed, compared with an average of 1 ton from native seed. The 1966 crop was down by 39 percent from 1965 due to excessive rainfall.

Extremes of weather, and plant disease combine to keep bean production below domestic needs. As with rice and corn, the Government made available improved varieties of seed beans in 1965, but many of the producers considered the price too high. However, with a slight increase in area planted and better yields than in the previous year, the 1965 crop was 700 tons. Area and production for 1966 were estimated at about the 1965 levels.

Plantains, vegetables, sweetpotatoes, and cassava are produced in quantities sufficient for domestic needs and sometimes even glut the market. Pineapples, mangoes, papayas, bananas, watermelons, mamey apples, ^{2/} and other tropical fruits are produced for local consumption.

A Marketing Board was established under a Government ordinance in 1948, with the primary purpose of stimulating the production of staple food crops to meet domestic requirements. The Board sets guaranteed minimum prices for these crops well ahead of planting time. The prices are designed to equal the landed cost of imported commodities of a similar quality. The Board also makes quality seed available to farmers, provides storage facilities, and maintains buying centers in main producing areas. The farmer is offered an assured market regardless of how much or how little he has to sell. However, farmers are not required to sell to the Board.

^{2/} Mamey (*mammea americana*), the fruit of the mamey tree, may be eaten either raw or cooked. The skin of the fruit is brown and the firm flesh is yellow or light red. It is called mamey de Santo Domingo in Cuba; mamey de Cartagena in Panama; zapote mamey in Mexico; and mammee in most Spanish-speaking regions.

The Marketing Board acts as a cushion between producers and speculators. Crops bought from the producer are processed and stored, then sold to the trade when the harvest period is past. In 1962 storage capacity in Belize totaled almost 3,200 tons, in Punta Gorda 1,400 tons, in Cayo 200 tons, and in Orange Walk 140 tons.

Livestock Production

One of the most promising aspects of British Honduran agriculture is its apparent potential as a cattle producer. The Cayo District in western British Honduras in particular has developed as an important grazing area.

At the Central Farm Research Station in Cayo, the Agriculture Department has been experimenting with different pasture grasses to determine which type is best suited to conditions in British Honduras. Trials have shown that Pangola, Jaragua, Guinea, Bahia, Coastal Bermuda, and various fodder sorghums are best suited to these conditions.

Among the beef breeds of cattle that have proved very adaptable are Red Poll, Jamaica Black, Hereford, and Brahman or zebu. Brown Swiss breeding stock have been imported to supply dairy cattle to small farmers.

There are no serious diseases of cattle in British Honduras, but inoculation and regular spraying of imported cattle are recommended as a precaution against tick fever.

Cattle numbers at the end of 1965 were estimated at 33,000 head and are believed to be increasing at a rapid rate. At least half of the cattle are in Cayo District.

A slaughterhouse, to be operated under U.S. Department of Agriculture standards, should be in operation in 1968. Beef from this plant is expected to be exported to the United States. This development, together with a market in Mexico for live cattle, should encourage further investment in cattle raising. The packing plant was given development incentives in the form of certain tax and duty exemptions.

According to a survey by the British Honduran Department of Agriculture, there are about 14,000 hogs in the country. It is estimated that slaughter for home consumption totals around 2,000 head with an additional 3,200 slaughtered for the urban market. According to the report of a tripartite mission which made an economic survey of the country in early 1966, imports of ham, bacon, and processed pork could be largely replaced by local production. A goal for 1970 of an additional 7,000 hogs slaughtered annually was recommended as reasonable and possible to achieve.

The poultry industry at present is insignificant and is limited to small flocks that furnish poultry and eggs for farm families. However, in recent years a modest poultry operation has been developed by a foreign enterprise, which supplies eggs and poultry meat to the local market; small quantities are exported to Mexico.

The 1967 capital budget of \$4.9 million, comprising projects of the Seven Year Development Plan that are deemed possible at this stage, includes \$280,000 to be devoted to agriculture, with special emphasis on improvement of the livestock industry.

Trade

The economy of British Honduras depends upon the export of its agricultural, forestry, and fishing products. Aside from development incentives for export products--the expansion of sugar production by private industry, and the tax and duty exemptions for the meat packing plant--there are no special new programs to increase exports. Plans for improvement of roads and harbor facilities to expedite trade are included in the Seven Year Plan.

