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This update covers Monday, July 27, 2009 to Friday, July 31, 2009

FRUIT AND TREE NUTS OUTLOOK

Provides current intelligence and forecasts the effects of changing conditions in the U.S. fruit and tree nuts sector. Topics include production, consumption, shipments, prices received, and more.

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Released Thursday, July 30, 2009
See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/FTS/>

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT WHEN EXPORTS LACK DIVERSIFICATION: A CASE STUDY FROM MALAWI

Developing countries, particularly those that depend heavily on a small number of agricultural exports, are vulnerable to domestic and international shocks. These countries often have difficulty achieving sustained economic growth. This analysis uses Malawi, a country that earns most of its foreign exchange from tobacco, as a case study of export concentration and heavy exposure to volatility. The econometric results suggest that the decline in Malawi's gross domestic product (GDP) when tobacco exports are falling is almost three times greater than the increase in GDP when exports are rising. Model based simulations indicate that variability in tobacco exports leads to slower economic growth because GDP falls by a relatively large amount in response to a given decrease in exports, while recovering little during an upswing in exports. Gains in tobacco yield and improvements in marketing efficiency, however, can help buffer Malawi's GDP from variability in export revenues.

Released Thursday, July 30, 2009
See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR77/>

U.S. CANTALOUPE STATISTICS

U.S. and State data on acreage, yield, production, price, and value for cantaloupe. Additional statistics include supply and disappearance, per capita use, shipments, arrivals, U.S. exports and imports by country, usual planting and harvesting dates, agricultural chemical use, world production, area, and trade, and more.

Released Wednesday, July 29, 2009
See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1478>

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