Foreign Agricultural Service
GAIN Report
Global Agriculture Information Network

Scheduled Report - public distribution

Date: 9/21/1998

GAIN Report #JA8076

Japan

Planting Seeds:

Planting Seeds Annual Report

1998

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Report Highlights:
Overall, the Japanese seed market continues to decline along with the general contraction in Japanese agriculture. In 1997, vegetable seed imports dropped 6 percent in yen terms and more than 25 percent in terms of quantity. Forage seed imports also declined in volume terms (down 20 percent) but rose slightly in value terms. The United States is the largest foreign supplier of vegetable seeds to Japan, accounting for roughly 30 percent of total sales in 1997. Australia continued as the predominant supplier to the forage seed market in 1997, accounting for more than three-fourths of total imports.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
Annual Report
Tokyo[JA1], JA

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I. MARKETING

A)Market:

Economic recessions and financial crises in Asia, resulting in the Japanese Yen's devaluation and increased cost of imports in the face of stangnant domestic market demands for all types of consumer goods and industrial production have had, inevitably, an adverse impact on the seed marketing activity in general, as was the case with other sectors of the economy during the past year. However, the following news highlights, covered in the industry media, are indicative of some of the current developments on the planting seed market in Japan.

C Pioneer Hybrid Japan,Inc., a subsidiary of Pioneer Hybrid International Corp. in the U.S., signed a 3-year agreement with Ohta Kaki Corp, Japan's largest flower distributor, calling for Ohta's exclusive marketing of the state of the art soil cultivation technology, called "PS System", developed by Pioneer Hybrid. The technology assures flowers of longer durability than ever before due to a bio-genetic technology involved, and Ohta, handling 2 million cut-flowers a day, plans to make it available for their flower farmers on contract to handle at least 10% of their business with flowers grown with the technology.(Dec.'97)

C Suntory, a liquor producer with diversified investments in the flower business, is enjoying a booming growth of flower seedlings business in the North American market. In 1997, they sold 7 million pots of flower seedlings, tripling the volume of previous year. They plan to sell 11 million pots in 1998, up 57%.(Jul.'98)

C Acquisitions of Decalv Genetics Corp., the 2nd largest U.S corn seed grower, and of Delta & Pine Land Co., top U.S. cotton seed producer, by Monsanto, a major U.S. chemical concern, making Monsanto the largest U.S. concern in the production of corn, soybean and cotton seeds, made headline news. Also, Monsanto's commercial agree- ment in the joint development of new biotechnology and genetically modified farm products for world-wide marketing with Cargil Corp., top U.S. grain concern, was also reported as a front page story.(May,'98)

C Sakata Corp., Japan's largest seed company, posted 10% growth in operating profit on net sales of 40 billion Yen(approx. $274 million) for the year, ending May,1998. Net sales value was up 42% from previous year. While their vegetable seed business suffered a setback , due to depressed vegetable prices and drawback in farm production as well as exports to Korea, their brocholli seed export sales to Europe and overall flower seed export business grew substantially, contributing to the overall revenue and profit.
(Jul.'98)

- Sakata buys another research nursery farm in France, making the investment its 2nd research facility in France and 5th research farm outside Japan for this firm. Intensification of their research and development of new seed varieties suited for climatic conditions around the Mediteranean region is reportedly a key objective of the investment.(Jul.'98)

- For the first time since Japan's rice distribution business was liberalized in 1996, Mitsui Chemical Co. and Kirin Beer Co. announce a plan separately to join Japan's domestic rice seed market of 30 billion Yen(approx.$205 million). Traditionally monopolized by the central and local government administrations of Japan, the rice seed market is estimated to become more competitive than ever before as a result of the market access by both firms expected to offer higher-yield and genetically improved rice seed varieties for rice farmers .(Aug.'98)

In 1997, Post reported that,in connection with a series of the E.coli 0-157:H7-involved food poisoning crises ocurring in Japan in 1996 and 1997 and claiming human fatalities, a fact-finding investigation was being conducted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, encharged with public health and safety issues. The investigation's objective was to examine, at some of the officially approved hygenienic research facilities including National Institute of Health Sciences, samples of 112 kg. of white radish sprout seeds(ie.Kaiware Daikon)farmed in Oregon for export to Japan and sourced from the same production lot as those remaining in refrigerators in the homes of victims of the bacterial contamination, to determine linkage between the sprout seeds and the food poisoning cases, which had been considered to exist by the Ministry.