In the 6-year period, 1960-65, total exports ranged from \$5.8 million in 1962 to \$12.0 million in 1964 (table 3). During this time the percentage of agricultural products in the total varied from 59 percent in 1960 to 79 percent in 1964. Sugar and citrus accounted for three-fourths of the agricultural total. A decline of 14 percent in the value of 1965 agricultural exports is due to declines in the export value of these two products.

Sugar surpassed citrus as the leading agricultural export in 1961. This was also the first year in which British Honduras produced enough sugar to meet both domestic requirements and its Commonwealth quota of 25,400 tons.

The United Kingdom is the leading export market for British Honduras' agricultural products, usually taking more than half. In 1965, the U.S. share of the market increased to 34 percent, compared with 32 percent in 1964, and only 3 percent in 1961 and 1962. Sugar, orange and grapefruit concentrate, and hides and skins are the main commodities exported to the United States. Mexico is an important outlet for certain agricultural products--live animals, eggs, and fresh citrus fruit.

In December 1965, the Government of British Honduras enacted new import tariff rates as an austerity measure to cope with a budget deficit and other fiscal problems. Most food items affected by higher duty rates were those that the Government decided could and should be supplied by local producers--for example, prepared foods such as fresh bread flown in from Miami.

Frozen poultry, of which the United States is the main source, was not affected because local producers cannot now supply the market. For animal feed, of which the United States is virtually the sole supplier, the rate was dropped to zero.

One year later, the Government issued a list of restricted import items from the dollar area, including Central America and Mexico as well as the United States. The new restrictions are not expected to greatly affect trade with the United States, since items on the restricted list considered necessary may be imported under license. Agricultural products included are: Dried red kidney and pinto beans, shell eggs, rice, fresh vegetables, peanuts, orange juice, and pork (fresh, chilled, or frozen). Fresh beans were added to the list in April, 1967.

Foodstuffs account for a large part of total imports, which nearly doubled between 1960 and 1965 (table 4). In 1960-65, foodstuffs surpassed all other import commodity groups in terms of value, except in 1965 when the value of manufactured goods exceeded that of food products. Meat, canned milk, wheat flour, rice, margarine, and lard are the most important items, accounting for half of the agricultural total.

Imports of all agricultural commodities totaled \$6.3 million in 1965, a slight drop from 1964 but well above the level of other recent years. The U.S. share hovers around 50 percent, with the dollar value in 1960-65 ranging from \$1.8 to \$3.1 million. This country supplies the major share of the cattle, chickens, meat, cereal products, fruit and vegetable preparations, animal feed, lard and other fats and oils, and raw tobacco. Some important competitors are the United Kingdom and Netherlands for canned milk; Denmark and Netherlands for dried milk; Australia for butter; Canada for wheat flour; the United Kingdom for margarine; and Canada and Southern Rhodesia for tobacco.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH BRITISH HONDURAS

Imports

Agricultural commodities imported by the United States from British Honduras make up a minute proportion of the U.S. total from all countries. The main commodities are sugar, citrus concentrates, bananas, and inedible molasses (table 5).

Banana imports have increased substantially from none in 1960 to \$591,000 in 1966. Imports of sugar have increased as British Honduras received larger quotas in the U.S. market. Imports of fruit juices--consisting mostly of orange juice, declined in 1965 and 1966, apparently because of excellent citrus crops in the United States and also because British Honduras found larger markets in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Other agricultural commodities imported by the United States include hides and skins, coconuts, tobacco, unspecified animal oils, plantains, coffee, and pimiento. The total value of this group ranged from \$440,000 in 1964 to \$9,000 in 1965.

Exports

Agricultural commodities account for one-fourth to one-third of the value of all items exported by the United States to British Honduras (table 5). Some of the more important commodities are pork and other meats, lard, wheat flour, rice and other grains and preparations, dry beans, other vegetables and preparations, and foods for relief or charity under Public Law 480, Titles II and III. In addition, there are exports of other agricultural commodities such as baby chicks, apples, grapes, soluble coffee, mayonnaise, yeast, and unspecified commodities reported by value only. Foods shipped under P.L. 480 are dried milk, bulgur, corn, vegetable oil, and flour.

