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**The Republic of Maldives
The Market for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables**

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**MARD/MDS Projects
Pimburattewa
May 1992**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Maldives generally accounts for one third of the fresh fruit and vegetable exports of Shri Lanka, and is the single largest destination.
- The Maldives imported some \$38 million worth of foodstuffs in 1990. More than \$4 million of this was fresh fruits and vegetables. Preliminary totals indicate that imports of fresh fruits and vegetables expanded by 33 percent in 1991, to a level of \$6.1 million. This is exceptional growth.
- Shri Lanka is the leading supplier to the Maldives of fresh fruits and vegetables, accounting for 38 percent of the fresh vegetables and 76 percent of the fresh fruits imported in 1990.
- The Maldives leading generator of foreign exchange is tourism. In 1990 more than 190,000 tourists arrived, for an average stay of 8 days, generating \$63 million in foreign exchange earnings.
- Hotel operators stated that tour operators in Europe receive complaints about the food available in even the best hotels in the Maldives. With hotels charging \$175 per day and more, the demand for a wider variety of higher quality fresh fruits and vegetables is almost a certainty. Recent changes in building codes will result in even higher room rates and a further insistence on higher quality foods.
- Domestic consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is inhibited by low production and high costs. While a thorough study on the nutritional status of Maldivians is lacking, it is thought that nutritional deficiencies are present due to a lack of an appropriate balance of vitamins and minerals. Estimated per capita consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables for the average Maldivian is 17 percent of that in the U.S. (and the U.S. Dept of Agriculture is stressing that per capita consumption in the U.S. is too low!). Further, given that fruits and vegetables are of poor quality and distribution is inefficient, it is doubtful that the comparison with U.S. consumption is valid.
- There is no effective wholesaling mechanism present in the country, with the result that

individual shops and hotels import directly from overseas.

- There are minimal refrigeration (cold store) facilities in place. There are no known refrigerated container shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to the country, and no known refrigerated shipments within the country.
- The lack of marketing infrastructure (wholesalers, international and internal ocean transport, cold storage) has forced importers to rely on expensive air transport. A private sector Shri Lankan company or organization offering an effective refrigerated sea link could secure a large portion of the Maldives market for most refrigerated goods, not just fresh fruits and vegetables. Such a link would mean Shri Lankan producers and exporters would be able to offer higher quality merchandise at lower prices than countries forced to compete by air.
- Similarly, placement of Shri Lankan controlled refrigeration facilities in Male' might effectively serve as a barrier to trade for other countries' goods.
- Current market shares for Shri Lanka are both impressive and worthy of protection. They also indicate that generic promotional campaigns to increase total consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables would be economic. An organization such as the Fruit and Vegetable Producers, Processors and Exporters or the Export Development Board should consider undertaking promotional work in the Maldives to increase consumption. Coordination with multilateral agencies to promote increased fresh fruit and vegetable consumption in the Maldives to improve nutrition, and subsequent Shri Lanka tie-in promotions should also be encouraged.

INTRODUCTION

This report is the result of a five day visit to the the Republic of the Maldives in April, 1992. During this trip interviews and discussions were held with officials of the Government of the Republic of the Maldives concerned with agriculture, trade and industry, and customs, and representatives of the private sector, including existing and potential entrepreneurs, tour and hotel operators, and importers.

The Maldives has historically accounted for a large percent of the fresh fruit and vegetable exports of Shri Lanka. The country accounted for about one-third during the years since 1987 (Table 1). It is thus the major trading partner for these items. An understanding and delineation of the market and its requirements is of paramount importance to producers, processors and exporters of fresh fruits and vegetables, yet there are no known systematic studies extant to guide both the government and private sector in their attempts to improve Shri Lanka's exports to the Maldives. This report is an attempt to provide some initial insights into the market, to assess some opportunities for Shri Lankan producers and exporters, and to indicate probable future directions of trade.

The historic ties between the two countries, their close proximity and their common membership on international bodies such as SAARC would suggest that government intervention on behalf of producers and exporters should be routine. This does not appear to have been the case, however, as the Maldives has a prohibitive tariff of 200 percent on some agricultural products which could be exported from Shri Lanka to the Maldives. The Maldives has apparently independently realised that such a tariff is counterproductive, and is scheduled to reduce this tariff shortly. Nevertheless, closer cooperation between the two governments could increase mutual trade, improve Shri Lankan farmers' incomes, boost export earnings, lower food costs for Maldivian consumers, improve nutritional intake, and offer a greater variety of foodstuffs to the Maldives' important and growing tourist trade. This is a "win-win" situation for all parties.

**Table 1. Value of exports of fresh fruits and vegetables by country of destination
1983 – 1989 (in million SL Rs).**

Country	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Kuwait	2.778	4.085	5.906	9.205	13.156	14.190	20.374
Bahrain	8.265	8.966	8.231	7.897	4.325	7.480	10.560
UAE	23.680	13.120	13.220	13.580	12.920	14.300	21.510
Saudi	5.309	7.146	7.603	8.949	7.874	13.170	18.100
Oman	2.460	2.551	4.510	4.400	4.060	5.580	5.670
Qatar	-	0.679	2.188	2.825	2.789	3.440	3.340
Maldives	9.958	11.748	2.048	6.787	25.970	32.150	43.610
Other Countries						4.780	14.990
Total	52.450	48.295	43.706	53.643	71.094	95.090	138.154
Maldives as % of Total	18.9	24.3	4.7	12.7	36.5	33.8	31.6

Source: Export Development Board

BACKGROUND

The Republic of the Maldives (Figure 1) is an archipelago of some 1,190 small coral islands, physically divided into 26 natural atolls, and administratively divided into 19 atolls. Of the 1,190 islands only 202 are inhabited by indigenous Maldivians, while a further 64 are devoted to tourism. Of these 202 inhabited islands only 41 have more than 1000 inhabitants. The remaining 161 islands having an average population of 484 (Table 2), and are thus extremely difficult to service, logistically and economically.

The country has no land borders with any other nation. Its closest neighbors are India and Shri Lanka, situated 600 and 670 kilometers to the north and east, respectively.

Each of the 26 atolls is enclosed by a coral reef with several channels serving as entry points. Each of the islands within the atolls is similarly surrounded by a protective coral reef and has at least one entry way and shallow lagoon.

The archipelago is 823 kilometers long and 130 kilometers wide, and has a total area of about 90,000 square kilometers of which 300 square kilometers is land. The highest point in the country is 2.5 meters above sea level, and there are no rivers, lakes or streams. Poor soil, limited availability of cultivable land and the lack of fresh water severely constrain agriculture.

Archaeological finds date earliest habitation to 1500 BC, but it is believed that the first permanent settlers, of Aryan stock, arrived around 500 BC from Shri Lanka and India. Archaeological information has also determined that Buddhism was practiced in the Maldives until 1134 AD at which time the then king proclaimed Islam to be the official religion of the country. Today the Maldives is 100 percent Sunni Moslem. The conversion to Islam is thought to have been brought about by the influence of Arab traders, since the Maldives is on the direct route between Malacca and China.

The Maldives has been independent except for brief periods of occupation by the Portuguese (fifteen years, from 1558-1573) and the Moplas of South India (for a period of three months in 1753). The country was a British Protectorate from 1887 to 1964, a fact not considered significant, since the British neither occupied the country nor interfered with internal administration. The country became independent in 1965.

The official language is Dhivehi, which belongs to the Indo-Iranian group of languages, but with strong Arabic influences. Literacy is high and is reported to be 95 percent. There are two daily newspapers and one television station.

FIGURE 01

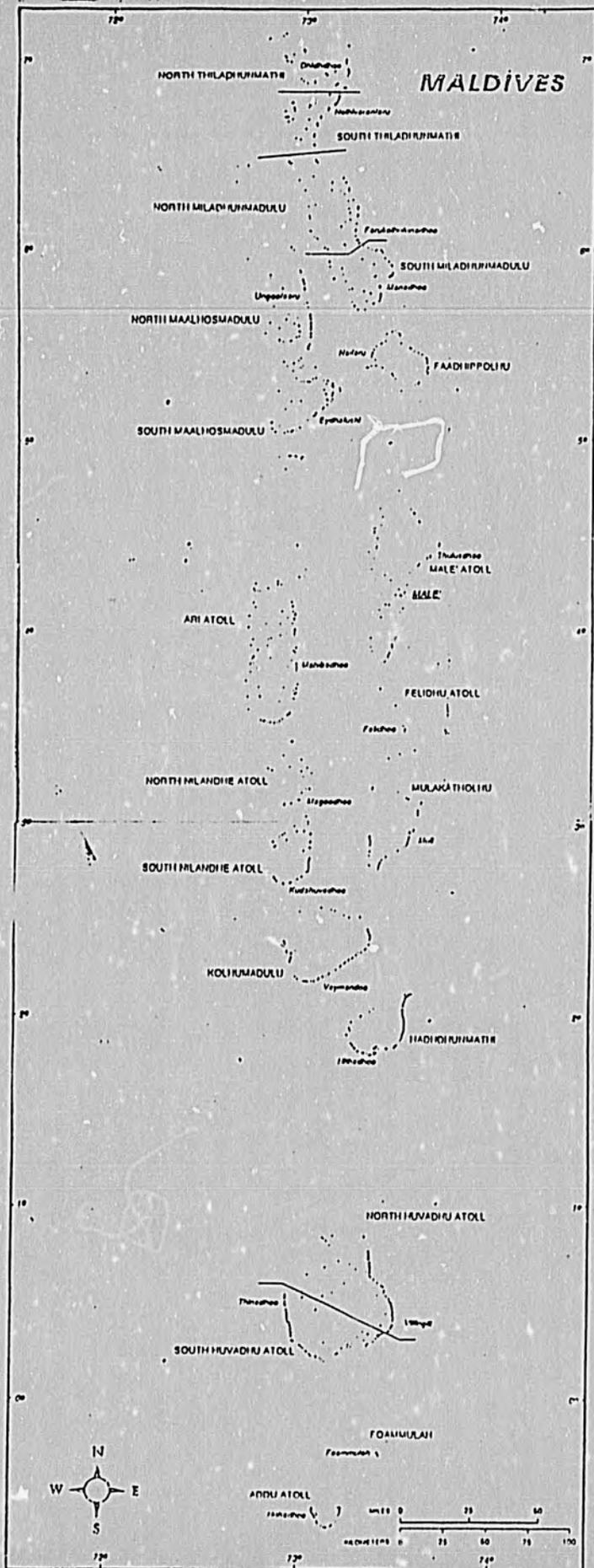


Table 2. Republic of Maldives; Number of inhabited islands by size of population; 1990

Size of population	No. of administrative units	Total population	Average population per island
less than 1000	161	77958	484
1000 - 1499	24	29180	1216
1500 - 1999	7	12297	1757
2000 - 2999	4	9349	2337
3000 - 3999	2	6768	3384
4000 - 4999	1	4460	4460
5000 - 9999	2	13250	6625
+10000	1	55130	55130
Total	202	208392	1032

The currency is the Rufiyya, further divided into one hundred Laari. As of April, 1992 there were 9.86 Rufiyya to \$1 US.

