

**ABSTRACT**

This thesis explores why Nova Scotian turkey producers are extremely concerned about the current round of the negotiations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which has become known as the Uruguay Round. Beyond addressing the possible ramifications of a GATT settlement that is unfavorable to Nova Scotian turkey producers, the analysis places Canadian agricultural issues within a wider political and social context. In addition, the results of a survey administered to turkey producers in Nova Scotia are presented.

It was found that if supply management systems are weakened as a result of the outcome of the GATT negotiations, the entire turkey industry in Nova Scotia is in jeopardy of being eliminated. Hence, Nova Scotian turkey producers are justifiably concerned about the Uruguay Round. However, the Canadian government's support of supply management systems is predicated on the assumption that the family farm as the primary unit of food production in Canada must be maintained at all costs. No matter what the outcome of the Uruguay Round, Nova Scotian turkey producers will continue to be proactive in their attempts to protect their livelihoods.