On March 30,1998, the Ministry, in a conclusive report of the investigation by the National Institute of Health Science, announced a statement that a strain of E.coli 0-157:H7 was isolated in the leftover Kaiware radish sprout found in the victims' homes and that a genetic material related to non-specific 0-157 bacteria was detected among 112 kg. of the sprout seeds investigated, linking white radish sprout seeds directly to the E.coli 0-157:H7 food poisoning outbreaks as a cause of the human contaminations.. As expected, this announcement became very controversial, because, during the investigation of 112 kg. of suspected white radish sprout seeds, no strain of E.coli 0-157:H7 was actually isolated, as admitted ny the Ministry, and the process by which the Ministry developed such a verdict was scientifically highly questionable, as pointed out by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration scientists, involved in a cooperative fact-finding effort with the Japanese Government. In response to the Ministry's verdict, the U.S. Government, through the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, issued a press release, challenging validity of the Ministry's conclusion, and the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries also published a comment in disagreemnt with the verdict. Due to seriousness of the cases involving human fatalities and wide-spread loss of Japanese consumer confidence on the retail market not only about white radish sprouts but other similar foods, however, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries took an administrative action to revise its production guidelines for radish sprouts, originally developed in October,1996, focused on the need to insure the most hygienic environment for production and shippping of the sprouts. Under the new guidelines, modeled after the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point methodology(HACCP), a new producer-certification program was introduced whereby a sprout producer could request and secure an on-site production plant inspection by an officially designated agency of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and indicate on

packaging of the product that the sprouts were produced at an officially certified facility.

Whether or not this proves to be an adequate and effective marketing tool to restore market confidence in the white radish sprout business would remain to be seen, however.

Another feature of the market continues to be a strong Japanese resistance to introduction of genetically modified farm products, including foods and seeds. While Japanese government sources and trade media continue to voice support for positive aspects of GMOs, such as future benefits to the consumers of GMO's labor-saving farming and cost-effective vegetation, there is a persistent cry among consumer groups for product labeling requirments and open disclosure of adequate consumer information to distinguish between GMOs and traditional farm products. With a solid support from politically powerful consumer groups, such as Japan Consumer Union, a civic group of farm and consumer organizations, opposed to GMO, announced an intense campaign plan in August to oppose introduction and marketing in Japan of the so-called "Terminator Technology", which, by biotechnological and genetical means, reportedly deprives seeds of a natural opportunity to grow a second-generation seed, thereby depriving farmers also of an opportunity to grow the same seeds for their own farming, while assuring owners of the technology and business an exclusive and permanent right to the seed growing and farming, They claim that, through patent protection and other legal measures, it could lead to a totallly
monopolistic control of the seed market by a few corporate entities at the expense of family farmers.

B) Competition:

Vegetable Seeds:

Vegetable seeds in Japan's 1997 imports accounted for 32.3% of the total Yen value, down 2.6 points from previous year. While total 1997 seed imports remained almost the same as 1996,
the vegetable seed imports dropped 7.2% from previous year in Yen value, respectively.

However, U.S continued to retain its dominant position in 1997 as a major source of vegetable seed supply to Japan, followed by Denmark and Italy as distant 2nd and 3rd-ranking exporers.
Of Japan's total imports, the U.S. share was 44.8% in quantity and 30% in Yen value in 1997.

Dominant position of the U.S. as a leading exporter remained the same in the pea and bean seed category but, according to Japan's trade data, Australia and Netherlands can be cited
as key competitors to the U.S.in this area.

Vegetable seeds accounted for 63.8% of Japan's total seed export value in 1996, down from 68.0% in 1996. Leading destinations of these exports were all other Asian countries, led by Republic of Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Pean and bean seeds represented the 2nd largest group of Japan's 1997 seed exports, sharing 30%.