Business hours are from 0730 to 1330, Saturday to Thursday for government offices, from 0900 to 1300, Sunday to Thursday for banks, and 0600-2300 daily for most business enterprises.

THE ECONOMY OF THE MALDIVES

The Maldivian economy is based on tourism, shipping and fishing (Table 3). Export oriented industries are of recent origin and include canning and freezing of tuna fish (a government enterprise) and the manufacture of garments. The garment industry is of interest to foreign manufacturers because the country is not subject to the international system of import quotas.

For the past five years gross domestic product (GDP) has been growing at an annual rate of 9.2 percent. In 1990, GDP per capita was estimated at Rf 4,360 or approximately US\$400. This is approximately the same level as Shri Lanka.

The fisheries sector accounts for about 15 percent of GDP and engages about 22 percent of the labor force. This sector is the second largest generator of foreign exchange for the Maldives, and is both the traditional occupation of the Maldivian population and their principle livelihood. To tap what are believed to be vast marine resources of the country, the government has established a 200 mile exclusive economic zone, and is implementing a number of development projects to increase both production and exports. Past exports were primarily of smoked and dried tuna ("Maldivian fish") destined for Shri Lanka. In 1971, however, Shri Lanka sharply reduced its imports of Maldivian fish, forcing the development of market diversification and alternative methods of processing. As a result, today the Maldives exports canned and frozen fish to the Far East and Europe. In the period from 1986-1990, export earnings from fishing increased from a level of \$11 million per year to \$36 million.

Tourism accounts for 18 percent of GDP, and is the single biggest earner of foreign exchange. Since the establishment of the first resort in 1972, more than 60 resorts have been established and in 1990, more than 190,000 tourists arrived. The principal origins of the tourist traffic are West Germany, Italy and France, although recently there has been a large increase in the number of tourists from the Far East (particularly Japan) and Australia. This increase in non-European tourists has decreased the seasonality of the industry. In the period 1985-1989, net

**Table 3. Republic of Maldives. Gross domestic product by sector;
1986 – 1990 (in Rf millions); at 1985 prices.**

Sector	1986		1987		1988		1989		1990*	
	GDP	% of total								
Total	651.894	100.00	709.668	100.00	771.554	100.00	843.18	100.00	970.319	100.00
Agriculture	76.008	11.66	77.909	10.98	79.856	10.35	82.252	9.75	87.13	8.98
Fisheries	108.126	16.59	116.543	16.42	124.118	16.09	132.67	15.73	147.554	15.21
Coral and sand mining	12.446	1.91	13.193	1.86	13.984	1.81	14.893	1.77	17.891	1.84
Construction	52.787	8.10	58.066	8.18	63.872	8.28	70.515	8.36	83.9	8.65
Manufacturing	36.05	5.53	39.655	5.59	43.621	5.65	48.201	5.72	55.625	5.73
Distribution	103.576	15.89	115.487	16.27	128.768	16.69	144.092	17.09	166.829	17.19
Transport	33.733	5.17	37.106	5.23	40.817	5.29	45.021	5.34	56.958	5.87
Tourism	111.885	17.16	122.402	17.25	133.907	17.36	147.297	17.47	177.797	18.22
Real estate	28.348	4.35	30.899	4.35	33.68	4.37	36.88	4.37	40.615	4.19
Services	33.387	5.12	37.861	5.34	42.934	5.56	29.16	3.46	55.6	5.73
Gov't. administration	55.548	8.52	60.547	8.53	65.997	8.55	72.2	8.56	80.42	8.29

* Preliminary

foreign exchange earnings from tourism increased from a level of \$33 million to \$63 million.

Shipping has historically been an important sector, since 95 percent of the Maldives imports are handled by the national shipping line. Due to many changes in the economics of shipping since 1980, however, and due to losses sustained from operations, this sector of the economy is declining in importance.

The industrial sector of the economy is made up of both traditional and modern areas and accounts for 13 percent of GDP. The traditional areas include boat building, mat weaving, rope making and other handicraft and cottage type industries. These industries are significant employers of women, and account for about 25 percent of the workforce. The modern areas include fish processing and garment production for the export market and smaller enterprises such as boatyards, workshops and brick making for the domestic market.

Development of the industrial sector is severely constrained by the shortage of skilled and semi-skilled labor. The small size of the domestic market, non-availability of raw materials and the difficulties of transportation also constrains industrial development.

Agriculture, discussed in a separate section below, has been declining in importance recently. In 1990, it accounted for less than 10 percent of GDP and 5 percent of the workforce. The relatively low importance of agriculture to the overall economy has led crop cultivation to be viewed as merely a supplement to diets and incomes.

MARKET OVERVIEW

Table 4 shows that 1990 imports of fresh and processed foods into the Maldives totalled Rf 382,370,000, or about \$38 million. Of this, almost Rf 123 million, or \$12 million was for "vegetable products" and more than Rf 46 million was for fresh fruits and vegetables. Thus, the Maldivian market for imported fresh fruits and vegetables may be said to approximate \$4.6 million. Table 14, below, provides a preliminary itemization of imports of fresh fruits and vegetables for 1991. The data were specially prepared for this report by the Minister of State in Charge of Customs for the Republic of the Maldives. Note that these figures indicate an increase in fresh fruit and vegetable imports for 1991 to a level of Rf 61.5 million or slightly more than \$6 million dollars, and a year to year growth of 33 percent, an exceptional figure for food imports. For 1991, 61 percent of total value was constituted by vegetables and 39 percent by fruits and nuts.

Table 4. Republic of Maldives. Imports of foodstuffs, 1990.

Category	Value (Rf '000)
Live animals; animal products	61,398
Live animals	300
Meat and edible meat offals	25,317
Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc.	2,742
Dairy products; birds' eggs; natural honey; etc.	33,013
Other products of animal origin	26
Vegetable products	122,929
Live trees, other plants, bulb roots, etc.	823
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	27,061
Edible fruits and nuts: peel of citrus or melons	19,171
Coffee, tea, mate and spices	11,142
Cereals	33,072
Products of the milling industry, malt, etc.	30,781
Oilseeds and oleaginous fruit, etc.	324
Lac, gum, resins and other vegetable sap and extracts	152
Vegetable planting materials	403
Animal and vegetable fats and oils	17,270
Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits, etc.	180,773
Preparations of meat, fish and crustaceans	893
Sugar and sugar confectionery	55,674
Cocoa and cocoa preparations	2,559
Preparations of cereals, flour or starch	21,106
Preparations of vegetables, fruits, nuts, etc.	17,234
Miscellaneous edible preparations	7,441
Beverages, spirits and vinegar	40,633
Residues and waste from the food industries	1,131
Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	34,102
Total	2,370

Table 5 compares Maldives imports and Sri Lanka exports to the Maldives for 1990 for the major fruit and vegetable categories in the Harmonized Tariff System. Sri Lanka's share of the Maldivian market for imported fresh vegetables is about 38 percent, while for fresh fruits it is an even higher 76 percent. These are significant market shares. They should be protected and, if possible, increased. Given Sri Lanka's natural competitive advantage as a source of supply for the Maldives vis-a-vis most countries except India, market share should remain steady. If a competitive advantage over India could be established, market share could grow. In later sections of this report, a strategy will be developed to differentiate Sri Lankan product through transport, quality, storage time and serving cost.

From a defensive standpoint, it should be noted that, given the increasing tourist arrivals and their demands on the food service capabilities of the Maldives, if Sri Lanka cannot improve its quality standards, it is in danger of losing share, perhaps even to higher priced suppliers, for reasons that will be discussed below. To illustrate the importance of quality, one large hotel company established buying offices in Singapore, Australia in addition to their existing office in Colombo in order to obtain the high quality food their guests demand. This could be an indicator of future trends, especially since this company was the largest single hotel company in the Maldives, purchasing for seven hotels.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

While the Republic of the Maldives has a total area of more than 90,000 square kilometers, this includes both land and sea areas. The total land area of the 1190 islands is 298 sq. km., and of this, only 10 percent is suitable for agriculture. Most soils have poor water retaining capacity and are highly alkaline, with an average pH of 8 to 8.5, due to an excess calcium from the basic coral rock formations of the islands.

The scarcity of land, its uneven distribution throughout the archipelago, rudimentary agricultural practices and lack of scheduled and efficient transport all combine to severely constrain agricultural production and to limit future agricultural potential. Further, since fresh water resources are non-existent, production is limited to rainfed conditions during the Southwest monsoon period. There are no indigenous predators for pest control, and the country has significant problems with rhinoceros beetle and whitefly. Rats have been a significant problem in reducing coconut yields, but the application of some 41 tons of poison bait has resulted in an increased yield of more than 30 percent.

