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France

Tobacco and Products

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Report Highlights:

In 2000, French production of unmanufactured tobacco declined by 3 percent from 1999 to 25,022 MT, mainly due to reduced dark air and sun cured tobacco production. France is a net importer of both raw tobacco and cigarettes. In 2000, France's leading suppliers of raw tobacco were Brazil and Argentina, and the United States ranked third among leading suppliers. U.S. sales to France accounted for 8 percent of total French imports of raw tobacco. The Netherlands was France's leading supplier of cigarettes in 2000, with 72 percent of the market, due principally to exports of Philip Morris products manufacturered in plants located in the Netherlands and exported to France. Philip Morris is the leading brand on the French market for cigarettes, with 37.6 percent in 2000, ahead of the French ALTADIS, 30.7 percent.

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Executive Summary

In 2000, French production of unmanufactured tobacco declined by 3 percent from 1999 to 25,022 MT, mainly due to reduced dark air and sun cured tobacco production. At the same time, French tobacco manufacturer ALTADIS (which resulted from the merger of the French SEITA and the Spanish TABACCALERA) reduced its cigarette production by almost 10 percent to 82.51 billion pieces. ALTADIS purchased 34 percent of domestically-grown tobacco in 2000. These declines resulted from reduced France consumption of tobacco products. In 2000, French consumption of total tobacco products amounted to 91,700 MT and French cigarette consumption totaled 82.5 billion pieces, down from 103,500 MT and 97.1 billion pieces in 1991, respectively. France remained a net importer of tobacco in 2000, with Brazil and Argentina as leading suppliers of unmanufacturered tobacco products and the Netherlands as France's leading supplier of cigarettes. The United States ranked third among France's leading raw tobacco supplier, including mainly flue-cured and light aircured tobacco.

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Section I: Situation and Outlook

Production

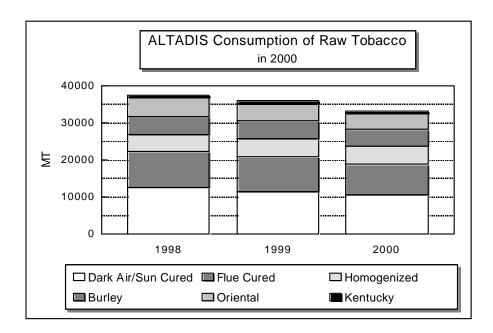
French unmanufactured tobacco production declined by 3 percent from 1999 to 2000, due mainly to reduced dark air and sun cured tobacco production. In 2001, the same trend is expected to continue.

ALTADIS is the French/Spanish tobacco processing group resulting from the merger in 1999 of the French SEITA and the Spanish TABACCALERA. ALTADIS reduced its cigarette production by almost 10 percent form 1999 to 2000. At the same time, the share of filter-tipped cigarettes out of the total production increased from 80 percent to 82 percent.

Consumption

ALTADIS consumption of Raw Tobacco

The following graph shows the fluctuations of ALTADIS' purchases of raw tobacco over the past three years. They declined by 6 percent from 38,302 MT in 1998 to 35,823 in 1999, and further declined by almost 8 percent to 33,073 MT in 2000. This decrease resulted mainly from reduced purchases by ALTADIS of dark tobacco and flue-cured tobacco.

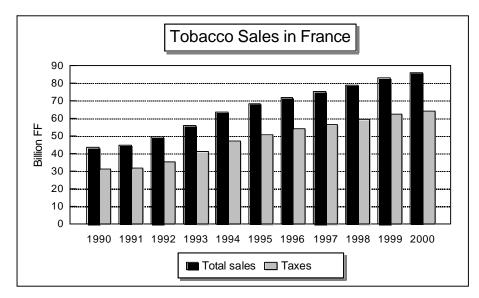


In 2000, ALTADIS purchased 80 percent of domestically-grown dark air and sun cured tobacco, 12 percent of domestically-grown flue-cured tobacco, and 17 percent domestically-grown Burley.ALTADIS purchases of total tobacco accounted for 34 percent of total domestically-grown tobacco. Over the past years, the overall trend was for a decline in ALTADIS purchases of domestically-grown tobacco, due mainly to declining purchases of dark air and sun cured tobacco.

