

UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMISSION

ESTIMATE OF MINIMUM IMPORTS OF CERTAIN ESSENTIAL FOOD
PRODUCTS REQUIRED FOR PALESTINE BETWEEN
15 MAY AND 1 OCTOBER

	<u>Tons</u>	
Cereals:		
Bread cereals	71,500	of wheat flour equivalent
Rice	5,000	
Sugar	11,500	
Meat:		
Frozen meat	1,100	
Canned meat	700	
Oils and fats:		
Copra	8,250	
Cotton seed	7,500	
Ground nuts	9,000	
Linseed	850	
Cocoa beans	900	

The quantities in the above table are calculated on the basis of the programme of allocations laid down by the IEFPC (in respect of cereals, oils and fats) and by the British Ministry of Food. No account is taken of the fact that, in respect of all products except bread cereals and sugar, the rate of import up to 15 May is less than would be required under the programme. If this programme is fulfilled between 15 May and 1 October, it will only be sufficient to maintain current consumption and will not provide for building up of stocks.

In regard to meat, it should be noted that the major source of meat supply in Palestine is normally from livestock imported from Middle Eastern countries. This importation has practically ceased under present conditions, and consequently the quantities of frozen and canned meat in the above table are far below what would be required to maintain a normal rate of consumption of meat of all kinds.

In respect of oils and fats, allocated by the IEFC, imports have been very much below the quantities allocated, and there is already an acute shortage of these products. None of the 10,000 tons of rice programmed for the year have yet been imported into Palestine, and there is no prospect of any importations of rice before 15 May.

Finally, it should be clearly indicated that all these quantities imply a relatively low rate of consumption. They take no account of the possibility of a fall in local production and of destruction of stocks as a result of internal disorder. Moreover, the carry-over of stocks is dangerously low, and in order to build up working stocks to safe levels, larger quantities of all these products would need to be imported. The figures given on the preceding page, therefore, are the minimum quantities needed to avert a serious food crisis.

TABLE 1

FOOD IMPORTS INTO PALESTINE

(in value)

	(at the rate: 1 EP = 4 \$)	
	1946* U.S.\$	1947* U.S.\$
Grain and flour	<u>28,575,000</u>	<u>36,289,000</u>
Wheat, hard	18,337,000	8,620,000
Wheat flour	1,210,000	5,279,000
Barley	4,930,000	8,691,000
Rice	1,049,000	1,084,000
Meat	<u>432,000</u>	<u>633,000</u>
Animals, living, for food	<u>10,787,000</u>	<u>12,189,000</u>
Dairy products	<u>6,423,000</u>	<u>9,872,000</u>
Butter	414,000	1,587,000
Cheese	1,034,000	1,865,000
Fruits and vegetables	<u>5,806,000</u>	<u>9,684,000</u>
Sugar	2,757,000	3,351,000
<u>Oils**</u>		
Oils and fats, edible		500,000

[Source: General Monthly Bulletin of Current Statistics,
(Government of Palestine) December 1947]

* Based on the figures for the first three-quarters.

** Does not include certain other oils and oil seeds allocated by the IEF, imports of which were approximately £ 1.37 million (\$5.5 million) in 1947.