Table 5. Sri Lanka; Market share of imports of fruits and into the Republic of Maldives; 1990

	Maldives Imports (\$US)	Sri Lankan Exports (\$US)	Percent (%)
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	2,706,100	1,021,640	37.3
Edible fruits and nuts; peel of citrus or melons	1,114,200	845,126	75.8

Source: Maldives Customs and Sri Lanka External Trade Statistics, 1990

The dominant agricultural activity is coconut production, and coconuts and coconut products form an integral part of the Maldivian diet. In addition, coconut timber is widely used for boat building and construction. However, the rapid depletion of this basic resource has forced the government to prohibit the felling of coconut trees, with the result that there is a developing market for coconut wood from Shri Lanka.

Other crops of significance cultivated in the Maldives include millet, maize, taro, cassava and sweet potatoes. With the increasing Westernization of the Maldivian diet and thus increased consumption of rice and wheat products, cultivation of these traditional crops is rapidly decreasing.

Bananas, watermelon, papaya, breadfruit and lime are the only fruits produced commercially, and even these are not produced in sufficient quantity to meet demand. The only fruit which would appear to approach self-sufficiency of production is banana.

Commercial vegetable production is limited to green chillies and small red onions, with the former undergoing increased production of the "Githayo Mirus" variety. Small amounts of brinjal, pumpkin, drumstick, beans, cabbage and bittergourd are also produced.

There is some production of timber for firewood, but supply is limited and prices are high. Deforestation is a problem noted by the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture. The same Ministry expressed interest in obtaining firewood from Shri Lanka, as per capita consumption of firewood is estimated at more than 400 kilos per person per year, and the price of a bundle of firewood has increased from Rf 1.5 in 1976 to more than Rf 20 today.

There is one commercial poultry farm on one of the uninhabited islands, but it relies on imported chicks and feed. Production is insufficient for local demand, with the result that several million eggs and large amounts of poultry meat are imported annually. Shri Lankan eggs were noted in the market, and according to 1990 Shri Lankan Customs figures, amounted to about Rs 7.8 million.

Production of fruits and vegetables for the most recent three years is shown in Table 6. Note the extreme variability of production.

Even a cursory examination of the production of fresh fruits and vegetables indicates that there is a severe shortage. At best, there is sufficient annual production for the consumption of one lime per person, 4 kilos of bananas, 50 coconuts, 0.4 kilo of chillie and 0.03 kilos of onion from domestic production.

Table 6. Republic of Maldives; Production of fruits and vegetables (kg); 1988 – 1990.

Crop	1988	1989	1990
Chillies	72,217	13,226	94,548
Onion	648	8,281	871
S. Potato	29,168	29,746	41,493
Cassava	14,013	21,649	160,422
Taro	501,068	540,326	181,327
Alocasia	177,883	106,785	39,016
Banana	745 718	976,423	646,908
Lemon (no.)	164,183	224,042	67,515
Betel (bodi)	2,804	7,064	21,069
Arecanut (no.)	18,684	108,969	23,076
Coconuts (no)	9,893,910	12,431,724	15,213,909

Unfortunately, since the country is at present dependent on airfreighted supplies of fresh fruits and vegetables at high prices, this has meant that consumption of these valuable sources of vitamins and minerals is extremely limited, and, while there are as yet no published nutritional surveys, conversations with UNICEF and other officials indicate a severe nutritional deficiency.

As will be seen below, despite the overwhelming dependence on outside sources for fresh fruits and vegetables, and indeed all foodstuffs except fish, the Government has had prohibitive tariffs in place for any fruits and vegetables with any domestic production, no matter how small. This has served to further discourage consumption while raising little, if any, revenue for the government.

MARKET STRUCTURE

The Maldives market is undeveloped both the economically and physically. Of paramount concern is the lack of refrigeration capability and facilities at all levels, except for the tourist resorts. At present all fresh fruits and vegetables are imported by air, and there are no storage facilities at the airport and only very limited facilities in Male'. Further, the few retail shops in Male' offering fresh fruits and vegetables do not generally have refrigeration. For the atolls and tourist resorts, imported produce arrives at the airport, is held there for several hours for clearance, is then transported to Male', where it is unlikely to be refrigerated. It is subsequently loaded on an inter-island boat and transported for an additional number of hours exposed to the elements. Many resorts are 4 to 8 hours away from Male' by sea, causing spoilage to be extremely high. One food service manager estimated that even for a hardy vegetable such as beetroot, 25 percent of the product imported from Sri Lanka spoiled.

Both retailers and hotels/institutional users tend to import directly from overseas, as there is no effective wholesale distributor in the country. An examination of the telephone yellow pages (Figure 2) under fruits and vegetables reveals only three listings, all of which are retail shops. Elsewhere in the yellow pages is a full page advertisement (Figure 3) for the closest the country comes to a wholesaler/importer, but even this company admits they are "fill-in" suppliers used when there is an unexpected surge in demand, an order does not arrive on time, or other unforeseen circumstances occur to prevent an end user from obtaining produce.

It is estimated that the market is divided equally between retail shops and institutional/hotel users.

TUTORIAL CLASSES

Knaara Tuition Class, Buruzu Magu, M	324467
Saadhaa Tuition Class, Light Signal, M	323489

VEGETABLES & FRUITS SUPPLIERS

AVOCADO, ROASHANEE MAGU, H	326689
Ever Fresh, Marine Drive, H	323462
Tasty Foods, Jaravari Goathi, Ma	325689

VIDEO SUPPLIERS

Aasmaah Video, Shaheed Ali Higu, M	328964
Ezzan Video, Light Sky, Mirhi Magu, G	329043
Favourite Video, Fandiyaaru Magu, M	328288
Fehivina Video, Lonuziyaarziy Magu, H	323921
Habeeb Video, Majeedhi Magu, M	325291
India Emporium, Faamudheyri Magu, M	323036
Khaleej Video, Chandhani Magu, Ma	323158
Moonlight Video, Majeedhi Magu, M	325830

Nazaki Video, Fandiyaaru Magu, M	323680
Video Sarook, Gulsthaanu Goathi, H	328456
Video Soft, Binmaage, Mirhi Magu, H	328764
Video Venus, Mirhi Magu, Ma	327259

WASHING MACHINE SUPPLIERS

India Emporium, Faamudheyri Magu, M	323036
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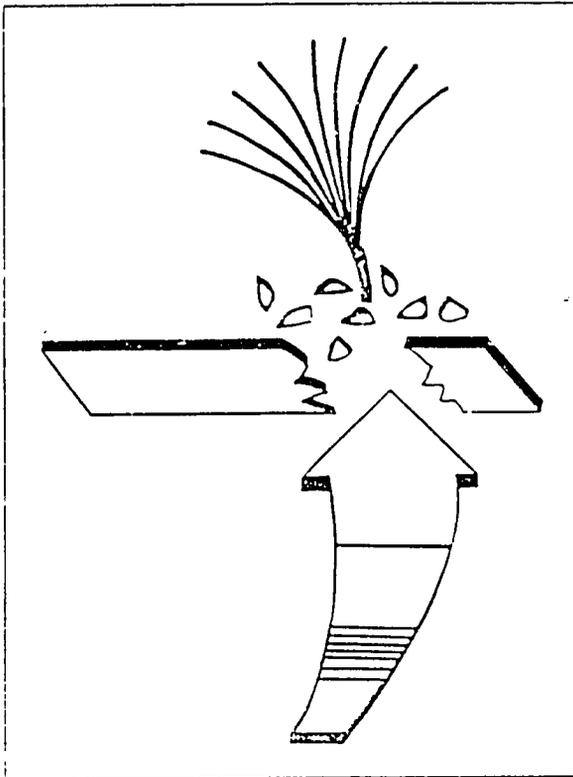
WATCH DEALERS

India Emporium, Faamudheyri Magu, M	323036
REEFSIDE CO. PVT. LTD., ORCHID MAGU, M	323545
Shop & Service Centre	322266
Fax	324595

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M A L E
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES.
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A. Retail market

As of March 1990, the population of the country was 213,215, (Table 7) of which 55,130, or 26 percent, lived in Male', the capital. Males outnumber females by about 20 percent in Male', reflecting greater job opportunities for men in the capital. As seen in Table 2, of the 202 inhabited islands, only 41 have populations greater than 1000 people. The dispersion of the remainder of the population over great distances and at low concentrations means that most islands have no market system and what fresh fruits and vegetables are available are sold by barter rather than through a formal market.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture states that Male' is the only market in the country, and this creates obvious problems for what little production is marketed.

In addition to the permanent population, there are an estimated 5,000 expatriate workers resident in the Maldives, 2,300 of whom are employed in Male' or Male' atoll.

The population of the Maldives is comparatively young, with more than 40 percent under the age of 15 (Table 8). While there are current labor shortages in the Maldives, the young average age of the population indicates that in the near future, employment creation will be a major necessity for the country. The young average age also indicates that it should be comparatively easy to change dietary intake patterns and increase consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, since the young are more susceptible to changes in lifestyle. This also means that a successful change at this point will have an effect for many years to come as dietary patterns, once changed, seldom revert back to old patterns.

Male' is the administrative and financial capital of the country, yet it has only a handful of poorly stocked grocery outlets. Of these, few attempt to keep fresh produce in chilled conditions. In an attempt to survey shops with refrigeration facilities of any type, more than 10 retail outlets (out of a total of a reported 26 which deal in any type of "fresh" produce) were surveyed and only two had any method of refrigeration. One of these relied solely on a single air conditioner to store produce which included grapes and strawberries.

Since electricity costs are 8 times the cost of Sri Lanka, operating costs for refrigeration units are a serious constraint.

With a population of more than 55,000, plus a "floating population" of several thousand who come to Male' to sell products, receive medical treatment, shop, or conduct other business, the capital has an extremely high population density

Table 7. Republic of Maldives; Population by location and gender; 1985 and 1990.

	1985			1990		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Republic	180088	93482	86606	213215	109336	103879
Male'	45874	25897	19977	55130	30150	24980
Atolls	134214	67585	66629	158085	79186	78899
Percent in Male'	25.5	27.7	23.1	25.9	27.6	24.0

Table 8. Republic of Maldives; Population by 5-year age groups; 1990.

