

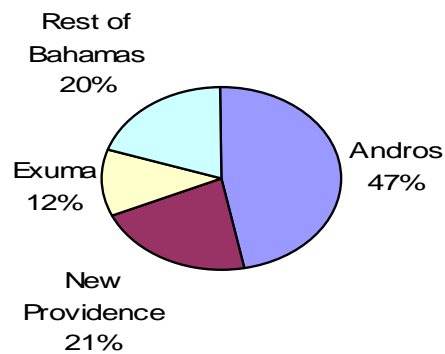
Commodity Profile: Cassava

Domestic Production

Cassava, also known as manioc, is cultivated on the various islands in The Bahamas. Andros is a major producer island of cassava. Because Andros has deep water lenses, it is one of the islands within The Bahamas that has the potential to support industries such as agriculture requiring large quantities of water.

In 1994, cassava production for The Bahamas totaled 265,415 pounds. Andros was the main producing island of cassava totaling 124,857 pounds, comprising 47 percent of total production (Figure 1). New Providence was second followed by Exuma representing 21 percent and 12 percent of total production respectively.

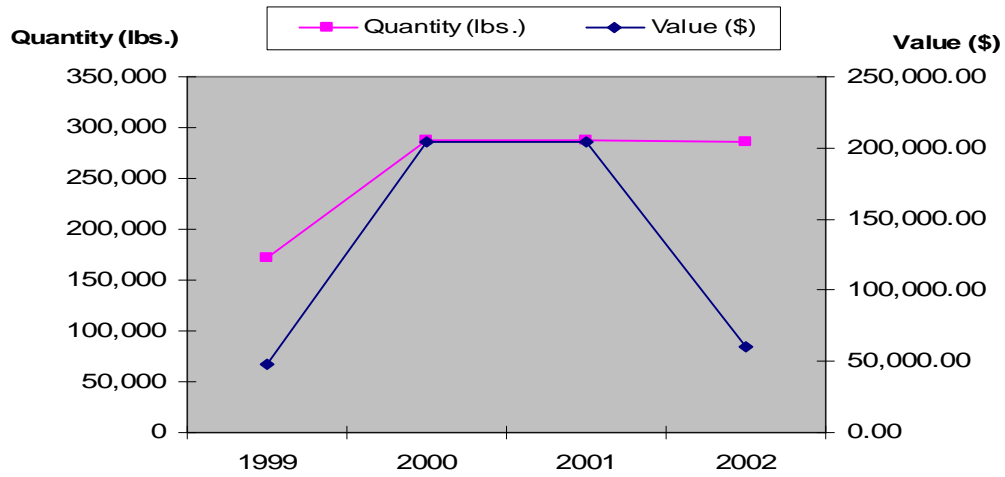
Figure 1 Shares of cassava producers in Bahamas, 1994



Source: 1994 Census of Agriculture

The quantity of cassava produced in The Bahamas increased from 172,480 pounds in 1999 to 287,252 in 2000, an increase of 67% percent (Figure 2). From 2000 to 2002, the quantity was on the decline.

Figure 2 Cassava production for all Bahamas, 1999-2002



Source: Department of Agriculture

Domestic Exports

There are no domestic exports of cassava.