TABLE 2
QUANTITY OF FOOD IMPORTS INTO PALESTINE
1946 and 1947

Group	Unit	Jan-Sept 1946	Total Year 1946 (Estimate)	Jan-Sept 1947	Total Year 1947 (Estimate)	Remarks
A (Grain and flour)	Tons	190,462	253,949	217,524	290,032	
B (Feeding stuffs for animals)	"	28,183	37,577	56,853	75,804	
C (Meat)	"	478	637	596	795	Excluding poultry, included under Group D.
D (Animals, living, for food)	Numbers	234,320	312,427	352,615	470,153	
E (Dairy produce)	Tons	7,061	9,415	10,876	14,501	1 egg = 50 grammes 1,000 eggs = 50 kg.
F (Fresh fruits, nuts and vegetables)	"	25,230	33,640	42,743	56,991	
G (Beverages)	"	630	840	1,361	1,815	1 litre assumed = 1 kg.
H (Other foods)	"	36,101	48,135	27,980	37,307	
<u>Individual Items</u>						
Rice	Tons	5,639	7,519	5,245	6,993	
Wheat	"	125,471	167,295	60,380	80,507	
Wheat flour	"	8,425	11,233	26,965	35,953	
Barley	"	35,927	47,903	53,528	71,371	
Live Animals	Number	205,853	274,471	214,329	285,772	
Butter	Tons	429	572	1,464	1,952	
Cheese	"	968	1,291	1,757	2,344	
Sugar (Nos. 181-5)	"	18,240	24,320	18,101	24,000	
Oils, edible, n.e.s.	"			1,101	1,468	
Olive oil	"			1	1	
Fats n.e.s.	"	2	3	286	381	
Copra	"	3,015	4,020	6,991	9,321	
Cotton seeds	"			15,277	20,369	
Sesame seeds	"	1,137	1,516	6,154	8,205	
Cotton seed oil	"	1	1	3	4	
Sunflower seeds	"			4	5	

/TABLE 3

TABLE 3

VALUE OF IMPORTS OF FOOD INTO PALESTINE BY COUNTRIES OF
ORIGIN - 1947*

(4\$ = £1)

<u>Commodity and Country</u>	<u>Value in \$ Year 1947</u>	<u>Value in \$ Year 1946</u>
<u>Barley, Total</u>	<u>8,691,500</u>	<u>4,933,948</u>
Tripolitania	2,799,340	
Iraq	4,616,748	
Syria/Lebanon	1,224,336	
Turkey	51,076	
<u>Rice, Total</u>	<u>1,084,592</u>	<u>1,049,684</u>
Egypt	1,084,336	
Other	256	
<u>Wheat, hard</u>	<u>8,627,572</u>	<u>18,336,432</u>
Canada	7,125,796	
Abyssinia	691,252	
Syria/Lebanon	374,368	
Turkey	123,692	
Transjordan	312,464	
<u>Wheat flour</u>	<u>5,279,440</u>	<u>1,210,572</u>
Australia	3,187,840	
Canada	1,545,440	
Abyssinia	61,444	
Egypt	47,220	
Others (Africa)		
Iraq	188,880	
Syria/Lebanon	242,688	
Transjordan	5,868	
Other countries	60	
<u>Sugar, Total</u>	<u>3,351,172</u>	<u>2,757,200</u>
<u>Grain and Flour</u>	<u>36,289,792</u>	<u>28,575,824</u>
<u>Meat</u>	<u>432,156</u>	<u>633,916</u>

* These estimates are made on the basis of the first three-quarters of each year.

<u>Commodity and Country</u>	<u>Value in \$ Year 1947</u>	<u>Value in \$ Year 1946</u>
<u>Animals, Living, for food</u>	<u>12,189,476</u>	<u>10,787,648</u>
<u>Cattle and buffaloes</u>	<u>6,325,772</u>	
Other countries (Africa)		
Iraq	48,468	
Syria/Lebanon	5,096,444	
Transjordan	98,276	
<u>Goats and Kids</u>	<u>1,763,124</u>	
Iraq	4,948	
Turkey	1,734,548	
Transjordan	19,876	
Other countries	3,748	
<u>Sheep and lambs</u>	<u>4,099,212</u>	
Arabia	66,396	
Iraq	96,748	
Turkey	3,902,804	
Transjordan	12,704	
<u>Dairy products</u>	<u>9,872,228</u>	<u>6,423,316</u>
Butter	1,587,120	414,836
Cheese	1,866,420	1,034,884
<u>Fruits and vegetables</u>	<u>5,806,560</u>	<u>9,684,860</u>
<u>Oils</u>		
Copra	<u>1,810,044</u>	
India and Ceylon		
Other British possessions	814,564	
Other Asiatic countries	995,476	
Sesame seeds	<u>3,504,628</u>	
India	553,580	
Other British possessions	17,820	
Abyssinia	125,852	
Other countries (Africa)	445,636	
Arabia	1,075,168	
Iraq	229,968	
Iran	527,392	
Syria/Lebanon	458,772	
Transjordan	78,028	
Other countries	12,416	