Age group	Population	Percent of total
under 1	8,159	3.83
1 - 4	31,271	14.67
5 - 9	34,534	16.20
10 - 14	26,004	12.20
15 - 19	22,086	10.36
20 - 24	19,423	9.11
25 - 29	15,474	7.26
30 - 34	11,902	5.58
35 - 39	8,314	3.90
40 - 44	5,968	2.80
45 - 49	7,319	3.43
50 - 54	6,628	3.11
55 - 59	5,205	2.44
60 - 64	4,488	2.10
65+	5,754	2.70
Not stated	686	0.32
Total	213,215	100.00

(Male is approximately 1.5 square kilometers in area). This has two effects of concern to Shri Lankan exporters: 1) land and real estate costs are extremely high¹ thereby creating correspondingly high distribution and storage costs; and 2) population pressure in the capital has led the government to attempt to locate distributive services on adjacent islands, in particular Villingili. In the past ten years alone the population in Male' has more than doubled, primarily due to inter-island migration, and the government is actively seeking to develop other atolls to reduce this migration.

The normal range of items stocked for the majority of shops included cabbage, carrots, chillies, tomatoes, potatoes, and onions, while the "up-scale" markets expand the range to include apples and oranges. Two stores, obviously oriented to the tourist trade, stocked grapes, while one also included badly decaying strawberries. Inquiries revealed that the "up-scale" produce had been imported from Dubai by air, and an examination of the containers revealed Egyptian oranges, Iranian apples, and U.S. strawberries. As can be seen in Table 9, prices at retail stores are extremely high. It was noted that most fruits and vegetables tend to be priced at levels of Rf 15, Rf 20 or Rf 25 per kilo.

Table 10, extracted from official cost of living tables supplied by the Government, also indicates the high cost of fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as other consumables. Note that prices tend to be highest in the first and fourth quarters of the year during the height of the tourist season. Chillies at Rf 120 per kilo, bananas at Rf 4 each, mangoes at Rf 13 and limes at Rf 5 each should make the Shri Lankan consumer feel comparatively fortunate.

There is a "central market" which is the primary distribution point for bananas. There are perhaps 20 retailers operating from this market. The amounts marketed were very small. Other than bananas, the total weight of all other fruits and vegetables observed could not have exceeded 50 kilos, most of which was watermelon.

The Maldives has no history of fresh fruit and vegetable consumption and this is of concern to the Government and UNICEF. It is apparent that there is vitamin deficiency, but this subject has only recently begun to receive attention and detailed study. There is some local belief that the consumption of fresh tuna, a staple of the Maldivian diet, will obviate the requirement for fresh vegetables in particular, but tourism and increased

¹ It is alleged that recent real estate sales were at a rate of \$350 per square foot for land alone, and that even a small shop will command rents of \$1000 per month or more.

Table 9. Republic of Maldives.
Retail prices of selected
fruits and vegetables; SLAM grocery
store; Male'; April 1992.

Commodity	Price (Rf/kg)
Tomato	20.00
Beetroot	15.00
Leek	15.00
Lime	25.00
Carrot	15.00
Green chilli	25.00
Bean	15.00
Butternut	15.00
Brinjal	15.00
Pineapple	15.00
Cucumber	15.00
Bombay onion	8.00
Potato	8.00
Ginger	25.00
Radish	18.00
Lettuce	30.00
Cabbage	15.00
Grapes	80.00
Apple (each)	7.00
Orange (each)	6.00

Table 10. Republic of Maldives; Average retail prices of selected items; 1990.

Commodities	Unit	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Food					
Rice	kg	4.18	3.93	3.40	3.44
Flour	kg	4.26	4.14	3.76	3.30
Breadfruit	kg	15.33	14.00	12.00	18.00
Potato	kg	7.33	6.67	6.83	8.67
Sugar	kg	6.17	6.17	5.03	5.67
Jam	kg	17.65	17.40	17.65	17.40
Sweets	kg	34.17	25.00	28.75	27.08
Dhal	kg	9.52	9.33	9.56	9.75
Coconut	piece	1.32	1.25	1.09	1.46
Arecanut	kg	12.00	11.83	12.67	18.67
Onion	kg	7.33	7.33	7.75	9.00
Green chilli	100 grams	2.67	3.00	3.00	3.00
Thoraa	100 grams	2.67	3.00	3.67	3.33
Banana	12 pieces	16.00	16.67	14.00	11.33
Mango	piece	4.00	3.00	4.00	3.33
Lirne	piece	1.00	7.33	1.00	1.33
Fresh fish	kg	13.33	23.33	23.33	30.00
Dried fish	kg	11.67	16.67	14.00	20.17
Frozer chicken	kg	33.33	33.33	35.00	35.00
Egg	piece	1.07	1.04	1.25	1.17
Salt	kg	1.58	2.00	1.83	2.00
Dried chilli	kg	27.67	24.33	20.00	23.00
Mixed spices	packet	3.00	2.75	2.83	3.08
Coconut oil	1 litre	27.33	24.33	23.67	14.00
Cooking oil	kg	15.00	14.83	14.67	15.17
Margarine	500 grams	11.83	11.67	11.33	11.50
Nespray	kg	35.00	37.83	36.58	13.00
Condensed Milk	1 small tin	4.92	5.00	5.00	5.00
Tea leaves	kg	28.33	26.67	25.00	28.67
Coffee	50 grams	14.00	12.67	13.50	12.67
Rent (monthly)	one room	616.67	600.00	766.67	733.33
Firewood	bundle	6.33	6.33	6.67	8.67

exposure to Western dietary patterns will erode this belief over time. It is believed by some that there already exists substantial unfilled demand for a variety of fresh produce, but this demand is not being fulfilled due to extremely high prices caused by high distribution costs, excessive spoilage, the necessity for air freight, and in general a lack of supply.

While it is beyond the scope of this report to examine in detail the nutritional deficiencies of the Maldivian population, it is apparent from survey statistics in other countries that consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is extremely low:

- The 44th Annual Survey of Consumer Expenditures in the US reveals that an average American family spends \$6.07 per week for fresh produce in supermarkets (note that supermarkets do not account for all produce trade in the US, making this figure an underestimate of actual consumption). This would indicate \$26.30 per month for a household of 2.8 people, or \$9.39 per person per month. Note that the US Department of Agriculture and health organizations have announced a campaign to increase fresh fruit and vegetable consumption in the US, indicating that current consumption levels are too low.
- Comparable figures for the Maldives, even using the higher 1991 imports, indicate monthly per capita consumption of about \$2.40, and this assumes all imports are consumed by the Maldivians, and not by the tourist trade. This figure ignores domestic production, which, as we have seen, is negligible. Assuming that one half of all imports of fruits and vegetables are consumed by tourists, monthly per capita consumption falls to \$1.20, or 12.8 percent of US consumption. Since these import figures contain a high air freight cost component, and as it is likely that the tourist trade consumes both the higher quality and higher value fruits and vegetables, the actual quantity consumed by Maldivians is abysmally low.
- A recently released USDA study indicates per capita consumption of all fresh fruits and vegetables in the US is 228.1 pounds per year, or 101.8 kilos.
- Again ignoring negligible Maldives production, 1991 imports of fresh fruits and vegetables indicate a per capita consumption of 33.3 kilos. Assuming one half of imports are for the hotel and

tourist trade, this would mean that 16.7 kilos per capita are available, or about 17 percent of US consumption.

- While comparable Shri Lankan statistics are not immediately available, a comparative indicator is that while US families spend about \$27 for a family of 3 per month for fresh fruits and vegetables, a family of five in Shri Lanka will spend \$13.23, according to recently released family budget figures.

B. The hotel/tourist market

As can be seen in Table 11, the Maldives in 1990 had almost 218,000 tourists, an increase of 75 percent in a mere five year period. In Figure 4, international passenger arrivals by month are depicted.

Tourists are primarily European, and principally from Germany, Italy and the UK, (Table 12) although the number of tourists from Japan has been growing recently. The heavy dependence on the West European markets implies that the majority of tourists has fairly similar tastes and preferences. They will demand both temperate and tropical fresh fruits. European markets are known to supply high quality vegetables and fruits with abundant choice. While vacationing at expensive resort in Maldives, European tourists expect the same quality and variety of fruits and vegetables that they can acquire at home.

The growth in arrivals from Japan has prompted some resorts to be specifically designated "Japanese," which has implications for the types of foods demanded. For this reason, the magnitude of Japanese tourist arrivals should be reviewed periodically.

The National Development Plan for 1991 indicates a total bed capacity of about 7,700 in 1990, of which almost 5,300 were located in the Kaafu (Male') Atoll. The next atoll slated for tourism development is the atoll of Alifu, and bed capacity there has increased from 1,232 in 1988 to 1,790 in 1990, an increase of almost 50 percent. Alifu Atoll is reported to be an 8 hour journey by sea, and has necessitated development of specialized tourist transport to the resorts by speedboat and helicopter.

The imposition of new standards and building codes has increased capital costs per bed from \$12,000 in 1986 to \$30,000 in 1990. This indicates that the government intends to appeal to the up-scale tourist, who will in turn be more demanding in terms of food service. It is unlikely that a tourist spending \$200 per day or more will be satisfied with the present range and quality of fresh fruits and vegetables, especially when considering that most tourists come from a cold winter climate in Europe to the

Table 11. Republic of Maldives. Monthly passenger arrivals via international flights. 1986 – 1990.

Month	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
January	15,245	15,070	18,010	18,676	22,856
February	13,394	15,032	18,612	18,809	21,335
March	13,394	14,402	17,780	18,328	22,171
April	10,181	12,248	13,492	11,500	17,020
May	6,358	7,791	9,785	9,108	11,755
June	5,383	6,805	9,049	8,685	11,108
July	8,351	10,179	12,618	13,489	17,408
August	10,095	11,946	15,695	14,875	19,061
September	7,810	9,833	13,338	13,235	16,675
October	8,870	10,194	13,729	14,999	17,909
November	10,308	12,568	11,842	16,230	18,621
December	14,633	16,034	16,077	19,406	22,034
Total	124,022	142,102	170,027	177,340	217,953

Figure 4

Monthly passenger arrivals; Republic of Maldives; 1989 - 1990.

