

## Additional Comments Relating to TePaske Page

Most historic numeric datasets like these are far from perfect in content or organization. I have listed below some basic characteristics of these various datasets.

- Brazilian gold series are from printed sources and reveal some notable differences.
- Annual gold and silver series exist for most of the *cajas* that served mining districts in the original viceroalties of Mexico and Peru.
- *Caja* series were compiled primarily from the gold and silver tax receipts, which can be accessed on the *Caja* Page.
- Creating annualized series must take into account first that treasury ledgers did not always follow a standard January-December calendar and second missing or damaged documents caused gaps.
- Disaggregating multi-year accounts is fairly straightforward by averaging and summing, although any yearly figure derived from such calculations is itself an estimate.
- Filling in the gaps for one or no more than several years is usually the result of averaging yearly figures that precede or follow the gap.
- Annual gold and silver series for regions (Caribbean, Central America, New Granada and Chile) outside the main mining centers were largely drawn from mintage records and from printed sources.
- Zeros can pose a problem in analysis of data, and according to a communiqué from Professor TePaske they mean either no ores were registered in that year or no accounts existed for that year, although there is apparently no way to distinguish between the two.
- In the silver series for the individual *cajas* I retained the years but erased the zeros in order to complete certain statistical analyses, but in the gold series (which I have not worked with) I left the years and the zeros, although I removed all the years with zeros prior to the first year with data.
- Devaluations occurred from time to time, and they affected the multiplier used to convert *pesos de ocho* to kilograms.
- The multipliers used to calculate kilograms have been used by other scholars for similar purposes.
- Recorded Totals from TePaske's own copies and my Calculated Totals (to make certain that the scans were correct) may differ because the figures recorded in the columns were rounded up or down.
- In the end because so much manipulation is necessary to go from tax receipts to mineral output the results are best viewed as estimates.