

Animal feed industry: Supply conditions, comparison between Brittany and the Netherlands

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ECONOMIE — ECONOMICS

Pig production in the E.E.C.: Trends over the last two decades

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Pig production has developed in the E.E.C. both because of new membership and of the increase in the herd size. This has led to variable results: pig price is the lowest of agricultural products. Since 1973, pig production has been increasing by 5 p. 100 per year and consumption by 4 p. 100. The production to consumption ratio shows a 2.5 p. 100 excess. The balance of foreign trade is positive. The number of herds decreases but their size increases.

Production is localized in 13 developing regions which group 75 p. 100 of the European pig stock.

Animal feed industry: Supply conditions, comparison between Brittany and the Netherlands

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- Feed supply of European pig production is highly dependent on imports from third countries. Thanks to the harbour of Rotterdam the Netherlands have the leadership in this field in terms both of volume and variety of imported raw materials and of harbour efficiency.

There has been a substantial increase in the unloading of feedstuffs in Western France harbours (Brittany, Pays de Loire) over the 1986-1987 period as regards grain substitutes (80 p. 100 of French imports). Analysis of this flow of raw materials reveals very distinct trends and situations according to harbours. Nevertheless, the harbour costs represent a handicap for purchasers (cassava, in particular) as compared to Rotterdam.

Comparative technico-economic results of the E.E.C. pig herds

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This study supplies elements for comparing technical and economic results of pig herds from six countries of the E.E.C.: France, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium and Great-Britain. Data issued from management and accountancy files concern the 1980-1981 to 1985-1986