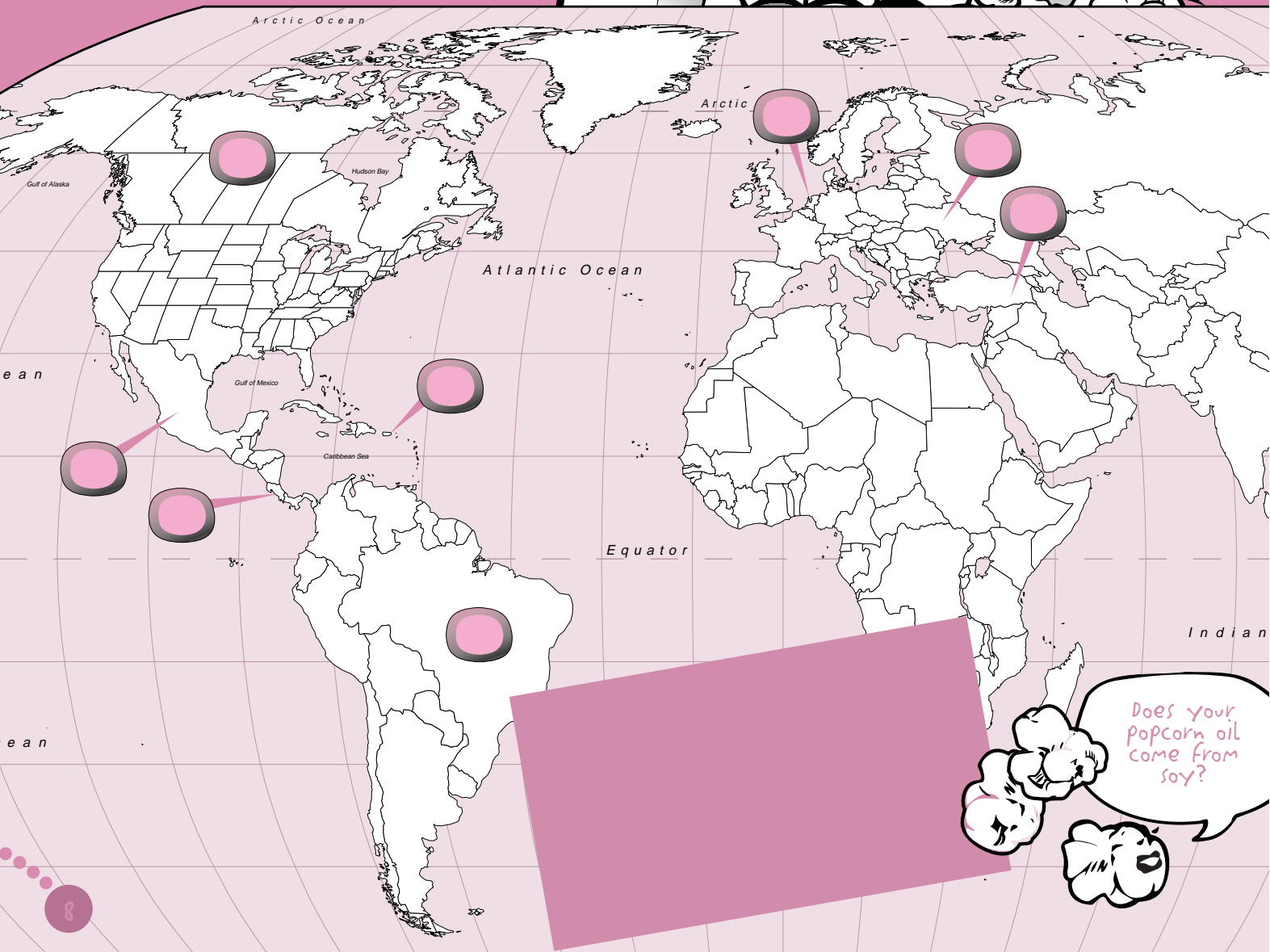


Trading Partners around t h e World

Imagine life without chocolate, bananas, vanilla flavoring or cinnamon. These things just don't grow in Minnesota. Lucky for us, we can trade agricultural products with countries that grow things we can't. At the same time, we produce things here that other countries need.