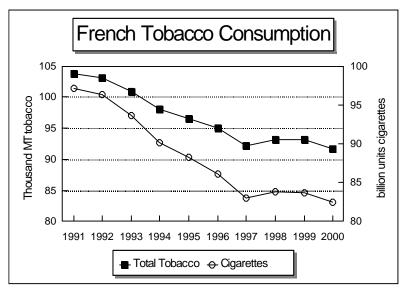
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Consumption of manufactured tobacco products

The value of French tobacco sales has increased significantly in recent years, as illustrated in the graph below. This was due to the increase in tobacco retail prices, which offset the decline in the quantity of tobacco sold on the French market. Total sales of manufactured tobacco products continued to increase in 2000: they were up three percent from 1999 to FF 85.89 billion (USD 12 billion). The bulk of the French market for tobacco products was cigarette sales (92 percent), followed by smoking/cut tobacco (4 percent) and cigars (3 percent).



The French Government's revenue generated by taxes on tobacco amounted to FF 64.4 billion (USD 9 billion) in 2000, a 3 percent increase from 1999. The GOF is the leading beneficiary of tobacco sales in France, as more than 70 percent of the retail price of tobacco products is taxes. For example, a pack of 20 blond cigarettes "Gauloises" produced by ALTADIS was sold at FF 19 (USD 2.57) in January 2001, including 76.6 percent taxes, 15.4 percent manufacturer's share and 8 percent retailer's share.

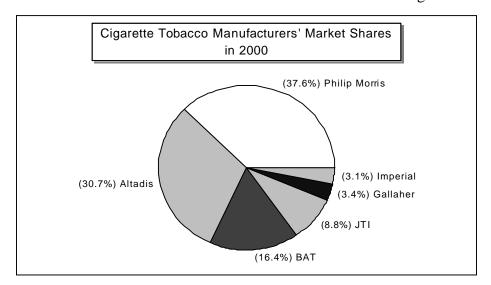


The opposite graph illustrates the decline in French tobacco and cigarette consumption over the past ten years, due mainly to health concern and increasing retail prices. In 2000, French consumption of total tobacco products amounted to 91,700 MT and French cigarette consumption totaled 82.5 billion pieces.

Similarly, French per capita consumption of cigarettes amounted to 1,375 units in 2000, down from 1,697 units in 1991.

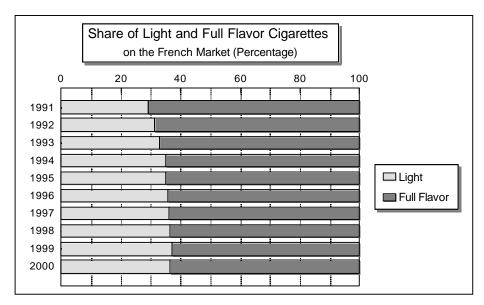
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The distribution of tobacco manufacturer's market shares for cigarettes was the following in 2000:



This graph clearly shows that Philip Morris and ALTADIS are the leaders on the French market. Philip Morris' market share increased by 1.7 percent from 1999 to 2000, while Altadis' market share declined by 1.7 percent.

In 2000, the long-term substitution of dark for blond cigarette continued, and dark cigarettes represented 17.5 percent of the market, while blond cigarettes accounted for 82.5 percent. By contrast to previous years' trend, the market share of full flavor cigarettes declined from 37.3 percent in 1999 to 36.5 percent in 2000.



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Trade

France is a net importer of unmanufactured tobacco. Brazil and Argentina were France's leading suppliers of raw tobacco in 2000, and the United States ranked third. The following table shows the distribution of French imports and exports of raw tobacco to and from the United States in 1999 and 2000 (in MT):

| | | | IMPO | RTS | EXPO | ORTS |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 |
| Flue-Cured | | Total | 8,767 | 10,820 | 7,966 | 8,172 |
| | | U.S. | 953 | 1,091 | 407 | 460 |
| Light-Air-Cured | Burley | Total | 1,269 | 1,506 | 4,427 | 4,957 |
| | | U.S. | 121 | 446 | 0 | 0 |
| | Other | Total | 2,933 | 2,842 | 51 | 245 |
| | | U.S. | 714 | 514 | 0 | 0 |
| Dark Air/Sun Cured | | Total | 10,107 | 10,978 | 1,950 | 1,795 |
| | | U.S. | 0 | 0 | 356 | 0 |
| Fire-Cured | | Total | 1,927 | 1,828 | 267 | 2,026 |
| | | U.S. | 268 | 193 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Tobacco | | Total | 355 | 187 | 997 | 1,540 |
| _ | | U.S. | 0 | 0 | 820 | 836 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | Total | 25,352 | 28,161 | 15,658 | 18,735 |
| | | U.S. | 2,056 | 2,244 | 1,583 | 1,296 |

Source: French Customs

France is also a net importer of cigarettes. The Netherlands is France's leading supplier of cigarettes, which mostly come from Philip Morris plants in Holland.