Forage Seeds:

Japan's forage seed imports in 1997 dropped 18.5% from previous year in quantity but, interestingly, this group of seeds constituted one of the slight but few growth items in Japan's import value, moving from 37% in 1996 to 38% share of the total seed imports in 1997 and representing the single, largest category of total seed imports.

While the U.S. remained Japan's top supplier of forage seeds in 1997, other countries stood out as key competitors to the U.S. in some specific items.

Forage seeds other than those specified in the Tariff Codes; Australia, China.
Red Clover and Fescue seeds; Canada.
White Clover and Other Clover seeds; New Zealand
Oat and Maize seeds; Australia, France, Canada.

Flower Seeds:

With Chile leading the roster of leading exporters, the U.S. remained No.2 flower seed exporter to Japan in 1997, immediately followed by Netherlands in Yen value of Japan's imports. While the total import quantity of flower seeds dropped 20% from previous year in 1997, Japanese Yen value of imports rose 3%, indicating, perhaps, a tighter market as a result of the volume shrinkage and upgraded value in the quality of flower seeds imported. Chile, Netherlands and China stand out as major flower seed competitors to the U.S. in this group of seeds imported by Japan.

Japan's flower seed exports in 1997 grew 25% from previous year, helped in all probability by Yen's relative weakness on the currency markets, among other factors. Japan's major export market was the U.S. where its export value grew 10% from previous year.

C) Outlook:

With the Japanese economy remaining stagnant in the middle of a protracted recession with the traditional financial institutions caught under major, historic and massive restructuring pressures affecting all business activities, domestic seed marketing activities will remain lackluster for the short-term. With a positive impact of the massive "economic stimulous policy package" of Japanese Government expected to be felt later on this year and into 1999, however, the economy could bottom out before long for recovery and the consumer spending, 60% of Japan's gross domestic product(GDP), might recover, eventually to help improve Japanese agricultural production and,hence, the seed market.

II. POLICY:

A)General:

A bill for the revised Seeds and Seedlings Law, of which Post reported in 1997, passed the last session of national legislature to become a law of the land as of May 29,1998 for implementation

starting November,1998. Changes introduced into the new act, as opposed to the old regulations, can be summarized as follows by subject matter.

1)Coverage of Legal Protection Expanded:

New- All plants and crops covered, except for microbiological products,regulated under separate Cabinet Orders. (Old-Restricted to 467 plants by cabinet order.)

2)Legal Protection Strengthened during the "seeds and seedlings" phase:

New- Specific approval from the registered, original variety grower required for the following acts by third parties;namely,Production; Processing; Interest in sale;Sales to other parties; Export; Import; Storage for these acts. (Old-Approval from the original grower was required only for production for sale, interest in sale for financial reward, import for sale.)

3)Legal Protection Strengthened during the "crop" stage:

New- Grower's right to claim financial compensation against an unauthorized and uncompensated use of the registered seed variety extended to the same after the crop has been harvested from an unauthorized use of the seed, in cases of lost opportunity to claim compensation during the "seed and seedlings" phase.(Old-Highly confined in scope to cases where the seed, originally grown as a seed, was abused for commercial crops.)

4)Exclusive Rights of Use,etc:

New- Original growers' exclusive and ordinary rights of use as well as freedom to establish the right of pledge on the seed recognized and established(Old-Not specified.)

5)Right of Claim to Subordinate Seed Varieties:

New- A new variety grown by third parties with genetic features and characteristics almost identical to those of an original and registered variety must and can be developed, subject to approval from the original grower. (Old-No specified.)

6)Pre-registration Protection:

New- An original, lawful grower can claim financial compensation after eventual registration against an infringement of his rights, should this ocurr in the time frame specified between "application" and "registration" processes.

7)Length of Legal Protection:

New- 20 years after registration and 25 years for longer-term crops.(Old-15 years after registration and 18 years for longer-term crops.)

8)Farmers' Right to Germinate Seeds for their Own Consumption Protected:

New-Unless stipulated otherwise under ministry orders or in certain contractual commitments, original growers' right to claim compensation not paplicable to

farmers germinating seeds for their own farming needs.(Old-Not stipulated.)

