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Turkey

Dried Fruit

Semi-Annual

2001

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Report Highlights:

MY 2001 raisin production estimate was reduced to 190,000 MT according to industry sources. In MY 2001, Turkey is estimated to export a smaller quantity (200,000 MT) than in MY 2000 (232,317 MT) because of reduced supply. PSD raisin production and exports in MY 2000 both were increased according to industry sources and unofficial Aegean Exporters Union trade data.

Note: both columns in the trade matrixes reflect MY 2000 data.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
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It is still too early to have a firm production estimate for MY 2001 raisins. A group of experts, which was coordinated by the Izmir Commodity Exchange, visited production areas at the beginning of the season and projected 220,000 MT. This estimate was lower than MY2000 production because of reduced yields as a result of dry weather and diseases in some areas. It was noticed later, after the harvest started, that the grapes turned out to be smaller than they were expected earlier. Following the hot and very dry summer, it rained during the drying season which also caused raisins to be darker and lowered in quality. As a result of these developments, industry sources recently lowered their estimates. MY 2001 raisin production is estimated in a range between 160,000 MT (producers' estimate) and 200,000 MT (trade estimate). Post's adjusted estimate in our PSD is currently 190,000 MT. Planted and harvested areas both were increased in MY 2001 according to the study carried by the same group of experts.

PSD production estimate for MY 2000 was increased according to the information received from industry sources and export statistics.

The quality of the MY 2001 crop raisins is also lower than the MY 2000 crop. In a normal year, about 30 percent of the raisin crop is standard #10, 60 percent is standard #9, and 10 percent is standard #8 and lower quality. In MY 2001, however, these ratios are estimated at 25 percent for standard #10, 50 percent for standard #9, and 25 percent for standard #8 and lower.

In MY 2001, total seedless grape production is estimated at about 1,125,000 MT. Of this total, about 175,000 MT (about fifteen percent) will be consumed (or exported) fresh and the remaining 950,000 MT will be dried to produce about 190,000 MT of raisins (assuming a conversion ratio of 5 to 1, slightly larger than the average conversion rate of 4.5 to 1, because of smaller sizes of grapes and losses due to the rain during the drying season).

Even though the procurement price for MY 2001 has not yet been announced, TARIS started to buy raisins from growers. TARIS is paying 400,000 TL per kilogram of raisins at the time of procurement and will pay the difference shortly after they announce the procurement price. The procurement price for standard #9 raisins was TL 500,000 per kilogram in MY 2000. TARIS officials were expecting to buy about 55,000 MT of MY 2001 crop raisins at the beginning of the season, but they think now that they may not be able to buy this quantity due to the shortage in production. TARIS, which had bought about 75,000 MT in MY 2000, has already bought about 38,000 MT in MY 2001.

TEKEL announced a purchase price of TL 530,000 per kilogram of raisins and hopes to buy about 8,000 MT in MY 2001. TEKEL officials also think they may be able to buy this quantity because of the low price. TEKEL had bought about 1,000 MT from the MY 2000 crop raisins from growers at TL 380,000 per kilogram and 8,000 MT of MY 1999 crop raisins from TARIS earlier this year.

In early October, spot prices at the Izmir Commodity Exchange were about TL 750,000 per kilogram for standard #9, and TL 800,000 for standard #10 (compared to TL 430,000 and TL 450,000 in early April, respectively), representing significant increases in Turkish Lira terms, but only marginal increases in USD terms since last April. The inflation is currently averaging about 70 percent per annum. On October 3, 2001, USD 1.00 was approximately TL 1,575,000 compared to TL

1,250,000 in early April and TL 700,000 in January.

MY 2001 raisin exports are currently projected to be lower than in MY 2000, due to shorter supply. Official data is only available through May 2001. According to Aegean Exporters' Union (AEU) data, traders exported a total of 232,317 MT of raisins in MY 2000, about twenty percent more than in MY 1999. The United Kingdom, Germany, and the Netherlands were again the leading destinations. In MY 2000, TARIS exported 12,150 MT (compared to 11,900 MT in MY 1999) and sold about 18,000 MT on the market.

Raisin export prices have been going down in recent years. Current export prices for standard #9 bulk are about USD 750 per MT and for standard #10 bulk are about USD 800 per MT (FOB Izmir). Prices may be slightly higher or lower depending upon the grade (as A, B, and C). These prices are significantly lower than they were last year (about USD 880 for standard #9 and USD 910 for standard #10) which were even lower than two years ago (about USD 1,070 for standard #9 and USD 1,100 for standard #10) and three years ago (about USD 1,150 for standard #9 and USD 1,200 for standard #10).

The first columns of the MY 2000 export and import trade matrixes reflect official data from the State Institute of Statistics for the first nine months of the year (September 2000 - May 2001). The second column of the export matrix reflects unofficial data from the Aegean Exporters Union for the entire marketing year (September 2000 - August 2001).

Statistical Tables

PSD Table for Raisins

PSD Table						
Country	Turkey					
Commodity	Raisins				(HA)(MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Area Planted	77	77	80	80	80	82
Area Harvested	74	74	76	76	77	78
Beginning Stocks	63477	63477	37594	37594	53594	61277
Production	195000	195000	255000	285000	250000	190000
Imports	1550	1550	1000	1000	0	1000
TOTAL SUPPLY	260027	260027	293594	323594	303594	252277
Exports	192433	192433	210000	232317	210000	200000
Domestic Consumption	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000
Ending Stocks	37594	37594	53594	61277	63594	22277
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	260027	260027	293594	323594	303594	252277

Export Trade Matrix for Raisins

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Turkey		
Commodity	Raisins		
Time period	Sep. - May	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	2000	Sep.00-Aug.01	2000
U.S.	89	U.S.	169
Others		Others	
United kingdom	33867	United Kingdom	50593
Germany	28233	Germany	37337
Netherlands	25699	Netherlands	32974
Italy	14514	Italy	18681
France	9396	Australia	13304
Australia	8785	France	12564
Belgium	8423	Belgium	11844
Spain	6786	Brazil	8694
Brazil	5503	Spain	6943
Ireland	4284	Ireland	5522
Total for Others	145490		198456
Others not Listed	23698		33692
Grand Total	169277		232317

Import Trade Matrix for Raisins

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Turkey		
Commodity	Raisins		
Time period	Sep. - May	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Greece	475		
United kingdom	77		
Uzbekistan	56		
Turkmenistan	32		
Austria	20		
Germany	13		
United Arab Em.	6		
France	4		
Netherlands	1		
Total for Others	684		0
Others not Listed	154		
Grand Total	838		0