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Section II: Statistical Tables

1. PS&D Tables

| PSD Table | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Country | France | | | | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Un | mfg., Total | _ | | (HA)(MT) | |
| | Revised | 1999 | Preliminary | 2000 | Forecast | 2001 |
| | Old | New | Old | New | Old | New |
| Market Year Begin | | 01/1999 | | 01/2000 | | 01/2001 |
| Area Planted | 9454 | 9454 | 9200 | 9254 | 0 | 9100 |
| Beginning Stocks | 47483 | 47483 | 43697 | 43697 | 43274 | 41569 |
| Farm Sales Weight Prod | 25869 | 25869 | 25700 | 25022 | 0 | 24660 |
| Dry Weight Production | 22343 | 22343 | 22197 | 21519 | 0 | 21210 |
| U.S. Leaf Imports | 2056 | 2056 | 2000 | 2244 | 0 | 2200 |
| Other Foreign Imports | 23296 | 23296 | 23000 | 25917 | 0 | 25000 |
| TOTAL Imports | 25352 | 25352 | 25000 | 28161 | 0 | 27200 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 95178 | 95178 | 90894 | 93377 | 43274 | 89979 |
| Exports | 15658 | 15658 | 13000 | 18735 | 0 | 17000 |
| Dom. Leaf Consumption | 8896 | 8896 | 8000 | 8175 | 0 | 8000 |
| U.S. Leaf Dom. Consum. | 1630 | 1630 | 1620 | 1438 | 0 | 1500 |
| Other Foreign Consump. | 25297 | 25297 | 25000 | 23460 | 0 | 23000 |
| TOTAL Dom. Consumption | 35823 | 35823 | 34620 | 33073 | 0 | 32500 |
| TOTAL Disappearance | 51481 | 51481 | 47620 | 51808 | 0 | 49500 |
| Ending Stocks | 43697 | 43697 | 43274 | 41569 | 0 | 40479 |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTION | 95178 | 95178 | 90894 | 93377 | 0 | 89979 |

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| PSD Table | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Country | France | | | | | |
| Commodity | Unmfg.,Dar k Air & Sun Cured | | | | (HA)(MT) | |
| | Revised | 1999 | Preliminary | 2000 | Forecast | 2001 |
| | Old | New | Old | New | Old | New |
| Market Year Begin | | 01/1999 | | 01/2000 | | 01/2001 |
| Area Planted | 2756 | 2756 | 2500 | 2517 | 0 | 2400 |
| Beginning Stocks | 50225 | 50225 | 53850 | 53850 | 56312 | 58766 |
| Farm Sales Weight Prod | 8444 | 8444 | 7880 | 7473 | 0 | 7150 |
| Dry Weight Production | 6924 | 6924 | 6462 | 6128 | 0 | 5860 |
| U.S. Leaf Imports | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Foreign Imports | 10107 | 10107 | 9000 | 10978 | 0 | 10400 |
| TOTAL Imports | 10107 | 10107 | 9000 | 10978 | 0 | 10400 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 67256 | 67256 | 69312 | 70956 | 56312 | 75026 |
| Exports | 1950 | 1950 | 2000 | 1795 | 0 | 1900 |
| Dom. Leaf Consumption | 3373 | 3373 | 3000 | 2750 | 0 | 2900 |
| U.S. Leaf Dom. Consum. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Foreign Consump. | 8083 | 8083 | 8000 | 7645 | 0 | 7800 |
| TOTAL Dom. Consumption | 11456 | 11456 | 11000 | 10395 | 0 | 10700 |
| TOTAL Disappearance | 13406 | 13406 | 13000 | 12190 | 0 | 12600 |
| Ending Stocks | 53850 | 53850 | 56312 | 58766 | 0 | 62426 |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTION | 67256 | 67256 | 69312 | 70956 | 0 | 75026 |

