



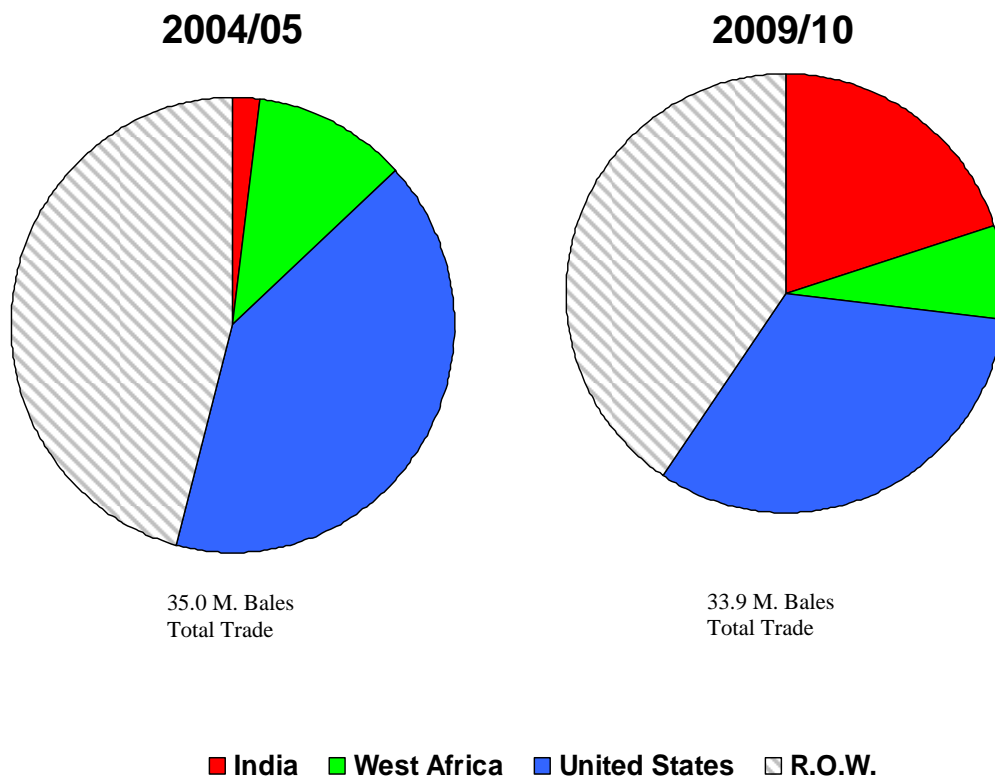
United States
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Cotton: World Markets and Trade

India Gains World Market Share at the United States' Expense



In the five years since 2004/05, the United States has remained the world's largest cotton exporter. However, India continues to rapidly gain market share as U.S. production has transitioned to more profitable alternatives.

In the past, India consumed most of the cotton it produced. Beginning in 2005/06, production and exportable supplies expanded rapidly. During the recent recession, when world consumption declined, global prices fell and India implemented a support price system that raised domestic prices and helped stabilize production. Now in 2009/10, with ample stocks and higher production, India is expected to continue to expand its share of the global export market reaching 20 percent.

