



**Cochran Fellowship Program  
Africa**

# South Africa



In 2008, twelve South Africans participated in the Cochran Fellowship Program. Topics have included port inspection techniques, soybean processing & marketing, extension & project management, dairy management & processing, biotechnology, meat & poultry inspection, and agricultural statistics.

South Africa has a large agricultural sector and is a net exporter of agricultural products. The largest locally produced crop is maize followed by wheat, oats, and sugar cane. Livestock is also farmed in most parts of South Africa. The agricultural industry contributes 9% of employment and 2.6% of GDP for the nation. Due to the aridity of the land, only 13.5% can be used for crop production, and only 3% is considered high potential land.



Three South African Fellows visit a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm started by the Specialty Crops Program at Colorado State University (CSU). The visit was part of an Extension and Project Management training that occurred in July 2008. The CSU farm is run by students who are passionate about organic agriculture. CSAs work by giving community members a chance to buy a share of the farm's harvest. Although it varies by CSA, most CSAs offer shareholders a weekly box full of vegetables and fruits during the entire growing season in exchange for money to be paid at the beginning of the season. The CSA ensures the farmer a reliable supply of revenue and the shareholder fresh, organic vegetables and fruits.

**South African Cochran Fellows FY06-FY08**

'06	.....	11
'07	.....	21
'08*	.....	12
<b>Total since '95 .....</b>		<b>287</b>

**Major U.S. Agricultural Exports to South Africa 2007**

- **Wheat (\$147 million)**
- **Dairy products**
- **Distilled beverages**
- **Forest products**

Source: USDA FAS Gain Report

**Training Highlight:  
Dairy Management & Processing**



Mpho Hoeane, Chief Agricultural Products Quarantine Technician from the South African National Department of Agriculture, dons a cap and learns about the cutting-edge technology used in dairy processing during a visit to the University of Minnesota's MN-SD Dairy Food Research Center. The training took place from August 30-September 13, 2008.

**Major South African Agricultural Exports - 2004**

- Wine
- Grapes
- Oranges
- Apples
- Prepared Fruit
- Sugar (raw)
- Maize
- Pears

Source: UN FAO