Meat exports increased steadily from \$170,000 in 1960 to \$604,000 in 1965, replacing flour as the leading agricultural export. Lard, now the second biggest single export, increased in value from \$196,000 in 1960 to \$443,000 in 1966.

Wheat flour exports decreased from \$433,000 in 1960 to \$294,000 in 1965 due mainly to increasing competition from Canada and France. Exports of rice and other grains decreased from \$468,000 in 1960 to \$170,000 in 1965. There was some gain for these commodities in 1966. Animal feed, mostly for poultry, gained 65 percent from \$66,000 in 1960 to \$109,000 in 1966.

The United States supplied dry beans and other vegetables and their preparations at values ranging from \$178,000 to \$257,000 in 1960-65. The value of foods for relief or charity ranged from none in 1960 to \$223,000 in 1962. Other agricultural commodities supplied by the United States increased in value by 183 percent from \$140,000 in 1960 to \$396,000 in 1966.

Outlook

The United States is expected to continue to import from British Honduras the same limited variety of agricultural commodities as at present. Sugar and inedible molasses, with a combined value of well over half a million dollars in 1965, will be the main items. U.S. imports of citrus products should continue at close to the half-million-dollar level, unless a severe freeze occurs in the the U.S. citrus belt. Banana imports, which until 1966 were relatively insignificant, may increase somewhat since a U.S. importer is promoting banana production for export to this country and has a goal of 55,000 to 75,000 tons annually.

For the immediate future it appears that British Honduras will not produce enough to feed its population, which is increasing at an estimated compound rate of 3.1 percent. With the present emphasis on export agriculture and the preference of the average British Honduran for nonagricultural occupations, the outlook is for continuing import of significant quantities of foodstuffs.

U.S. exports of agricultural products to British Honduras ranged from \$1.7 million in 1960 to \$2.4 million in 1966. The United States is a major supplier of wheat flour, rice, beans, animal feed, meat products, and lard. These products accounted for 68 percent of total agricultural commodities exported by the United States to British Honduras in 1966.

The United States is likely to continue as the chief source of supply for most of these commodities. Canada and France are important competitors for the flour market. Potential competitors as suppliers of rice, corn, and beans are Mexico and Honduras. If British Honduras could improve and expand its livestock production, it could likely supply its needs for pork and lard as well as a larger share of its requirements for beef. The new slaughterhouse is designed to handle hogs as well as cattle and will also process pork.

Commonwealth sources supply a large share of the British Honduran market for both agricultural and nonagricultural products. The market is largely a price rather than a quality market. Commonwealth goods often have a price ad-

vantage over American goods due to the Commonwealth preferential tariff, which in most cases is almost 50 percent less than the nonpreferential rate.

U.S. products are well liked despite the difference in price. The proximity of the United States as a source of supply is a definite advantage; this country should maintain its present share of around 50 percent of the British Honduran market for agricultural products.

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Table 1.--British Honduras: Gross domestic product, population, and per capita food availability, selected years

Years	Estimated gross domestic product	Population	Daily per capita food availability		
			Calories	Protein	Fat
			<u>Calories</u>	<u>Grams</u>	<u>Grams</u>
	<u>1,000 dol.</u>	<u>1,000</u>			
1954.	14,795	78			
1958.	- - -	86	<u>1/2,160</u>	<u>1/54.5</u>	<u>1/49.7</u>
1959.	21,376	88	- - -	- - -	- - -
1960.	- - -	91	<u>2/2,020</u>	<u>2/52.9</u>	<u>2/52.5</u>
1961.	- - -	94	- - -	- - -	- - -
1962.	- - -	97	- - -	- - -	- - -
1963.	- - -	100	- - -	- - -	- - -
1964.	34,718	103	- - -	- - -	- - -
1965.	- - -	106	- - -	- - -	- - -
1966.	41,013	109	- - -	- - -	- - -
1970.	58,442	125	2,150	53.5	55.8

1/ Average 1956-58. 2/ Average 1959-61.