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| PSD Table | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Country | France | | | | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco,U nmfg.,Flue Cured | | | | (HA)(MT) | |
| | Revised | 1999 | Preliminary | 2000 | Forecast | 2001 |
| | Old | New | Old | New | Old | New |
| Market Year Begin | | 01/1999 | | 01/2000 | | 01/2001 |
| Area Planted | 3788 | 3788 | 3900 | 3755 | 0 | 3750 |
| Beginning Stocks | 17910 | 17910 | 17977 | 17977 | 17967 | 20719 |
| Farm Sales Weight Prod | 9900 | 9900 | 10330 | 9769 | 0 | 9770 |
| Dry Weight Production | 8710 | 8710 | 9090 | 8597 | 0 | 8500 |
| U.S. Leaf Imports | 953 | 953 | 900 | 1091 | 0 | 1000 |
| Other Foreign Imports | 7814 | 7814 | 7500 | 9729 | 0 | 9000 |
| TOTAL Imports | 8767 | 8767 | 8400 | 10820 | 0 | 10000 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 35387 | 35387 | 35467 | 37394 | 17967 | 39219 |
| Exports | 7966 | 7966 | 8000 | 8172 | 0 | 8000 |
| Dom. Leaf Consumption | 498 | 498 | 500 | 356 | 0 | 400 |
| U.S. Leaf Dom. Consum. | 855 | 855 | 900 | 629 | 0 | 700 |
| Other Foreign Consump. | 8091 | 8091 | 8100 | 7518 | 0 | 8000 |
| TOTAL Dom. Consumption | 9444 | 9444 | 9500 | 8503 | 0 | 9100 |
| TOTAL Disappearance | 17410 | 17410 | 17500 | 16675 | 0 | 17100 |
| Ending Stocks | 17977 | 17977 | 17967 | 20719 | 0 | 22119 |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTION | 35387 | 35387 | 35467 | 37394 | 0 | 39219 |

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| PSD Table | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Country | France | | | | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Ma | fg., Cigarette | s | | (MIL PCS) | |
| | Revised | 1999 | Preliminary | 2000 | Forecast | 2001 |
| | Old | New | Old | New | Old | New |
| Market Year Begin | | 01/1999 | | 01/2000 | | 01/2001 |
| Filter Production | 33755 | 33755 | 32800 | 31358 | 0 | 31000 |
| Non-Filter Production | 8651 | 8651 | 8300 | 6884 | 0 | 6000 |
| TOTAL Production | 42406 | 42406 | 41100 | 38242 | 0 | 37000 |
| Imports | 61974 | 61974 | 63250 | 67571 | 0 | 68000 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 104380 | 104380 | 104350 | 105813 | 0 | 105000 |
| Exports | 20705 | 20705 | 20900 | 23300 | 0 | 24000 |
| Domestic Consumption | 83675 | 83675 | 83450 | 82513 | 0 | 81000 |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTION | 104380 | 104380 | 104350 | 105813 | 0 | 105000 |

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2. Trade Matrices

| Export Trade | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Matrix | | | |
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Unmfg., Total | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Exports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 1583 | U.S. | 1296 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Germany | 4359 | Germany | 5078 |
| Netherlands | 2570 | Netherlands | 2085 |
| Belgium | 2296 | Belgium | 2068 |
| Poland | 1263 | Ivory Coast | 1762 |
| UK | 625 | Spain | 1493 |
| | | Poland | 1452 |
| | | UK | 826 |
| | | | |
| Total for Others | 11113 | | 14764 |
| Others not Listed | 2962 | | 2675 |
| Grand Total | 15658 | _ | 18735 |

| Import Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Unmfg., Total | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Imports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 2056 | U.S. | 2244 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Brazil | 3401 | Brazil | 4790 |
| Argentina | 2759 | Argentina | 3270 |
| Turkey | 2016 | Turkey | 1974 |
| Zimbabwe | 1900 | Zimbabwe | 1746 |
| Italy | 1651 | Paraguay | 1612 |
| Greece | 1589 | Indonesia | 1449 |
| Indonesia | 1272 | Malawi | 1371 |
| Malawi | 1188 | India | 1087 |
| Paraguay | 873 | Italy | 1006 |
| China | 843 | China | 929 |
| Total for Others | 17492 | | 19234 |
| Others not Listed | 5804 | | 6683 |
| Grand Total | 25352 | | 28161 |