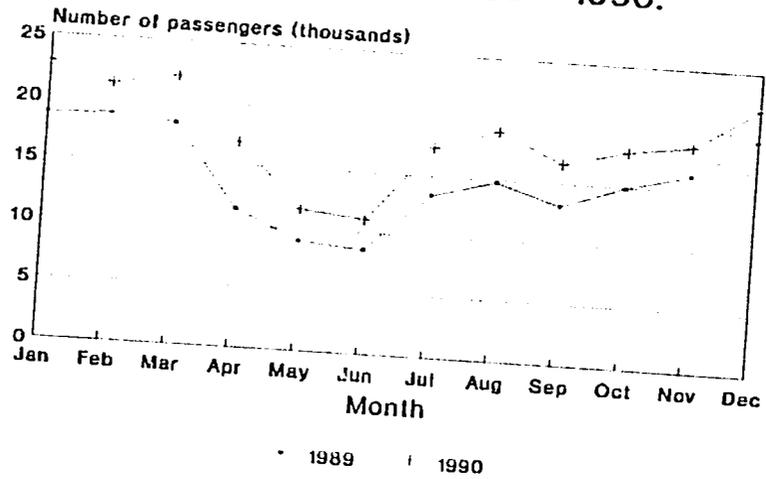


Table 12. Republic of Maldives. Toursit arrivals by major generating markets; 1988 – 1990.

	1988	% change	1989	% change	1990	% change	% share (of 1990)
Europe							
Germany	40855	10.5	36048	-11.8	41728	15.8	24.3
Italy	28329	20.5	30945	9.2	39808	28.6	23.2
U.K.	10406	45.0	15855	52.4	22684	43.1	13.2
Switzerland	9853	20.8	9248	-6.1	11022	19.2	6.4
France	7114	5.6	8022	12.8	10685	33.2	6.2
Austria	6563	28.3	5968	-9.1	6832	14.5	4.0
Scandinavia							
Denmark	860	77.7	1066	24.0	1012	-5.1	0.6
Finland	1685	103.0	1654	-1.8	1725	4.3	1.0
Norway	1120	22.5	1077	-3.8	1110	3.1	0.6
Sweden	7197	79.9	7510	4.3	8111	8.0	4.7
Asia							
Hong Kong	66	-1.5	727	1001.5	2128	192.7	1.2
India	8336	23.2	5701	-31.6	7423	30.2	4.3
Japan	11092	3.2	11833	6.7	13927	17.7	8.1
Oceania							
Australia	2726	-28.1	2573	-5.6	3340	29.8	1.9

real or imagined "lush" tropics. It is perhaps noteworthy that one hotel, charging \$175 per day, was serving canned fruit cocktail from the US as a luncheon dessert, while their salad offerings contained only cabbage, carrots and red bell peppers.

Occupancy rates vary from a high exceeding 90 percent in February, to 30 percent in May and June, with a slight increase in the month of August, a traditional vacation period in some European countries. Hoteliers interviewed in conjunction with this report indicated occupancy rates of 85 to 90 percent year round.

Some success has been met in reducing the seasonality of tourist arrivals (Table 13), with a general "flattening" of occupancy rates. Note that while May and June are dismal for tourism, occupancy rates for the "off season" months of Mar-Apr and Aug-Nov have increased, indicating that demand for fresh fruits and vegetables is now more consistent year round.

Bed capacity targets for 1993 show an increase to 3,065, serving 260,560 arrivals for a total of 2.1 million tourist nights. The Maldives is fortunate in that the average length of stay for tourists in the country is more than 8 nights, high by international standards.

A ten year zoning plan for tourism to the year 2000 has been developed. It indicates that future atoll development for tourism will center on Addu, Thiladunmathi and Haddunmathi Atolls. As these atolls are at the extreme Northern and Southern ends of the Republic, distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables will become even more difficult, although Addu Atoll, in the extreme South, is currently served by an airport. This southern airport is to be developed into a second international terminal for the country.

As mentioned above, resorts have serious difficulty obtaining fresh fruits and vegetables, leading them to devise their own methods of supply. The severity of the problem has caused the Hotel Association to adopt cooperative procurement of food and other inputs as its main objective. Hotel and tourist operators interviewed are aware of some customer dissatisfaction with food variety and quality. They are also aware the problem will worsen if the government is successful at attracting more sophisticated up-scale consumers. Since a large portion of the tourist trade is handled by overseas group and tour operators, the problem is to some extent hidden from hotel operators and the Government as the most vociferous complaints are voiced not to the hotel operators in the Maldives, but rather to the tour operators in Germany and Italy. One food service operator volunteered that he was astonished that on a trip to Germany he was bombarded with complaints about food since he had received few, if any, complaints in the Maldives. His concern, correctly,

**Table 13. Republic of Maldives. Bed occupancy rate by month;
1985 – 1990.**

Month	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
January	79.10	74.20	79.40	85.60	80.20	79.40
February	81.60	71.70	80.90	84.70	79.70	83.70
March	71.70	70.90	73.40	81.60	72.00	75.30
April	58.20	56.00	62.10	62.80	46.70	62.30
May	40.80	32.50	40.30	41.50	31.80	34.80
June	29.90	23.50	30.30	33.90	25.50	31.00
July	42.00	37.10	48.00	49.10	38.70	45.40
August	56.30	50.00	60.80	61.80	52.20	63.00
September	48.10	39.50	50.20	56.10	45.70	53.40
October	52.30	43.30	53.90	57.70	49.90	58.30
November	51.20	51.10	63.90	57.30	59.20	65.50
December	60.00	61.40	71.80	62.30	63.80	71.70
Annual average	55.93	50.93	59.58	61.20	53.78	60.32

was that this could lead to a long term decline in tourist traffic.

CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORTATION

There is no regularly scheduled ferry service between the islands. "Dhonis", locally constructed wooden vessels, account for the majority of inter-island traffic. Arrivals and departures are frequent and are a convenient though sometimes slow method of transportation. In addition, Air Maldives operates regular service between Male and two of the southern most and northern most atolls.

There are currently 11 chartered airlines offering service directly from Europe to Male', and five scheduled carriers, including Air Lanka, Emirates, Singapore Airlines, Pakistan International Airlines, and Indian Airlines. Daily flight arrivals vary from a low of five to a high of fifteen, depending on the season.

Reported freight rates range from \$1.25 per kilo from Dubai, to \$0.45 from Shri Lanka and \$0.30 from India.

In 1990, Male' international airport handled more than 8,000 tons of air cargo, and shipped 7.5 tons within the country. An in-flight catering service, a joint venture between the government and Singapore Airlines was established in 1989.

Reported shipping time from Colombo to Male' by sea is 36 hours, but as a practical matter, importers count on four days to allow for delays at Customs and to secure lighter services. For unrefrigerated produce, four days shipping time is too long to maintain quality.

Inter-island transportation of both passengers and freight is primarily by sea. The Asian Development Bank has estimated that Male' to atoll traffic is about 18,000 tons. While there are about 13,000 registered vessels, more than 75 percent of these are fishing vessels, and it is estimated that only 200 vessels are engaged in inter-atoll transport of goods and passengers.

Recent upgrading of the Port of Male' has meant that container traffic can now be handled, and some 1800 containers per year are off-loaded. Presently under development, the Port will have separate areas for inter-island and international traffic. The international area can presently handle 4 to 5 lighters simultaneously.

The Government is pursuing a program to deepen 54 harbors on selected islands to a depth of 2.5 meters, as it realizes that inter-island transport is a key to future economic development.

TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS TO TRADE

Import licensing appears to be employed only when the government is concerned with balance of payments problems or inflation. At present, there are no licenses required for fresh fruits and vegetables. Exchange control regulations are minimal and conversations with several importers revealed no difficulty in obtaining requisite currencies for the payment of import bills.

With regard to tariffs, imports of fresh fruits and vegetables have a 20 percent duty. There is a protective tariff of 200 percent on fresh fruits and vegetables that are grown in the Maldives. Thus, importers of banana, papaya, and watermelon, for instance, are charged 200 percent duty, making these items prohibitively expensive. In addition, while Customs regulations specify, for instance, a 200 percent duty on watermelon, this has been liberally interpreted by Customs officers to include all melons.

Interviews with Customs, Agriculture and Trade Ministry officials revealed, however, that the government realizes that they are protecting a non-existent agricultural industry, to the detriment of Maldivian consumers. The case of watermelons is perhaps the most bizarre, since the protected parties grow watermelon only for Ramadan, yet the tariff applies to all imported melons year round.

FOOD SAFETY AND PHYTO-SANITARY REQUIREMENTS

There are no food safety regulations currently in force, as it is assumed that all imports are safe for human consumption. There is a requirement for phytosanitary certificates. However, enforcing the requirement is difficult in view of the many scattered islands of the country.

TERMS OF TRADE

Terms of trade vary by class of customer/importer. The larger, more organized resorts make direct orders and are able to insist on 30 to 60 days credit. The smaller importers generally pay cash on delivery. Shri Lankan exporters reveal that they generally export products only against firm orders, and receive cash before sending the next order, unless it is a client of long standing. However, even under this circumstance, extended credit

is not generally the custom. Maldivian importers have a general reputation as being poor credit risks and slow payers.

Due to the small average order size, there is no history of using letters of credit, especially since they would add to already high costs.

SPECIFIC CROPS

Table 14 delineates imports by crop by month into the Maldives. The leading vegetable imports are onions, potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers, "spinach," beans and chillies. It should be noted that these are preliminary figures and that the July imports of onions of almost Rf 4 million appear to be in error. Regardless, onions are still the leading import.