Sources: Gross domestic product estimates are based on Basic Data on the Economy of British Honduras, U.S. Dept. Commerce, June 1964, and Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey of British Honduras, May 1966, for other years. Population data are Agency for International Development estimates, except for 1970 which is from Annual Abstract of Statistics, August 1966, issued by Central Planning Unit, Belize, British Honduras. Food availability estimates are based on Food Balances for 24 Countries of the Western Hemisphere, 1959-61 ERS-Foreign 86, USDA August 1964 and World Food Budget, 1970 For. Agr. Econ. Rpt. 19, USDA November, 1964.

Table 2.--British Honduras: Harvested area, 1960-64, and annual production of principal agricultural products, 1960-64 average and 1960-67 annual

Crops, area, and production	Units	annual									
		1960-64	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966 1/	1967 2/	
Sugarcane:											
Area (harvested) 3/	Hectares	4,780	4,070	4,452	4,452	5,261	5,666	6,500	8,094	10,927	
Production of cane	Metric tons	3/216,090	3/125,738	3/247,368	3/216,917	3/213,738	3/276,690	3/331,015	417,956	548,667	
Production of centrifugal sugar	Metric tons	24,825	14,000	28,000	26,000	28,000	28,123	39,009	44,452	60,782	
Oranges:											
Area 4/	Hectares	1,590	1,594	1,594	1,606	1,619	1,538	1,634	1,735	1,832	
Production	Metric tons	23,649	22,798	1,397	24,068	34,578	35,403	34,956	38,867	29,026	
Grapefruit:											
Area 4/	Hectares	325	348	348	442	263	223	264	312	368	
Production	Metric tons	8,948	9,471	3,846	8,419	11,503	11,503	8,818	8,986	6,858	
Corn:											
Area (planted)	Hectares	5,178	4,603	7,002	4,283	5,395	4,607	5,419	3,046	---	
Production	Metric tons	2,896	2,223	3,402	1,701	3,023	4,131	5,466	3,311	---	
Rice, rough:											
Area (planted)	Hectares	1,260	1,143	1,168	1,136	1,267	1,586	2,582	---	---	
Production	Metric tons	1,810	1,542	1,572	1,137	2,131	2,666	3,473	907	---	
Beans, dry:											
Area (planted)	Hectares	502	184	219	642	732	732	762	762	---	
Production	Metric tons	348	102	147	424	657	411	684	684	---	
Meat production 5/	Metric tons	6/544	7/545	8/441	576	533	524	566	---	---	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Forecast. 3/ Annual Report of the British Honduras Agriculture Department, 1965. 4/ Estimated area in bearing groves. 5/ About 80 percent beef; the rest is pork and mutton. Does not include onfarm slaughter. 6/ Average 1960 and 1962-64. 7/ Annual Report of the British Honduras Agriculture Department, 1960. 8/ Incomplete because slaughterhouse records were destroyed by hurricane Hattie.

Source: Reports of U.S. agricultural attache unless otherwise noted.

Table 3.--British Honduras: Value of agricultural and total domestic exports to the world and to the United States, 1960-64 average and 1960-65 annual