Domestic Imports

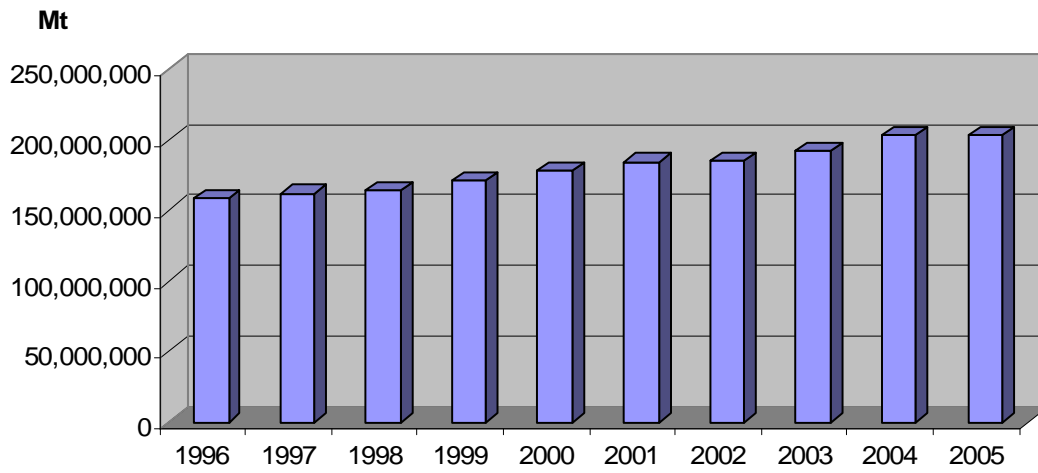
The Bahamas is a net importer of cassava. In 2004, the quantity of cassava (fresh) imports was 578,654 valued at \$224,919.00. Imports came mostly from the United States (U.S.).

World Production

World production of cassava has been steadily increasing from 1996 to 2005 (Figure 3). In 2005, world production had reached 203.3 million metric tons.

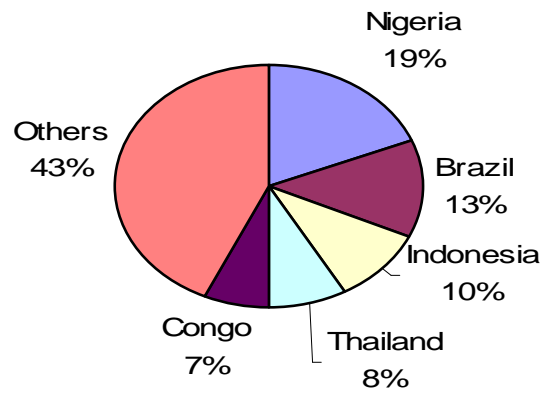
In 2005, Nigeria was the leading producer of cassava with 38.18 million metric tons, which accounted for 19 percent of world production (Figure 4). Brazil was second followed by Indonesia accounting for 13 percent and 10 percent of world production respectively.

Figure 3 World cassava production, 1996-2005



Source: FAOSTAT

Figure 4 Shares of major cassava producers, 2005



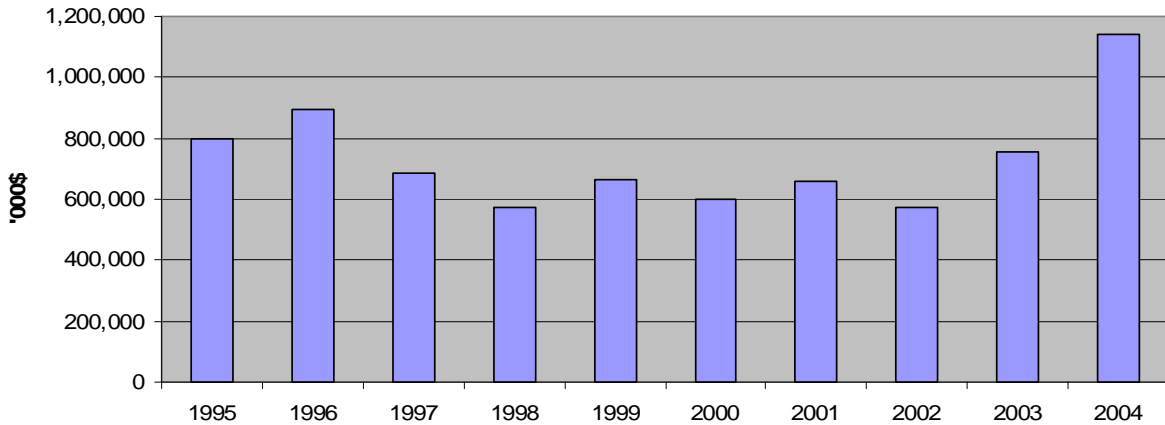
Source: FAOSTAT

World Imports

Cassava in its fresh state is not traded internationally because its tubers deteriorate very rapidly. Cassava traded products includes chips, pellets, starch and flour. Most of world trade in cassava consists of chips and pellets.