B)Planting Seed Production Policy:

Japanese Government's budget for JFY1998(Apr.'98-Mar.'99), earmarked for research and development programs for new seed varieties, totalled 5.7 billion Yen(approx.$ 39 million), up 5% from previous year. 4 top programs, in the order of higher policy priorities in budget appropriations, were as follows.(In parenthesis is the budget.)

1)R& D to advance biochemical and biotech.technologies to create new demands. (439 million Yen)
2)R&D to promote new variety development technology for high-yield horticultural crops, such as wheat(341 million Yen)
3)R&D to improve comprehensive technological infrastructure and innovative seed varieties for the 2nd-generation rice crops.(333 million Yen)
4)Development of improved and cost-effective seed cultivatiing and sorting technology by means of DNA approach.(331 million Yen.)

C)Plant Health:

No change since previous report of 1997.(#JA7035)

D)Plant Variety Protection:

As a result of the legal revision in Japan's Seed and Seedlings Law in 1998, grower's rights to claim plant variety protection were substantially strengthened, as covered earlier in this report.

An updated English version of the legal provisions for plant variety protection is available, on request, from the following source.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
Attn. Seeds and Seedlings Division-International Department
Agricultural Production Bureau
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo. 100. Japan. Fax: 813-3502-6572

E)Variety Registration:

As of September,1997, over 10,000 applications for planting seed variety registration had been accepted in Japan since 1978 when the Japanese Seed and Seedlings Law was last revised, and, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in charge of the planting seed industry administation, 5,843 varieties were officially registered for protection against an illegal infringement of

the growers' rights during the previous 20 years, making Japan the 3rd largest "planting-seed country" in the world, following the 1st-ranking Netherlands and 2nd-ranking Germany. Of 5,843 new varieties registered with the Ministry of Agriculture,Forestry and Fisheries during the previous 20 years, herbaceous plants represented 52.2%(3,052), ornamental plants 14.5%(845), vegetables 10.5%(613), fruits 9.6%(560) and edible crops 7.1% (413).

The number of applications for variety protection and of registrations accepted by crop group during the last 2 years in Japan were as shown below.

Variety Registrations By Crop Group

	JFY1996(Apr.'96-Mar.'97)		**JFY1997(Apr.'97-Mar.'98)**	
Crop	**Applied**	**Registered**	**Applied**	**Registered**
Edible crops	52	36	52	30
Vegetables	53	28	50	43
Fruits	41	36	34	30
Forage	8	9	10	25
Herbaceous plnt.	647	362	687	510
Ornament.plants	186	45	186	134
Forest trees	7	5	0	0
Others	33	19	24	7
Total:	**1,027**	**540**	**1,043**	**779**

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture,Forestry & Fisheries)

F)Tariff & Non-Tariff Trade Barriers:

Tariffs-There is no Japanese import duty for planting seeds, except for the following crops with rates established under WTO rules, as of 1998.

Pea seeds: (HS#0713.10-010).....2.3% (HS#0713.10-211).....7.3%
Kidney bean seeds:(HS#0713.33-010).3.3% (HS#0713.33-210).....7.3%
Broad bean seeds:(HS#0713.50-210)...7.3%
Other bean seeds:(HS#0713.90-010)...3.3% (HS#0713.90-210).....7.3%

Non-Tariff Trade Barrier-There is no identifiable non-tariff barrier for planting seed imports, other than Japanese plant quarantine requirements.

G)Export Subsidies:

There is no subsidy program for Japanese planting seed export.

III. PRODUCTION:

Chronic downtrend in the Japanese seed production is continuing, and in 1997, crop area for vegetable seed production for 16 key crops dropped 13% from previous year. 1997 seed production for these crops, on the other hand, dropped 6% from 1996, due to a decline in contract farming.

Greater yield per unit of crop area than anticipated for some of the crops was accountable for the fairly decent seed production in spite of the sharp decline in planting area, as shown in the table below.

