



Cattle Pictures from Notileche Magazine of El Salvador

EL SALVADOR

El Salvador has a population of 7 million in an extension of 8,122 squared miles. Their monetary unit is the USD. Their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (USD) is 4,700 (2005). Their inflation rate is 4.7%. Their main Agriculture products are bananas, sugar, coffee, corn, beans and tobacco. Its main cities are San Salvador, San Miguel and Santa Ana.

PROLECHE

Lic. Margarita Serrano de Granillo

Gerente General

This association was initially created from a project in 1993 to rehabilitate the dairy sector after the civil war that ended in 1989. It was created in conjunction with the Centre for International Cooperation of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with USAID and the Ministry of Agriculture of El Salvador.

Ms Serrano mentioned that they represent 25,000 animals and are producing at the moment close to 30 lbs. of milk per day from their specialized dairy cows group and want to go to at least to 44 lbs per day. According to Ms Serrano the dairy sector of Honduras produces 1,225,000 liters of milk per day with 250,000 animals. These are distributed in 150,000 for the subsistence type producer with an average production of 7 lbs per day,

for the dual purpose cattle group 75,000 animals with a production of 13 lbs per day and for the specialized group as mentioned, 25,000 animals with 30 lbs per day of milk.

Ms Serrano also reported that they have problems at the moment with the price of milk established by the milk processing plants that are also demanding a 3.5% fat content in their milk. They buy their main ingredients as soybean meal, DDG's and whole cottonseed through the Guatemalan Company of Alianza that also have a feed plant in El Salvador. They use 4 to 5lbs of cottonseed per cow and 20 % of their concentrate feed is soybean meal which also includes DDG's and are not using cottonseed meal at the moment but would be very interested in using it. It is estimated that they are producing 5,500 metric tons per month of feed for their 25,000 dairy group which could represent a real market of 3,000 metric tons for US cottonseed meal per year at a 5% level of use.

Cooperativa Ganadera de Sonsonate de R.L.

Guillermo Arnoldo Vargas

Gerente Administrativo

This is a cooperative that has 45 members with dual purpose herds (meat and milk animals normally cross-breeds) and have 1,500 – 2000 cows per herd according to Mr. Vargas, representing approximately over 80,000 cows. It is reported by other sources that this area of Sonsonate, considered the dairy area of San Salvador has approximately 175,000 cattle that produce milk. Mr. Vargas also mentioned that they are buying whole cottonseed at 200 Dlls short ton and selling to their customers at 220 short ton. They are selling soybean meal at 148 Dlls short ton to their members at the moment according to Mr. Vargas. They have permits for soybean meal imports but not at the moment for cottonseed meal. They would be interested in importing US cottonseed meal if market conditions permit it.

Summary:

This country is considered that has a potential for 5,000 metric tons of US cottonseed meal/year but it would need more promoting compared to countries as Costa Rica in Central America which can be considered a ready to user country of US cottonseed meal. Furthermore this country has mainly similar dual-purpose cattle as Honduras and other Central American countries. According to the latest report Honduras has 1.2 million total cattle.

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