From 1995 to 2004, the value of world imports of cassava has had an erratic trend. The value of world imports for cassava reached \$1.14 billion in 2004 (Figure 5).

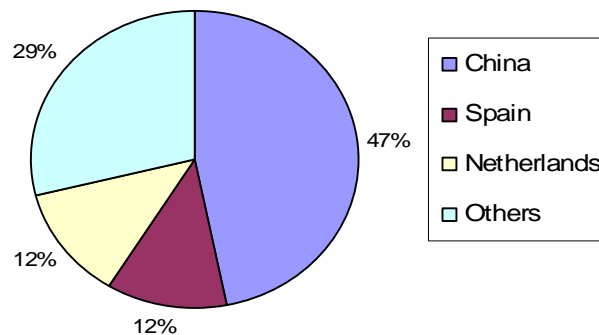
Figure 5 World imports of cassava products, 1995-2004



Source: FAOSTAT

In 2004, China was the lead importer of cassava dried products with imports valuing at \$343.80 million, which represented 47 percent of total world import value (Figure 6). Spain and the Netherlands were the other leading importers both representing 12 percent of total world import value.

Figure 6 Shares of major importers of cassava, 2004

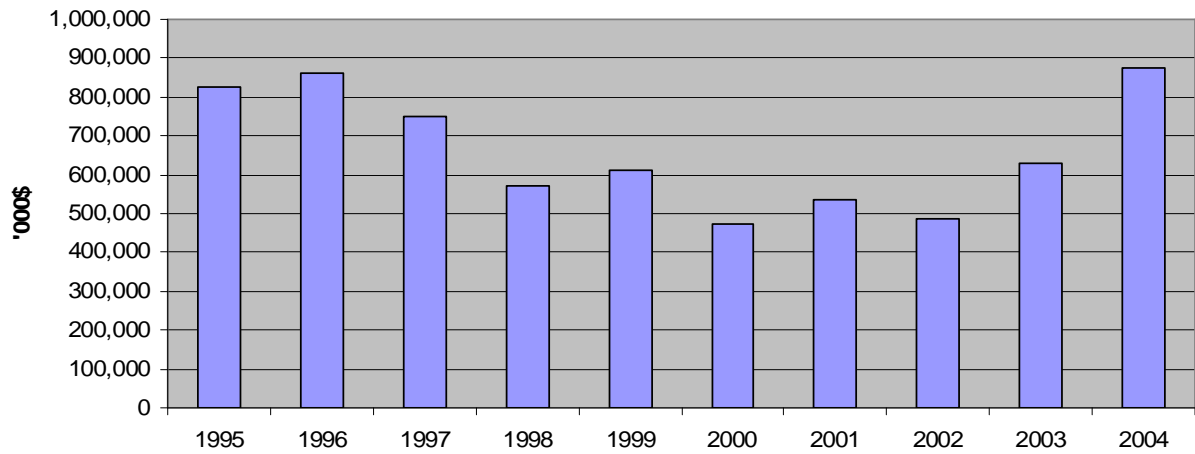


Source: FAOSTAT

World Exports

World export value for cassava has had an erratic trend from 1995 to 2004 (Figure 7). In 2004, the world export value of cassava products had reached \$876.98 million.

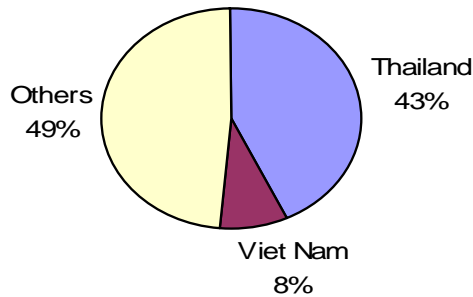
Figure 7 World exports of cassava products, 1995-2004



Source: FAOSTAT

In 2004, Thailand was the lead exporter of cassava products with exports valuing at \$373.97 million and accounted for 43 percent of total world export value (Figure 8). Viet Nam was the other leading exporter representing 8 percent of total world export value.

Figure 8 Shares of major exporters of cassava products, 2004



Source: FAOSTAT
Alarice Grant