

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 38 (1974)
Heft: [6]

Artikel: Switzerland, Europe's biggest aerosol consumer
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942097>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 20.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

Switzerland, Europe's Biggest Aerosol Consumer

Switzerland is at present the biggest consumer of aerosols in Europe. With 9.2 cans per inhabitant per year, she is certainly still far behind the consumption of the United States (13.5 cans) but way ahead of Great Britain (6.5) and West Germany (6.3). From hairspray to deodorants, from shaving cream to whipped cream, aerosol sprays have become such a part of life today that it is hard to realise they were not invented until 1928. The principle is quite simple: in a sealed container, fitted with a valve, the material (shaving cream or insecticide) is mixed with a propulsive gas (there are six types of propulsive agents, such as nitrogen, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide or hydrocarbons, selected according to the properties of the active material) allowing the mixture to be forced out as soon as the valve is opened. Once it reaches the outside, the propulsive gas disperses and all that remains is the active material, in suspension in the air (insecticide) or in a solid state (foam). The can of spray is never completely filled so as to avoid any danger of the container exploding under the effect of an abnormally high outside temperature. Of the 1,620 million aerosols manufactured and sold throughout the world, 59.6 million were made in Switzerland by 82 firms divided into 11 sub-groups with some 2,000 employees in all. From the point of view of the contents of cans of sprays, cosmetics come first by a long way, accounting for over a third of the total, followed by household articles, insecticides and industrial sprays.—(SODT).

Economic Growth in Switzerland And the World

In real value, that is to say with prices kept constant, Switzerland's gross national product, which represents the total value of goods and services produced by the national economy, increased by 4.7% in 1972 compared with the figure for the previous year. This result places Switzerland in a position somewhere about the middle on the international level; according to statistics drawn up by the International Settlements Bank, Switzerland in fact comes 8th among industrialised countries under consideration. Over a longer period, i.e. from 1961 to 1970, Switzerland is only 13th, with a real annual rate growth of the gross national product averaging 4.5%. Ahead of her comes Austria (4.7%), Denmark (4.8%), West Germany (4.9%), Belgium (4.9%), Norway (5.0%), the Netherlands (5.1%), Finland (5.1%), Canada 5.2%, Italy 5.7%, France 5.8%, Spain (7.5%) and Japan (11.1%). The lowest economic growth was recorded in Sweden (4.4%), the United States (4.0%) and Great Britain (2.7%).—(SODT).