

However, one important change in the composition of exports was that by 1899, according to one account, there was no more wheat surplus for export.⁷⁷

This may have been a consequence of population growth.

There was also a substantial growth in imports. The most important imports were coffee, rice, sugar, and cotton-manufactured items, but to a lesser extent included lumber and other building material, petroleum, and luxury and fashion items.⁷⁸ Although remaining absolutely small, there was a rapid increase in imports of motors and machinery.⁷⁹

In 1874,⁸⁰ the imports of Jaffa amounted to £P 146,000. For 1874-1877, the value of average annual imports was £P 212,000, and by 1879-1881, it increased to £P 337,000.⁸¹ For 1883-1887, imports fell to an annual average of £P 264,000, but afterwards continuously rose so that by 1908-1912, it increased to £P 1,376,000 including imports of Jaffa, Haifa, and Acre. In 1913, imports of Jaffa alone amounted to £P 1,313,000.⁸² In the period 1856-1882, most of the

⁷⁷Issawi, "Trade of Jaffa," 44; this is according to a report by the British vice council.

⁷⁸Scholch, 108-9.

⁷⁹Issawi, "Trade of Jaffa," 46.

⁸⁰Scholch points out that there were no figures prior to 1874 since most of the imports arrived in Beirut and were duty-paid there, and then transported overland to Palestine; Scholch, 107.

⁸¹Calculated from figures given in Owen, *Middle East*, Table 32, 176.

⁸²Owen, *Middle East*, Table 68, 265.