The leading fruit imports are pineapple, arecanut, lime, cherries, oranges and apples. The inclusion of cherries is suspicious and reported imports of Rf 1.5 million in May appear in error.

There appears to be a "base" volume of about 200 to 300 tons per month for vegetables and 100 to 200 tons for fruits, with additions to the base amount dependent on peaks in tourist arrivals.

Removal of the 200 percent tariff on papaya, watermelon and other fruits which could be sourced from Shri Lanka should result in marked increases in trade in those commodities.

For both fruits and vegetables, emphasis is on those items which can be imported at ambient temperatures, which have a fairly long shelf life without refrigeration and which can be consumed rapidly.

Table 15 delineates Shri Lanka's exports of fresh fruits and vegetables to the Maldives for calendar 1990, as extracted from Shri Lanka External Trade Statistics, 1990. The data are included mainly to provide information on the value of exports. Stress should not be placed not the volumes or weights of individual commodities.

It is known that Shri Lankan Customs Officers are experience difficulty in recording weight and/or volume statistics, at least partially reflecting the difficulty of recording the weights of individual fruits and vegetables being shipped as part of a mixed load. This results in ambiguous statistics. For example, of the Rs 78 million of fresh fruits and vegetables exported to Maldives, more Rs 35 million is recorded as "other" vegetables, and more than Rs 8 million as "other" fruit.

Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.
(in kg and Rf)

Item	January		February		March		April		May		June	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Potatoes	82,348	419,846	41,644	225,970	101,766	488,850	46,638	255,944	71,025	333,111	70,915	339,479
Tomatoes	30,335	383,865	31,643	408,684	22,650	287,984	30,574	355,881	21,178	279,639	36,505	511,755
Onions	107,857	1,124,774	46,543	426,309	178,305	957,164	90,620	410,999	32,288	170,088	74,755	385,651
Shallots	107,857	252			28	427	9	111	3	195		
Garlic	3,543	45,655	2,274	22,233	6,270	67,204	5,738	41,248	15,861	121,612	2,127	23,219
Leeks	5,575	49,081	6,313	54,490	4,979	50,312	4,849	41,023	4,400	40,642	3,694	31,615
Chives	8	543	1,173	2,076	30	671	12	1,711	105	2,102	79	1,055
Cauliflower	1,000	24,341	778	18,305	2,586	33,933	593	17,271	772	21,044	652	11,161
Broccoli	205	5,446			2,196	10,310	19	1,254	12	2,534	51	1,399
Brussels Sprouts	174	4,600			58	1,517	42	2,058	38	1,423	65	2,696
Cabbages	33,527	220,784	37,159	271,048	17,601	252,667	27,343	195,138	26,885	198,911	28,048	205,406
Lettuce	3,013	87,510	3,922	98,972	3,086	132,635	3,550	76,163	1,988	60,543	1,370	41,243
Chicory	5	79	5,010	1,056	37	423	5	104	1	35		
Carrots	23,406	209,232	25,679	242,780	20,756	198,564	19,446	174,797	19,105	188,556	17,384	152,708
Turnips	236	1,933	484	4,247	319	4,423	147	1,422	332	4,147	445	4,514
Beetroot	4,492	35,107	4,211	33,697	4,210	36,812	4,433	38,072	4,145	40,191	3,368	27,837
Raddish	761	6,524	1,288	12,167	1,178	9,545	724	15,068	586	5,981	619	7,451
Cucumber	13,935	88,688	13,651	91,838	12,835	82,621	109,548	99,839	11,097	106,951	8,923	102,967
Gherkins	694	5,765	746	6,772	986	9,440	874	9,504	348	3,445	1,791	10,600
Peas	2,324	27,749	428	3,958	295	11,023			145	5,702	109	2,577
Beans	14,774	125,798	11,643	105,502	10,739	132,466	14,198	117,553	10,272	111,694	10,204	113,386
Asparagus	388	17,763	40	256	512	28,325	373	13,161	62	12,671	2,022	38,994
Eggplant	1,806	11,206	2,214	14,230	1,784	11,082	1,953	11,908	1,221	9,101	1,115	7,471
Celery	2,469	6,306	1,547	8,418	2,156	6,412	346	5,180	185	5,111	232	3,772
Mushrooms	1,117	30,663	73	10,153	256	16,368	2,124	51,080	394	10,023	160	4,484
Capsicum	2,350	29,977	2,822	28,439	2,854	31,967	2,614	24,021	3,294	37,547	1,844	21,526
Green Chillies	9,807	109,808	10,393	120,904	22,094	241,482	9,310	105,077	9,778	107,533	10,230	112,217
Paprika (Fresh)	174	9,909	262	19,386	167	13,655	102	8,675	251	10,299	128	7,099
Spinach	815	15,630	440	4,218	900	19,312	1,910	52,698	748	14,170	228	2,492
Mixed Vegetables	4,484	59,773	115,624	87,500	2,273	39,129	4,998	54,304	2,111	69,941	2,795	31,550
Brinjals	12,234	49,653	7,634	79,924	6,002	43,917	6,048	43,439	5,957	69,218	7,451	54,880
Parsely	1,498	16,163	1,505	20,133	705	13,026	617	10,980	687	9,581	1,882	8,628
Ladies Fingers	707	5,243	770	5,704	622	4,345	639	4,642	974	7,095	1,065	7,256
Coriander Leaves	36	406	45	260	101	1,431	1,028	5,069	41	574	49	518
Mint Leaves	19	361	2	71	11	184	12	251	8	57	8	449
Curry Leaves	544	3,496	4,280	3,745	824	3,263	306	5,780	748	9,197	1,594	3,873
Snakegourd	713	5,503	774	5,040	556	4,018	696	4,489	614	5,004	513	5,639
Bittergourd	144	1,605	202	1,262	108	876	109	1,224	183	1,344	237	2,328
Drumsticks	23	198	26	240	287	3,278	93	603	57	853	153	2,442
Gotukola	96	1,453	151	1,608	219	1,797	184	3,147	312	2,040	273	3,462
Pumpkins	189	1,270	398	3,028	465	4,144	552	3,658			1,556	11,207
Salad Leaves	249	5,055	295	4,512	501	9,697	439	5,056	587	8,111	878	9,957
Knolkhol	48	399	34	245	31	248	38	321	64	796	17	161

Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.
(in kg and Rf)

Item	July		August		September		October		November		December		Total Qty	Total Value
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value		
Potatoes	43,620	396,130	30,211	176,067	86,411	435,332	69,541	240,071	97,257	406,861	62,709	274,303	804,085	3,991,984
Tomatoes	23,055	265,872	20,092	256,924	24,300	319,661	26,074	417,800	28,490	342,361	32,088	385,836	326,984	4,216,262
Onions	103,886	3,985,616	9,740	25,168	147,700	997,906	98,293	424,439	71,649	394,837	200,626	762,683	1,162,262	10,065,634
Shallots	12	36,560	1	84	3,008	11,771	2	72			33	615	110,953	50,087
Garlic	5,612	44,730	4,072	33,511	15,048	128,753	1,652	8,908	3,244	29,357	13,636	90,097	79,077	656,530
Leeks	9,461	80,357	14,876	74,606	5,099	71,021	8,536	53,906	5,048	52,659	5,124	49,325	77,914	649,040
Chives	130	458	28	448	113	912	31	682	756	14,419	371	4,688	2,836	29,800
Cauliflower	5,065	59,180	916	16,187	1,422	24,466	915	18,138	1,847	43,448	1,420	24,675	17,982	286,149
Broccoli	104	3,322	166	5,485	16	1,358	68	3,172	141	2,536	160	8,216	3,138	45,034
Brussels Sprouts	66	1,782	10	50			20	523	21	437	144	5,643	638	20,729
Cabbages	29,565	206,358	23,546	166,208	30,001	224,176	35,375	315,103	34,586	259,091	35,698	256,259	359,529	2,771,149
Lettuce	2,346	227,036	2,534	66,158	2,472	78,410	4,966	85,206	2,479	68,489	2,807	76,044	34,533	1,098,409
Chicory	15	1,135	1	396	6	461	2	152	9	1,134	8	380	5,099	5,355
Carrots	21,168	198,969	17,349	155,502	22,772	202,652	26,343	238,114	23,641	323,419	25,676	233,481	262,725	2,518,774
Turnips	486	9,204	646	5,553	499	5,348	1,998	5,105	435	4,100	1,241	11,239	7,268	61,235
Beetroot	4,600	44,484	3,772	31,392	5,450	36,661	4,928	40,388	4,418	35,022	3,905	35,729	51,932	435,392
Raddish	860	11,819	1,725	5,691	567	5,200	621	6,666	1,418	9,772	1,033	7,732	10,710	103,616
Cucumber	10,958	110,134	10,435	74,579	12,676	87,214	13,647	90,251	14,953	109,803	15,100	123,521	247,558	1,168,406
Gherkins	1,577	103,531	1,367	11,305	1,550	15,038	2,066	19,674	1,036	10,522	1,904	9,443	14,939	215,039
Peas	498	6,057	50	374	16,245	117,484	144	4,155	273	4,059	1,837	20,103	22,348	203,211
Beans	15,589	101,925	8,960	113,284	12,737	141,232	12,073	108,964	11,463	108,759	13,488	399,423	146,140	1,679,986
Asparagus	97	14,784	198	10,513	1,382	29,365	1,361	24,961	711	18,764	537	18,235	7,683	227,842
Eggplant	1,702	12,195	1,500	10,543	1,489	10,513			1,773	12,341	1,978	13,405	18,535	123,995
Celery	444	6,236	239	4,676	825	6,174	712	10,369	462	7,709	528	17,375	10,145	87,738
Mushrooms	287	7,087	57	2,432	779	24,762	448	18,197	9,436	30,831	4,730	62,323	19,861	268,403
Capsicum	2,852	27,671	2,121	23,307	2,112	29,978	2,758	47,784	2,801	26,456	2,349	28,690	30,771	356,363
Green Chillies	11,131	136,191	7,200	84,637	13,567	212,833	11,332	157,753	11,354	149,704	12,433	210,594	138,689	1,748,733
Paprika (Fresh)	195	3,000	155	8,344	221	14,657	207	11,453	82	4,500	378	18,461	2,322	135,438
Spinach	1,167	17,652	510	7,788	1,294	21,146	285	2,265	693	13,109	812	9,655	9,802	180,135
Mixed Vegetables	1,677	362,530	8,381	279,948	5,172	41,734	1,177	27,560	2,781	42,514	1,619	29,414	153,092	1,124,397
Binjals	7,651	54,382	5,338	40,738	7,282	52,206	7,481	60,229	7,274	51,900	8,218	59,714	88,570	660,200
Parsely	3,438	10,443	378	8,499	940	9,371	2,193	10,184	2,199	12,938	569	16,312	16,611	146,258
Ladies Fingers	1,516	12,917	813	6,079	929	8,377	1,086	19,437	1,268	8,157	1,093	8,904	11,182	98,156
Coriander Leaves	366	1,486	162	2,288	74	1,052	90	778	521	2,818	186	2,066	2,699	18,746
Mint Leaves	764	185	13	83	42	429	29	322	50	174	48	764	1,006	3,330
Curry Leaves	2,487	11,388	389	3,662	2,694	13,951	1,063	8,979	2,277	15,026	2,020	16,591	19,226	98,951
Snakegourd	658	5,263	428	4,394	786	7,363	559	3,887	599	11,472	664	5,200	7,560	67,272
Bittergourd	315	3,329	253	2,541	206	1,617	350	2,324	297	1,792	1,800	1,805	4,204	22,047
Drumsticks	5,180	4,376	268	5,297	209	6,194	240	7,120	488	11,217	126	1,910	7,150	43,678
Gotukola	360	5,211	209	2,462	447	3,656	336	4,193	270	3,074	284	4,225	3,141	36,328
Pumpkins	522	4,767	327	2,418	330	2,781	508	4,229	518	4,084	950	11,747	6,315	53,331
Salad Leaves	2,177	8,485	974	20,412	331	5,117	346	4,771	201	4,164	908	11,707	7,886	94,044
Knolkhol			6	51	2	14	35	303	80	818	1	8	356	3,364

