



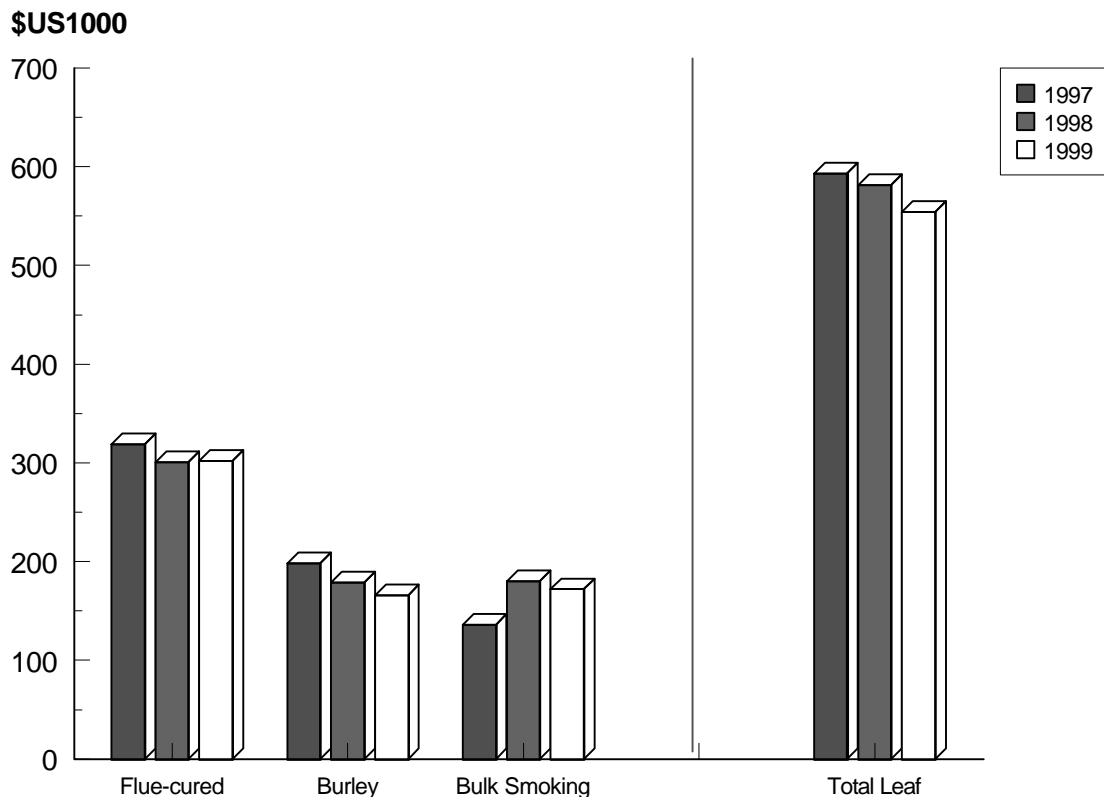
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Tobacco: World Markets and Trade

U.S. Leaf Export Value 1997 Through 1999 (January-April)



The value of U.S. leaf exports is down 4.7 percent so far in 1999. Flue-cured export value is up slightly, while the value of U.S. burley is down by 7.4 percent through the first four months in 1999. U.S. exports of bulk smoking tobacco is down by 4.3 percent. A global oversupply situation for leaf tobacco and increased competition from foreign suppliers account for much of the decline in U.S. leaf sales.