Tariff group	Commodity	1960-64		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		1965	
		Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.
00	Live animals	11.6	0	1/	0	0.8	0	0	1/	12.2	0	45.2	0	112.2	0
02	Eggs	13.7	0	5.3	0	10.6	0	9.5	0	29.6	0	13.5	0	16.3	0
04	Cereals & preparations	0.2	0	0	0	1/	0	0	0	0	0	0.9	0	6.5	0
05	Fruits & vegetables:														
	Fresh grapefruit	108.4	0	132.8	0	83.7	0	0.1	0	161.6	0	163.8	0	0.2	0
	Fresh coconuts	14.8	14.6	34.3	33.2	21.0	21.0	0.6	0.6	8.4	8.4	9.8	9.8	10.8	10.8
	Grapefruit segments	419.9	0	505.1	0	281.4	0	398.4	0	754.5	0	160.2	0	697.8	0
	Grapefruit juice	78.2	2/3.0	128.5	0	60.7	0	30.4	0	102.4	0	69.1	2/15.2	66.0	0
	Grapefruit concentrate	27.1	4.1	41.3	0	37.0	0	3.1	0	12.2	0.5	42.1	20.0	51.5	33.3
	Orange juice	724.2	5.8	993.1	0	896.7	0	518.8	0	209.7	0	1,002.5	29.2	680.6	0
	Orange concentrate	922.1	352.8	356.5	0	1,069.8	0	31.6	0	1,321.3	674.2	1,831.1	1,089.6	1,162.8	382.9
	Other	39.8	12.8												
	Total	2,334.5	393.1	2,198.7	36.1	2,473.1	23.4	998.8	10.6	2,703.8	718.6	3,297.9	1,176.8	2,745.2	488.6
06	Sugar & sugar prep.:														
	Sugar, unrefined	2,974.7	58.6	1,417.0	0	2,812.5	0	2,694.7	0	3,583.9	0	4,365.2	292.8	3,378.3	587.4
	Other	63.7	61.4	57.2	57.2	32.8	21.5	52.4	52.3	72.8	72.8	103.4	103.4	77.9	77.9
	Total	3,038.4	120.0	1,474.2	57.2	2,845.3	21.5	2,747.1	52.3	3,656.7	72.8	4,468.6	396.4	3,456.2	665.3
061.6	Honey	14.3	0	4.3	0	11.3	0	15.6	0	29.5	0	11.0	0	61.8	0
07	Cocoa beans	10.8	0	7.0	0	8.9	0	0.9	0	17.8	0	19.6	0	36.3	0
121	Tobacco	1/	1/	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0
21	Hides and skins	29.2	25.9	24.6	20.3	25.2	24.4	24.6	24.6	26.2	25.2	45.3	34.8	59.2	41.1
22	Oilseeds, nuts, & kernels:														
	Copra	2.4	0	6.5	0	5.3	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cobone kernels	5.5	0.5	18.3	2.2	9.2	0.1	1/	1/	1/	1/	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	7.9	0.5	24.8	2.2	14.5	0.1	0.1	1/	1/	1/	0	0	0	0
29	Animal & veg. crude matl:														
	Tortoiseshell	1.3	0	3.2	0	0	0	1.9	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0
	Chicle	252.2	32.4	345.1	69.0	303.8	18.0	274.1	28.1	165.0	0	173.0	46.8	92.8	11.0
	Grown gum	44.9	40.4	84.8	83.0	99.0	87.6	23.1	13.7	17.5	17.5	0	0	0	0
	Seeds & bulbs for planting	9.4	1.0	9.3	0.7	13.6	1.9	6.8	1.3	10.4	1.1	6.7	0.2	16.6	3.4
	Other	276.9	276.7												
	Total	584.7	350.5	442.4	152.8	416.4	107.5	306.0	43.2	194.6	18.8	3/1,564.0	1,430.4	3/1,636.5	1,541.4
03	Total agricultural	6,043.1	890.0	4,181.3	268.6	5,794.9	176.9	4,102.7	130.8	6,670.5	835.5	9,466.0	3,038.4	8,123.7	2,736.4
24	Fish & fish prep.	234.1	216.0	210.4	199.9	163.5	146.2	177.7	163.4	245.4	222.8	373.4	347.9	498.0	477.2
	Lumber and logs	1,888.4	394.6	2,602.6	294.8	1,657.6	386.7	1,293.7	387.1	1,890.6	505.8	1,997.5	398.4	1,444.1	239.4
	Other	529.2	523.7	114.0	41.7	206.7	151.1	196.5	143.3	1,983.7	1,863.4	145.1	419.0	575.1	387.5
	Total domestic exports	8,694.8	2,024.3	7,108.3	805.0	7,822.7	860.9	5,770.6	824.6	10,790.2	3,427.5	11,982.0	4,203.7	10,640.9	3,840.5
	Agr. exports as % of total exports	70	44	59	33	74	21	71	16	62	24	79	72	76	71

1/ Less than \$100. 2/ Sample shipment 3/ Includes shipments of resinous extract for these years only.

Sources British Honduras trade reports 1960 through 1965.

