Production practices and costs for oilseed and nonoilseed sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) are nearly identical. The two types of sunflower are sold in separate and unrelated markets; therefore, most of the marketing and processing companies, especially beyond the first handler, deal only in oilseed or nonoilseed sunflower or one or more of their end products. Market conditions occasionally encourage the flow of limited quantities of oilseed sunflower into the bird and petfood market. Some kernel chips, as well as rejects from the dehulling operation of nonoil sunflower to obtain kernels for human food, are sold to oilseed processors. In the USA and Canada oilseed sunflower is not used, in the whole seed or hulled form, for the human food market because of difficulties in removing the hull. In other parts of the world, however, oilseed sunflower is used directly for human food.

**ECONOMICS OF FARM PRODUCTION**

**Production Patterns**

Sunflower is gaining major crop status in the USA, while production in Canada has fluctuated with no perceptible trend. The crop has been grown primarily in the northern fringes of the Corn Belt and north into southern Manitoba where corn (*Zea mays* L.) and soybeans (*Glycine max* L. Merr) have not performed well either because of a short growing season or lack of rainfall during critical periods.

Commercial production of nonoilseed sunflower has occurred on a limited basis in the USA and Canada for several decades. California was the major producer of nonoil seed sunflower before the late 1950's. Since that

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