Trade data
Mark Gehlhar continues to make progress on commodity-level trade and transport database for future releases. Trade data is being prepared for year 2001 for GTAP database version 6. Some great news on this front is that most data is now reported on HS-1996 classification with the exception Malawi and Pakistan where SITC is still used. New countries in the database now with authentic trade flows include Albania, Botswana, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia. There is also additional innovative work being carried out on re-export related problems.

Evaluation of tariff data in V6
ERS’s MTED division has a team working on a number of market access issues for high-value food trade. This includes tariff aggregation, tariff escalation, SPS, and related non-tariff barriers. A compilation of SPS measures has been completed for both developed and developing countries and various food sectors. Mark Gehlhar and John Wainio have successfully reconstructed and completed tariffs for all food processing sectors of the GTAP database. This was accomplished by weighting exporter’s product trade at a detailed level (HS 6-digit). Results from a simulation exercise revealed that simple average, as in the current version of the GTAP database, in some cases under-stated and in other cases over-stated the impact of tariff reduction depending on the volume of trade. Mark and John extended their trade-weighting coverage beyond processed products including other crops, and the vegetable, fruit and nut sectors, which are also susceptible to tariff aggregation biases. Michael Trueblood is updating applied agricultural tariffs for GTAP commodities for version 6.0.

Agricultural protection data for GTAP database version 6
A team at Market and Trade Economics Division (MTED) contributed the agricultural protection data on the three disciplines: market access, export subsidies, and domestic support. The team obtained detailed information allowing for further reclassification of the producer support estimates as measured by the OECD. Another dimension of this disaggregation was based on WTO notifications of specific programs, where minimally distorting payments (green) were separated from trade distorting-type of support payments (amber).

Export subsidy data
Aziz Elbehri developed the methodology and calculated ad valorem exported subsidy equivalents for V6 that was submitted to GTAP Center April 1, 2003. The data is documented in, Elbehri, A. “Agricultural Export Subsidies,” for GTAP Database Version 6.

Land and water resources database
Roy Darwin, Kevin Ingram, and John Sullivan continue to revise the land and water resources database used by the Future Agricultural Resources Model (FARM), a modified version of the first GTAP database and model, to be compatible with version 5.3 of the GTAP database. Work on this database was suspended periodically last year to conduct research on the agricultural impacts of greenhouse gas emissions. Nevertheless, preliminary data on land cover, crop
production, livestock production, and forestry production by agro-ecological zone for mainland China and the United States was provided to the Center for Global Trade Analysis for evaluation as part of an US Environmental Protection Agency funded project to establish an integrated database for assessing the potential of greenhouse gas mitigation in CGE models.

1996 US-IO

Ken Hanson and Agapi Somwaru are working in developing the 2001 United States (US) Input-Output (I/O) accounts for the GTAP version 6 database. They US IO will be based on the 1997 benchmark Input-Output accounts published in December of 2002 by the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (Survey of Current Business).

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