Table 4.--British Honduras: Value of agricultural and total imports from the world and from the United States, 1960-64 average and 1960-65 annual

Tariff group	Commodity	1960-64		1960		1961 1/2		1962		1963		1964		1965	
		Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.	Total	U.S.
00	: Live animals	29.4	25.9	36.8	35.9	15.4	15.4	27.9	27.5	34.1	30.4	32.9	20.3	32.7	25.1
01	: Meat and preparations:														
	: Meat, fresh or chilled	163.0	154.9	24.3	22.3	43.0	19.0	123.0	207.1	226.6	220.7	309.3	305.6	407.6	381.7
	: Bacon and ham	92.8	61.7	62.4	43.5	39.7	36.2	123.1	86.8	107.3	71.1	131.3	70.9	132.4	71.9
	: Other	277.2	147.8	208.1	126.9	231.9	116.8	299.9	116.8	308.5	166.3	337.6	209.5	419.9	232.8
	: Total meat	533.0	364.4	294.8	192.7	314.6	174.6	635.0	410.7	642.4	458.1	778.2	586.0	959.9	686.4
02	: Dairy products and eggs:														
	: Evap. & cond. milk	711.5	2.1	585.3	0.3	641.7	1.9	677.3	5.9	752.7	2.4	900.7	2/	771.7	2/
	: Butter	113.5	15.0	72.7	0.2	75.7	0	110.9	0.3	119.2	0.3	198.9	3/74.1	133.4	2/
	: Cheese	149.7	71.9	113.8	55.7	138.7	49.4	182.0	63.0	139.1	85.1	174.7	106.2	173.3	95.7
	: Other	168.4	59.5	88.2	17.3	174.1	71.7	198.4	81.4	179.8	71.4	191.7	50.9	198.1	34.8
	: Total dairy	1,143.1	148.5	860.0	73.5	1,030.2	120.0	1,168.6	155.6	1,190.8	159.2	1,466.0	231.2	1,276.5	130.5
04	: Cereals & preparations:														
	: Rice	249.8	249.1	375.0	375.0	76.4	73.5	222.6	222.6	283.6	283.6	291.6	290.7	159.1	159.1
	: Wheat flour	660.0	565.7	591.2	539.7	580.5	513.2	649.7	565.7	682.5	573.4	796.3	636.5	625.1	443.0
	: Bakery products	79.9	38.4	55.2	26.8	77.0	39.6	103.0	51.7	77.5	46.7	86.6	27.4	84.3	31.7
	: Other	123.2	93.8	108.1	98.2	78.5	67.5	139.6	116.3	167.2	118.5	122.6	68.6	102.5	63.6
	: Total cereals	1,112.9	947.0	1,129.5	1,039.7	812.4	693.8	1,114.9	956.3	1,210.8	1,022.2	1,297.1	1,023.2	971.0	697.4
05	: Fruits & veg. & prep.														
	: Fresh & dried fruit														
	: Potatoes	146.3	113.6	100.7	73.3	86.8	63.2	210.8	171.3	172.0	133.3	161.1	127.1	172.6	138.4
	: Peas, beans & lentils	92.7	68.3	62.1	34.4	62.0	40.9	74.5	62.6	173.5	150.3	91.6	53.4	84.6	19.3
	: Other fresh eg. & veg. prep.	143.9	142.7	140.5	135.9	119.8	119.8	108.4	107.7	185.1	184.7	165.9	165.6	69.3	68.6
	: Total fruits & veg.	383.9	324.6	303.3	243.6	268.6	223.8	393.7	341.6	430.6	468.3	418.6	346.6	426.5	326.3
06	: Sugar & sugar prep.	190.7	21.9	159.3	17.2	151.2	18.4	236.0	45.5	203.2	10.6	203.9	17.6	166.9	17.9
07	: Coffee, cocoa, tea, spices:														
	: Animal feed	242.1	15.8	200.1	4.9	220.0	9.1	245.9	21.0	253.4	16.5	291.1	27.6	345.0	40.2
08	: Misc. food preparations:														
	: Margarine	107.6	106.3	93.4	91.9	92.1	90.6	110.3	109.1	128.1	126.0	114.2	113.8	116.1	113.6
	: Lard	128.9	2.1	126.6	1.5	111.8	0.1	136.3	5.1	132.8	3.6	137.2	0.1	178.3	0.1
	: Other	327.4	308.2	251.1	226.5	298.3	273.5	312.8	298.8	369.4	352.7	405.5	389.5	462.6	449.8
	: Total miscellaneous	552.4	440.0	552.4	315.0	575.3	347.7	734.0	483.0	751.1	525.4	919.4	528.8	967.2	596.8
11	: Beverages	537.6	17.3	320.2	4.4	361.2	8.3	700.2	17.9	576.6	12.0	729.9	43.8	767.5	129.5
121	: Tobacco, unmanufactured	44.3	23.7	44.9	24.0	37.9	18.5	57.2	31.8	37.3	17.4	44.2	26.9	35.3	22.2
29	: Animal & veg. crude matl.	28.8	16.0	32.9	27.9	2.7	1.8	7.5	5.5	58.0	8.2	43.1	36.8	27.9	25.8
41	: Animal & veg. fats & oils	30.9	20.5	9.2	1.3	10.5	3.6	62.8	51.5	27.1	14.2	45.0	32.0	81.5	62.1
	: Total agricultural	5,245.5	2,569.2	4,158.9	2,152.8	4,028.0	1,819.4	5,687.6	2,781.1	5,805.5	2,966.0	6,547.3	3,126.8	6,252.4	2,868.8
03	: Fish & fish prep.	39.2	2.3	33.5	0.7	37.7	2.0	41.9	2.4	41.8	3.8	41.2	2.6	56.9	2.9
	: Other	13,477.4	5,473.3	8,943.0	2,891.0	11,814.3	5,463.0	16,090.5	7,661.0	13,420.8	5,458.9	17,118.3	5,892.5	18,157.8	6,153.6
	: Total imports	18,762.1	8,044.8	13,135.4	5,044.5	15,880.0	7,284.4	21,820.0	10,444.5	19,268.1	8,428.7	23,706.8	9,021.9	24,467.1	9,025.3
	: Agr. imports as % of total imports	28	32	32	43	25	25	26	27	30	35	28	35	26	32