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| Export Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Unmfg.,Da rk Air & Sun Cured | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Exports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 356 | U.S. | 0 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Belgium | 732 | Belgium | 617 |
| Poland | 248 | Poland | 317 |
| Germany | 235 | Netherlands | 295 |
| Netherlands | 223 | Germany | 143 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total for Others | 1438 | | 1372 |
| Others not Listed | 156 | | 423 |
| Grand Total | 1950 | | 1795 |

| Import Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Unmfg.,Da rk Air & Sun Cured | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Imports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 0 | U.S. | 0 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Turkey | 2016 | Turkey | 1974 |
| Brazil | 1787 | Brazil | 1739 |
| Argentina | 1408 | Paraguay | 1612 |
| Greece | 1223 | Argentina | 1562 |
| Paraguay | | Colombia | 714 |
| Colombia | 598 | Greece | 532 |
| Philippines | 463 | Philippines | 525 |
| Bulgaria | 372 | Andorra | 497 |
| Italy | 312 | Cuba | 449 |
| Cuba | 308 | India | 283 |
| Total for Others | 9360 | | 9887 |
| Others not Listed | 747 | | 1091 |
| Grand Total | 10107 | | 10978 |

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| Export Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco,U nmfg.,Flue Cured | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Exports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 407 | U.S. | 460 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Germany | 2797 | Germany | 3259 |
| Netherlands | 1816 | Netherlands | 1031 |
| Poland | 632 | Poland | 759 |
| UK | 625 | Spain | 711 |
| Belgium | 567 | UK | 679 |
| Uruguay | 297 | Belgium | 558 |
| Egypt | 257 | Ivory Coast | 196 |
| Spain | 238 | Portugal | 130 |
| | | Norway | 108 |
| | | | |
| Total for Others | 7229 | | 7431 |
| Others not Listed | 330 | | 281 |
| Grand Total | 7966 | | 8172 |

| Import Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco,U nmfg.,Flue Cured | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Imports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 953 | U.S. | 1091 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Zimbabwe | 1900 | Brazil | 2987 |
| Brazil | 1560 | Zimbabwe | 1746 |
| Argentina | 1351 | Argentina | 1673 |
| Italy | 767 | Italy | 546 |
| Malawi | 362 | Malawi | 509 |
| Tanzania | 304 | Kenya | 436 |
| China | 268 | India | 389 |
| India | 214 | Tanzania | 330 |
| Greece | 149 | Zambia | 193 |
| Kenya | 146 | Germany | 176 |
| Total for Others | 7021 | | 8985 |
| Others not Listed | 793 | | 744 |
| Grand Total | 8767 | | 10820 |

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| Export Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Mfg., Cigarettes | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Exports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 20 | U.S. | 21 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Germany | 5043 | Germany | 5556 |
| Belgium | 1224 | Belgium | 751 |
| Mauritania | 858 | Finland | 712 |
| Arab Emirates | 830 | Mauritania | 677 |
| Turkey | 742 | Austria | 657 |
| Russia | 618 | Italy | 444 |
| Moldovia | 560 | Spain | 376 |
| Austria | 467 | Luxemburg | 369 |
| Spain | 447 | Burkina | 365 |
| Italy | 370 | Slovenia | 360 |
| Total for Others | 11159 | | 10267 |
| Others not Listed | 4612 | | 4072 |
| Grand Total | 15791 | | 14360 |

| Import Trade Matrix | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Country | France | | |
| Commodity | Tobacco, Mfg., Cigarettes | | |
| Time period | Jan-Dec | Units: | MT |
| Imports for: | 1999 | | 2000 |
| U.S. | 3 | U.S. | 2 |
| Others | | Others | |
| Netherlands | 44858 | Netherlands | 38159 |
| Germany | 10604 | Germany | 9536 |
| UK | 4113 | UK | 2664 |
| Belgium | 1582 | Belgium | 1396 |
| Spain | 814 | Spain | 599 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total for Others | 61971 | | 52354 |
| Others not Listed | 357 | | 533 |
| Grand Total | 62331 | | 52889 |

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3. Production Table

| | Area (ha) | | | Production (MT) | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Product | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
| Flue-Cured | 3,788 | 3,755 | 3,750 | 9,900 | 9,769 | 9,770 |
| Burley | 2,910 | 2,982 | 2,950 | 7,525 | 7,780 | 7,740 |
| Oriental | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dark Air/Sun Cured | 2,756 | 2,517 | 2,400 | 8,444 | 7,473 | 7,150 |
| Light Air- Cured | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dark Air-Cured, Cigar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dark Fired -Cured | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 9,454 | 9,254 | 9,100 | 25,869 | 25,022 | 24,660 |