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Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.

(in kg and Rf)

Item	January		February		March		April		May		June	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Kankun	327	1,996	317	2,566	267	2,163	304	2,107	302	2,398	219	2,330
Garaka	12	368	10	234	159	448	22	350	16	213	11	187
Mikumuwenna	93	825	188	1,933	120	2,357	130	1,153	143	1,346	257	2,442
Bottlegourd	27	250					5	267	20	764		
Lentils	1,130	7,661	68	1,150	455	2,003	1,030	7,221	106	1,062	4,179	28,690
Dhal	20,555	151,649	24,691	186,452	1,928	9,768	15,808	85,731	8,287	48,481	10,710	75,199
Sweet Potato	161	646	114	595	4,139	4,897	4,635	6,911	37	272	91	923
Yam	50	160	12	107	5	532	30	3,452	62	779	5	62
Cashew Nuts	267	28,276	95	11,242	156	15,813	350	21,922	122	15,543	192	22,836
Almonds	266	17,989			270	5,198	46	3,826	6	1,166	74	3,764
Arccanuts	46,887	402,608	24,172	179,273	142,311	913,250	38,045	329,144	33,550	272,507	42,500	380,970
Peanuts	10,001	26,434	108	730	5,059	61,137	4,439	10,849	528	17,484	1,945	20,586
Bananas	344	9,935	684	10,741	3,231	11,145	803	5,110	583	6,815	481	4,895
Dates	59,540	3,218	10,144	46,762	111,245	212,474	238	12,580	87	2,716	13	224
Figs	55	4,286	64	619	5	178						
Pineapples	58,787	411,616	56,500	486,061	92,588	699,128	52,618	368,519	53,174	402,213	28,621	207,535
Avocadoes	775	16,042	998	30,881	1,032	25,988	687	20,691	467	17,170	593	14,242
Guava	570	6,119	786	10,677	5,249	35,222	5,098	59,286	1,441	15,270	295	7,231
Mangoes	3,352	61,110	2,358	50,207	3,885	77,623	2,793	47,958	1,325	112,001	2,750	61,803
Oranges	5,298	21,431	6,793	98,242	9,072	110,168	10,377	119,281	9,755	113,721	2,352	30,018
Mandarine	828	8,764	600	7,099	40	461	13	297	56	11,560	45	903
Lime	13,602	183,003	18,116	245,329	16,822	218,605	12,222	226,640	19,198	252,874	14,873	204,908
Lemon	1,300	23,359	1,434	25,170	2,041	92,001	4,277	51,331	1,227	18,289		
Grapofruit	555	9,250	390	8,485	431	8,251	972	33,909	427	9,930	403	8,825
Passionfruit	22,016	95,000	1,599	14,591	1,928	18,509	2,269	26,697	1,232	21,462	1,111	17,710
Grapes	1,122	30,560	1,222	33,025	1,166	45,388	1,171	32,450	813	22,501	597	19,528
Watermelons	854	11,341	592	15,616	18,532	57,785	14,690	70,809	482	10,654	245	5,795
Papaws	1,396	10,174	1,724	13,422	50,577	1,170	8,616	3,412	11,279	1,155	9,931	
Apples	6,287	77,140	5,262	69,984	11,469	150,449	3,536	62,731	4,707	71,381	3,072	44,190
Pears	651	16,501	96	3,326	679	17,872	843	24,674	519	24,164	560	18,942
Apricots	126	5,640					34	1,968	442	12,925	87	2,559
Cherries	606	63,453	17	1,123	146	7,307	1,559	19,638	665	1,489,528	379	12,144
Peaches	136	1,489	2	145	593	9,736	101	14,751	305	11,239	342	10,748
Nectanne	8	372	400	3,864	45	810	15	439				
Plums	37	901	40	2,426	153	4,174	198	2,234	57	1,771	84	2,275
Strawberries	112	6,155	30	2,155	50,158	13,828	21	1,042	37	2,042	13	9,389
Raspberries	41	3,813	40	4,023			69	2,470	18	1,085	2	133
Blackberries	15	738			1,000	11,579						
Jackfruits	79	418	172	2,378	432	2,603	747	4,442	119	995	166	1,427

Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.
(in kg and Rf)

Item	July		August		September		October		November		December		Total	Total
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Kankun	325	6,708	134	1,420	204	12,596	277	5,867	185	1,911	8,367	2,411	11,228	44,868
Garaku	32	356	24	207	51	453	91	1,571	6	99	28	269	462	4,755
Mukunmwoma	347	2,871	178	1,708	258	2,612	261	2,396	201	2,048	249	2,419	2,426	24,110
Butterground							2	13					51	1,294
Lentils	708	4,264	100	2,327	416	1,603	85	700	6,496	35,305	982	1,662	16,053	93,558
Dhal	4,095	27,964	7,752	48,860	51,376	332,622	10,631	111,817	35,680	238,536	17,010	102,829	208,525	1,419,608
Sweet Potato	22	246	38	280	2,128	1,034	2,549	2,592	5,177	6,074	3,830	10,305	23,221	35,679
Yam	85	1,094	45	587	33	949	59	734	46	391	87	290	519	9,137
Cashew Nuts	229	13,570	200	14,900	227	28,446	5,979	71,585	1,314	45,766	527	48,563	9,688	341,232
Almonds	45	5,584			21	1,436	13	1,622	41	3,739	146	14,099	928	59,437
Arecanuts	42,090	446,776	29,364	394,600	49,065	444,508	48,516	578,857	24,112	411,708	52,266	597,815	572,850	5,352,016
Peanuts	716	23,681			10,730	120,718	120,789	361,338	177,492	23,680	2,997	82,996	334,804	761,633
Bananas	499	4,391	398	3,525	663	5,370	360	3,085	287	2,909	562	7,134	9,398	75,055
Dates	24	923	78	2,844	81	3,223	46	1,874	92	4,465	182	3,672	181,770	294,975
Figs	100	666	11	682	13	873	8	646	33	767	75	927	364	9,444
Pineapples	30,018	345,860	39,057	520,576	49,951	379,766	67,818	418,550	53,427	580,970	58,894	438,097	650,403	5,258,801
Avocados	694	15,328	528	16,936	884	19,368	908	22,532	636	21,283	827	22,820	9,029	243,281
Guava	1,160	8,768	1,053	10,769	652	6,058	682	7,716	901	8,451	691	6,707	19,081	182,214
Mangoes	3,005	65,674	2,047	48,982	2,111	40,504	2,884	61,277	2,697	72,953	3,701	85,137	35,871	787,632
Oranges	7,875	113,632	5,565	54,139	22,259	387,503	8,416	156,608	9,211	118,287	8,496	127,160	105,389	1,538,691
Mandarin	58	1,317	295	2,498	106	1,116	348	4,824	192	3,784	435	6,862	3,006	49,417
Lime	20,504	275,619	14,439	192,767	19,026	277,968	17,825	251,715	22,173	445,744	19,253	287,173	213,063	3,065,345
Lemon	1,277	22,227	1,009	19,473	1,126	20,198	1,297	26,528	1,651	30,195	2,785	43,978	1,424	378,249
Grapefruit	691	12,527	276	8,010	552	15,844	913	12,130	202	5,146	464	12,933	6,276	145,240
Passionfruit	3,916	30,580	1,579	21,916	3,458	31,719	3,114	25,445	1,175	13,604	2,515	37,664	46,412	354,897
Grapes	745	22,645	767	22,193	1,275	37,908	1,478	34,055	3,701	53,548	2,245	62,438	15,792	421,239
Watermelons	322	6,065	207	3,444	1,359	12,538	921	12,477	997	18,567	2,367	25,278	41,528	250,369
Papaws	1,899	22,551	1,781	16,255	1,551	15,311	2,750	17,619	1,825	17,431	2,144	20,577	34,560	211,368
Apples	4,035	94,857	4,652	60,241	18,014	217,459	18,254	194,540	19,661	222,875	8,410	111,561	108,259	1,377,408
Pears	48	12,666	910	27,843	751	12,225	11,861	81,157	2,013	33,926	1,759	36,772	20,710	310,068
Apricots			359	2,871	76	7,031	9	64	286	10,071	43	2,762	1,462	44,991
Cherries	239	16,348	60	17,182	298	15,921	74	973	4,978	27,672	531	16,613	9,552	1,693,002
Peaches	19	4,991	660	20,233	1,374	21,061	595	12,892	601	11,501	176	10,116	1,844	131,905
Hexamine					3	32							471	5,514
Plums	33	320	3	63	30	717	100	1,435	25	1,187	148	9,122	908	26,328
Strawberries	72	5,146	70	17,172	137	19,204	39	3,646	93	6,438	623	19,483	51,435	105,718
Raspberries	48	4,573	10	560	25	4,038	2	171	89	2,231	36	3,404	390	26,675
Blackberries	100	7,391									2	135	1,117	22,843
Jackfruits	219	1,797	226	1,407	338	3,948	118	921	116	357	552	5,900	3,284	26,543

**Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.
(in kg and Rf)**

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Item	January		February		March		April		May		June	
	Qty	Value										
Kiwi Fruits	104	2,723	30	1,042	236	7,979	71	1,785	53	4,713	117	2,586
Pomegranates	126	3,281	537	8,281	190	4,472	231	6,604	145	3,212	80	2,039
Rambutan	91	4,292	52	3,059	602	9,765	60	4,732	3	41	165	3,589
Soursop	6	60	13	95	223	15,770	460	3,119	3	25		
Litchi	30	790										
Cheril			20	824								
Mangosteen			6	113	169	2,695	114	3,275	20	245	8	180
Blackcurrants			20	1,054	40	1,264	9	103	1,440	65,326	3	524
Breadfruit					2	12			6	43	58	539
Starfruit					83	1,811	21	525			10	479
Beldfruit					22	261						
Woodapple					142	1,732	61	677				
Custard Apples					21	279	30	276				
Dutians							18	362				
Sapodilla							20	167	77	858		
Blueberries									1	315	5	33
Assorted Fruits												
Total	735,106	5,032,556	544,604	4,031,768	936,588	6,225,987	581,223	4,012,933	398,090	5,172,236	414,922	3,570,351

Table 14. Republic of Maldives. Monthly imports of fresh fruits and vegetables, 1991.
(in kg and Rf)

Item	July		August		September		October		November		December		Total	Total
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value										
Kiwi Fruits	75	6,346	41	1,352	88	2,896	73	2,689	76	3,591	213	6,058	1,177	43,760
Pomegranates	116	2,533	226	3,201	66	1,040	315	7,248	297	6,916	320	7,460	2,649	56,287
Rambutan	1,608	19,845	262	5,130	397	10,797	110	2,723	84	5,641	22	1,582	3,476	71,196
Soursop	5	59	8	90	9	132	5	42			18	149	750	19,541
Litchi			136	3,314									166	4,104
Cheril	60	91											80	915
Mangosteen	680	49,097	441	6,593	1,214	28,266	471	4,446	191	5,282	156	6,776	3,470	106,968
Blackcurrants					1,942	44,116	141	7,252	41	2,652	54	5,053	3,690	127,344
Breadfruit	82	724	78	813			9	69	8	70			243	2,270
Starfruit			16	96	13	692	5	38	9	206	85	1,457	242	5,302
Bellfruit	114	1,056	15	133			78	315					229	1,765
Woodapple	10	251	7	148	4	198					6	83	230	3,089
Custard Apples	1	23									15	891	67	1,469
Dumans					17	276							35	638
Sapodilla	37	551			8	172	29	498	17	363	79	1,820	267	4,419
Blueberries	50	4,928			28	3,109					5	899	89	9,184
Assorted Fruits											5	41	5	41
Total	462,872	8,299,147	294,351	3,324,447	673,591	6,012,953	671,232	5,028,668	727,424	5,168,545	667,182	5,629,928	7,106,985	61,513,519

While reported exports of more than Rs 19 million of arecanut would appear highly questionable, since this is one half the level of reported exports to Pakistan and would mean that every man, woman and child in the Maldives was purchasing about Rs 100 worth (FOB value) of Shri Lankan arecanuts, such exports are in fact born out by Maldives imports statistics, which indicate 1991 imports of about \$500,000, or Rs 20 million.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Imports into the Maldives are constrained in both variety and amount by the lack of refrigeration at all levels, high prices, low quality, high tariffs and the necessity of air freight.

There is an existing and unfilled demand for exotic tropical fruits of a wide variety to serve the hotel/tourist trade. This demand will increase as hotel rates increase and more sophisticated and demanding tourists travel to the Maldives.

Removal of high tariffs, planned for 1992, should result in increased imports of melons, papaya and other fruits that can readily be grown in Shri Lanka. The Government of Shri Lanka should insure that the Government of the Maldives does indeed remove these inhibitory tariffs.

The lack of available sea transport with refrigerated container space serving the Maldives forces imports to be transported by air. Encouragement should be given to the initiation of a refrigerated cargo service, albeit modest, on a routine basis. Such a service would enable Shri Lankan produce to be offered at significantly lower prices. This would drive competitors from the market and/or erect a barrier for other nations to overcome in attempting to serve the market. Refrigerated cargo service from Shri Lanka would fully exploit the latent transport advantage possessed by Shri Lankan producers. Such a service should be a private sector initiative, perhaps with limited government support. Recent upgrading of the Port of Male' makes such a service possible.

Similarly, the lack of refrigerated storage and display space limits consumption. The variety and quality of fruits and vegetables on offer are constrained by an inability to store product properly. An initial step to overcome this obstacle is to support the establishment of a Shri Lankan facility in Male' capable of storing small amounts of produce. This test might involve initial subsidization of air freight to determine the price elasticity of demand resulting from a comprehensive program of sea freight and storage.

There is an apparent vitamin deficiency in the Maldives caused by low levels of fruit and vegetable consumption. A combined educational and promotional campaign with Government, trade association or even multilateral agency support should be considered to increase consumption levels by Maldivians. Such a program would redound to the benefit of Shri Lankan farmers, in view of the current high market share enjoyed by Shri Lanka.

Table 15. Shri Lanka; Exports of fruits and vegetables to Maldives; 1990.

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Classification	Commodity	(SL Rs.)
070110	Potato seed	23,810
070190	Other	686,602
0702	Tomato	773,648
0703	Onion and shallots	332,466
070320	Garlic	27,219
070390	Leeks	1,868,163
070410	Cauliflower and broccoli	90,968
070420	Brussel sprouts	882
070490	Other	103,474
0705	Lettuces	612,988
070519	Other	18,659
070521	Witloof chicory	740
070529	Other	9,611
0706	Carrots and turnips	464,690
070690	Other	72,731
0707	Gherkin	3,148
07070002	Cucumber	114,977
708	Beans	80,634
070890	Other leguminous vegetables	15,634
070910	Globe artichokes	45,682
070930	Aubergines	111,614
070940	Celery	116,602
070951	Mushrooms	28,425
070960	Chilli	1,209,541
070970	Spinach	3,484
070990	Other	31,486,283
0710	Potato	622,229
071021	Peas	23,181
071022	Beans	131,631
071029	Other	3,003
071030	Spinach	722
071040	Sweet corn	8,331
071080	Other vegetables	3,352,002
0711	Vegetables provisionally preserved	
071110	Onion	63,053
07114002	Cucumber	97,209
071190	Other vegetables	12,368

Table 15. Shri Lanka; Exports of fruits and vegetables to Maldives; 1990.

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Classification	Commodity	(SL Rs.)
0712	Dried vegetables, whole, cut, sliced or in powder	
071210	Potato	2,016
071220	Onion	360
071230	Mushrooms and truffles	4,371
071290	Other vegetables	132,722
0713	Dried leguminous vegetables	
0713003	Greengram	19,093
0713109	Other	25,209
071320	Chickpeas	17,504
071339	Other	180
071340	Lentils	48,014
071390	Other	27,590
0714	Manioc, arrowroot, sweet potato, etc.	
071490	Other	15,437
0801	Coconuts, brazil nuts and cashew nuts	
08011002	Dessicated coconut	160,279
08011009	Other	3,794
080130	Cashew nuts	325,655
080212	Other shelled nuts	265
08029001	Arecanuts	19,178,244
08029009	Other	410,833
0803	Banana	12,137
0804	Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, guava	
080410	Dates	54,915
080420	Figs	12,393
080430	Pineapples	5,132,451
080440	Avocado	42,605
08045001	Marigo	105,440
08045003	Mangosteens	7,120
0805	Citrus fruits	
080510	Oranges	41,203
080520	Mandarins	1,353
080530	Lemons	731,918
080540	Grapefruit	199,829
080590	Other	35,972
080610	Fresh grapes	4,726
080620	Dried grapes	70,405
080710	Melons	1,272
080720	Papaya	19,117
080810	Apples	19,370

Table 15. Shri Lanka; Exports of fruits and vegetables to Maldives; 1990.

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Classification	Commodity	(SL Rs.)
080820	Pears and quinces	7,218
080910	Apricots	14,960
080920	Cherries	2,830
080930	Peaches, incl. nectarines	11,454
080940	Plums and sloes	71,006
0810	Other fresh fruit	
081010	Strawberries	63,996
081020	Raspberries, mulberries, etc.	3,360
081030	Black, white or red currants	23,002
081090	Other	8,662,910
0811	Fruits and nuts, uncooked or cooked; etc.	
081110	Strawberries	534
081190	Other	11,051
0812	Fruits and nuts, provisionally Preserved	
081290	Other	3,483
0813	Other dried fruit	
08134001	Tamarind	4,033
08134009	Other	42,423
081400	Peel of citrus fruit	1,743
Total		78,404,199

Source: Shri Lanka External Trade Statistics, 1990.