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## **F.a.o. Global Sugar Output Projections**

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According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's June bulletin on global agriculture (Perspectivas Alimentarias), reduced sugar production in Cuba, Mexico and the Community of Independent States will likely boost prices over the third quarter of the year. The average price on the world market increased from US\$0.0784 per pound in February to US\$0.0957 between May 1 and May 20. In addition, South African sugar imports caused by domestic drought conditions, and Cuba's exchange of sugar for oil with Iran have contributed to rising prices on the world market. Since the March bulletin, the FAO's projected yield for the 1991/92 crop year has declined by 1 million metric tons to 112.5 million MT of unrefined product. Output for the 1990/91 cycle was 113.4 million MT. Of the 1991/92 total, 71.3 million MT pertain to Third World nations with Latin America at 28.8 million MT (compared to 28.2 million in 1990/91), and East Asia at 33.5 million. The European Community accounts for 14.9 million of 41.2 million MT of developed nations' output. The EC produced 15.9 million MT over the 1990/91 cycle. Projected output for Cuba during the 1991/92 crop year has declined to 6.9 million MT. In contrast, Brazil is expected to produce about 9 million MT, a 6% increase compared to 1990/91. Global sugarbeet production for the current cycle is projected at 37.3 million MT, compared to a record 41 million in 1990/91. Sugarcane output, however, is up to 75.2 million MT, 4% higher than last season. Projected global sugar consumption for 1992 has declined by 0.7 million MT to 111.5 million MT, compared to 110.5 million in 1991. The lower projection is due to sugar consumption cutbacks in the former Soviet Union. (Basic data from Spanish news service EFE, 06/21/92)

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