What Is the Issue?
U.S. grain, oilseed, and related product exports to Mexico averaged 22.2 million metric tons (mmt) per year from 2000-2012 with an average annual value of $7.3 billion. This is twenty percent more per year than the average of the early 2000s and two and a half times the value. Continued trade growth has spurred interest in how these products are transported throughout Mexico and how they are used.

While much is known about the transportation and uses of U.S. grains and oilseeds and related products within the United States, much less is known about how these U.S. commodities are transported within Mexico, their final destinations, and how they are used in Mexico. This study reports the destination, mode of transportation and end uses of U.S. grains, oilseeds, and related products (grain as a group) within the Mexican market.

What Is the Approach?
This project has four main objectives that will provide valuable information on U.S. grain, oilseeds and related product exports to Mexico:

• Analyze the net grain exports to Mexico in metric tons.
• Determine the main Mexican entry points.
• Identify the modes of transportation used.
• Determine the final Mexican destinations.

The data were gathered from several Mexican and American databases from government agencies, private sector firms, and agricultural organizations. Data from Mexico comes from the statistics division of the Mexican Agricultural Ministry, Servicio de Información y Estadística Agroalimentaria y Pesquera (SIAP/SAGARPA), a valuable source of information for determining volumes of Mexican imports of grain from the United States, by both entry point and mode of entry.

Data were also gathered from the main rail transportation providers in Mexico, Ferromex and Kansas City Southern de Mexico. These data revealed how U.S. product was moving within Mexico, and what the destination of this product by volume and origin.

Data were collected from the Global Agricultural Trading System (GATS), U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), and World Institute for Strategic Economic Trading System (GATS). This data set is the result of this complex, multi-billion dollar trading system.

What Did the Study Find?
U.S. grain, oilseed, and related product exports to Mexico averaged 22.2 million metric tons (mmt) per year from 2000-2012 with an average annual value of $7.3 billion. This is twenty percent more per year than the average of the early 2000s and two and a half times the value. Continued trade growth has spurred interest in how these products are transported throughout Mexico and how they are used.

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Data were collected from the Global Agricultural Trading System (GATS), U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), and World Institute for Strategic Economic Research through their trade data base, WiserTrade. These data were used to validate the trade volumes and entry points for exports from the United States into Mexico. Information from various FAS Global Agricultural Information Network reports was reviewed to determine uses for U.S. products covered by this report. Further, data were requested from the U.S. grain organizations in an effort to obtain the fullest picture possible of destinations and uses.

Once the data were gathered, they were organized by the destination modes of transportation and uses of U.S. grain within Mexico.

Sources for the above figures and the table are Servicio de Información Agroalimentaria y Pesquera (SIAP), SAGARPA, Mexico., and the Mexican Rail industry.


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