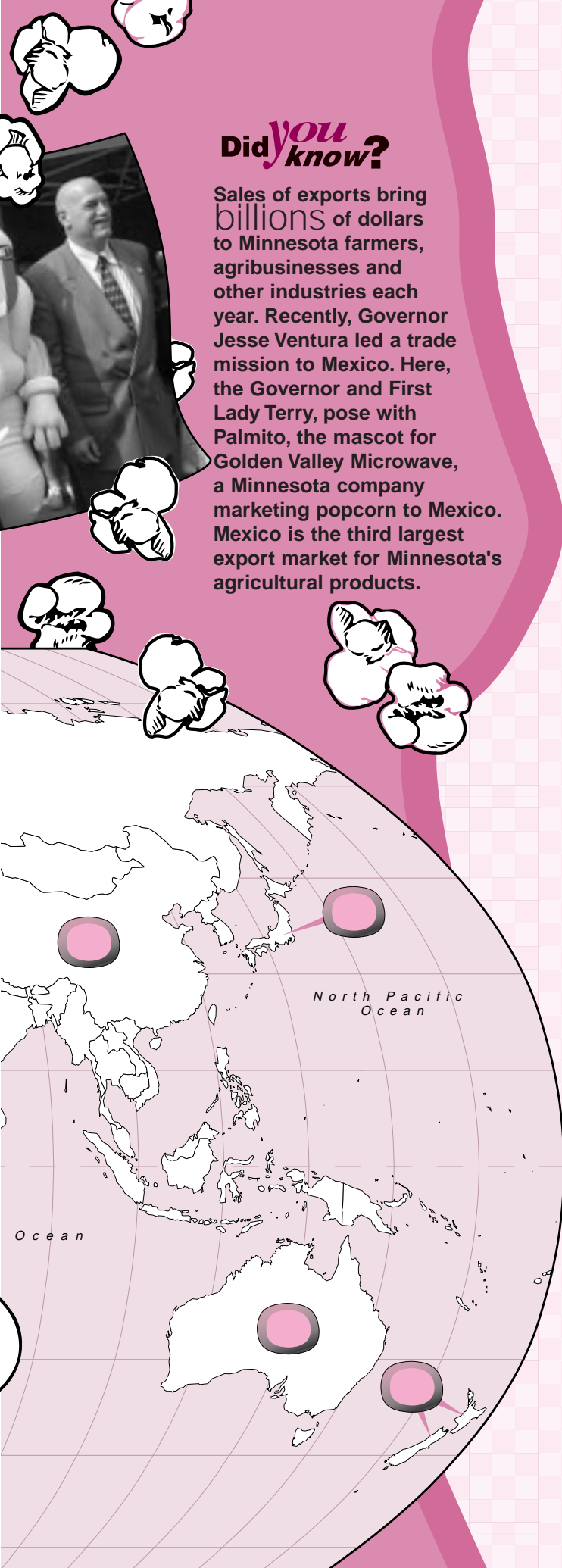
Items we sell and ship to other states or countries are **exports**. Items we buy from others and bring into our country or state are **imports**. Imports and exports are big business for the world's trading partners.

Photo Courtesy of
Minnesota Department of
Trade and Economic
Development



Did *you* know?

Sales of exports bring billions of dollars to Minnesota farmers, agribusinesses and other industries each year. Recently, Governor Jesse Ventura led a trade mission to Mexico. Here, the Governor and First Lady Terry, pose with Palmito, the mascot for Golden Valley Microwave, a Minnesota company marketing popcorn to Mexico. Mexico is the third largest export market for Minnesota's agricultural products.



Where in the World?

Look at this map of the world.
Match each clue to one of our trading partners.

- 1 The largest country in South America sends us coffee and cocoa. *Brazil*
- 2 Our neighbor to the north, this country is #1 among all nations in buying from Minnesota. It buys one-fourth of our state's exports.
- 3 This Asian country has been changing from a communist style of doing business to one that gives people more choices. There are more people to feed here than anywhere else in the world. They grow rice, tea and cotton.
- 4 This Central American country sends us things Minnesota can't grow for itself, such as bananas, cane sugar and coffee.
- 5 We enjoy cheeses like Edam and Gouda, named for towns in this small European country.
- 6 This fast-growing market for Minnesota products is our neighbor south of the Rio Grande. Only Canada and Japan buy more products from Minnesota's food producers than this country does.
- 7 One of our own territories, this Caribbean island sends the U.S. a whopping 88% of its exports. Pineapples, plantains, bananas and coffee are some of them.
- 8 This Eastern European republic is the most important agricultural producer of the former Soviet Union. Along with Minnesota, it leads the world in sugarbeet production.
- 9 This Mediterranean nation exports olives, sugarbeets and citrus fruit. Its name is the same as one of Minnesota's exports!
- 10 We can thank this South Pacific island nation for introducing us to kiwi fruit. The people who live there even call themselves kiwis. Wool is an important export here.
- 11 This Asian nation, built on many islands, is our country's biggest customer for agricultural products. We buy a lot from them too, but it's mainly cars, computers and other electronic products.
- 12 This South Pacific continent and country exports meat, wool and wheat.