Bolivian Government Promotes Cotton Exports

Barbara Khol

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiSur by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Bolivian Government Promotes Cotton Exports

by Barbara Khol
Category/Department: General
Published: Tuesday, May 14, 1991

According to Mario Arteago, president of the National Cotton Producer Association (ADEPA), Bolivian cotton exports have good prospects in the world market due to increased preference for natural fibers. The government plans to increase raw materials export revenues by 200%, and cotton as a non-traditional export is being promoted by a 2% tax rebate on raw materials, and 4% on finished products. Santa Cruz (south central Bolivia) was a major cotton producer in the 1970s. Arteago said the decline in domestic cotton output can be attributed to government negligence and inadequate policies for traditional exports. Farmers substituted cotton for products like wheat and corn. Although cotton output is increasing, farmers have to deal with the collapse of a decentralized enterprise created in the 1970s to generate jobs and absorb part of the production. Bolivia's annual cotton harvest is estimated at about 10 million kg. Export revenues this year are forecast at $13 million, based on the current price of $65 per kg. Workers can earn about three dollars a day for gathering 50 to 150 kg. of cotton. (Basic data from Inter Press Service, 05/08/91)

-- End --