1/ Incomplete because some records destroyed by hurricane Hattie. 2/ Less than \$100. 3/ Mostly butteroil, valued at \$74,000 imported by CARE.

Source: British Honduras trade reports, 1960-65.

Table 5.--United States: Value of agricultural trade with British Honduras, 1960-64 average and 1960-66 annual

Trade	1960-64	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	<u>1,000 dollars</u>							
<u>Imports</u>								
Bananas	32	0	52	23	71	1/15	2/221	1/591
Sugar	98	0	0	0	1/219	273	314	799
Inedible molasses	64	65	25	57	59	112	370	113
Fruit juices	425	0	0	0	767	1,358	93	64
Other agr. products	150	73	116	89	34	440	9	117
Total agr. products	769	138	193	169	1,150	2,198	1,007	1,684
Other products	2,828	1,828	1,782	2,253	4,325	3,953	4,989	1,861
Total imports	3,598	1,966	1,975	2,422	5,475	6,151	5,996	3,545
	<u>Percent</u>							
Agr. as percent of total	21	7	10	7	21	36	17	48
	<u>1,000 dollars</u>							
<u>Exports</u>								
Dairy products	65	65	78	53	49	80	85	52
Pork	122	107	104	131	109	161	155	123
Other meats	198	63	206	199	225	298	449	441
Lard	257	196	243	270	243	333	416	443
Rice, milled	221	336	150	168	212	237	137	146
Wheat flour	379	433	406	355	331	372	294	341
Other grains & prep.	109	132	80	180	100	55	33	62
Feeds and fodders	70	66	69	77	70	68	91	109
Beans, dry, ripe	118	125	150	102	96	117	60	43
Other vegetables & prep.	99	53	107	117	95	123	126	140
Food for relief or charity	165	0	214	223	188	201	159	107
Other agr. products	190	140	270	205	142	192	310	396
Total agr. products	1,994	1,716	2,077	2,080	1,860	2,237	2,315	2,403
Other products	5,070	3,057	5,037	6,741	4,840	5,674	5,648	7,555
Total exports	7,064	4,773	7,114	8,821	6,700	7,911	7,963	9,958
	<u>Percent</u>							
Agr. as percent of total	28	36	29	24	28	28	29	24

1/ Revised by Census Bureau August 1967. 2/ Revised by Census Bureau September 1967.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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