1997 VEGETABLE SEED PRODUCTION BY CROP

Crop	Crop Area (Ha.)	%Change from 1996	Production (MT)	%Change from 1996
Radish	156	-14	107	-2
Turnip	40	-9	25	+14
Carrot	30	+20	22	+248
Burdock	29	-52	42	-57
Chinese cabbage	61	+/-0	40	+11
Cabbage	75	-19	44	-25
Spinach	4	-56	4	-50
Green Pickles	67	-19	63	-16
Green Onion	48	-27	23	-36
Bulb Onion	105	-12	85	+12
Eggplant	3	-25	2	-33
Tomato 1/	4	+33	1	+/-0
Cucumber	21	-34	7	-46
Peas 2/	84	+14	92	-24
Broad Beans	27	+35	39	+77

Kidney Beans	76	+12	128	+91
Total:	830	-13	724	-6

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture,Forestry & Fisheries)

1/ Excludes tomatoes for processing.

2/ Includes those for consumption.

IV. TRADE:

1997 planting seed imports dropped 19% in quantity from previous year but remained almost flat in Yen value, totalling 15.2 billion Yen(approx.$105 million). It is estimated that an upgraded value in the quality of imported seeds and Yen's depreciation per U.S$, becoming apparent throughout last year, were accountable for relative stability in the landed CIF value of these imports in spite of the sharper drop in volume. In Yen's landed value, forage, flower, sweet corn and other seed imports grew, while vegetable seed imports dropped 7%.

Japanese 1997 planting seed exports dropped 2.4% in quantity but grew 10% in Yen's export value, up to 10 billion Yen(approx.$69 million), as shown in the trade data below by crop group.

V. TRADE D ATA:

A: Trade Summary-

JAPAN'S PLANTING SEED IMPORTS BY SEED GROUP

	Quantity(Metric Tons)		**Value(Million Yen)** 1/	
Seed Group	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
Vegetable seeds	6,184	4,540	5,293	4,909
Sugar Beet seed	58	64	461	449
Forage Seeds	107,193	87,269	5,720	5,751
Flower seeds	567	454	1,942	2,000
Pea/Bean seeds	1,438	895	338	302
Sweet Corn seed	382	446	420	594
Other Seeds	1,963	1,926	1,008	1,193
Total:	**117,785**	**95,594**	**15,182**	**15,198**

(Source: Ministry of Finance Customs Data)

1/ Based on CIF/Japanese port.

JAPAN'S PLANTING SEED EXPORTS BY SEED GROUP

	Quantity(Metric Tons)		Value(Million Yen) 1/	
Seed Group	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
Vegetable Seeds	1,394	1,259	6,216	6,422
Sugar Beet Seed	-	1	-	6
Forage Seeds	9	33	3	17
Flower Seeds	42	90	2,421	3,019
Pea/Bean Seeds	58	72	9	31
Other Seeds	598	596	483	566
Total:	**2,101**	**2,051**	**9,132**	**10,061**

(Source: Ministry of Finance Customs Data.)

1/ Based on FOB/Japanese port of export.

B. Trade Matrix by Key Crop & Volume/Country in 1997: 2-Year Comparison-

(Source: Ministry of Finance Customs Data)

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
1) Vegetable Seed Imports (HS# 1209.91-000)				
U.S.A	2,880	2,035	1,850	1,482
Denmark	751	653	308	253
Italy	1,060	593	843	714
China	245	192	184	174
Chile	138	191	290	348
Others	1,110	876	1,818	1,938
Total:	**6,184**	**4,540**	**5,293**	**4,909**
2) Vegetable Seed Exports(HS#1209.91.000)				
Rep. of Korea	351	283	1,044	1,197

U.S.A	2,880	2,035	1,850	1,482
Hong Kong	278	139	449	367
Taiwan	100	127	194	247
India	50	71	218	257
Pakistan	39	63	32	63
Others	576	576	4,279	4,291
Total:	**1,394**	**1,259**	**6,216**	**6,422**
3) Sweet Corn Seed Imports(HS# 0712.90-031)				
U.S.A	372	436	405	573
Chile	7	6	12	19
France	3	3	3	2
Others	-	1	-	-
Total:	**382**	**446**	**420**	**594**

	Quantity(MT)		**Value(Million Yen)**	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
4) Pea Seed Imports(HS#0713.10-010)				
U.S.A	256	145	62	26
Australia	251	65	16	4
Italy	6	8	1	1
New Zealand	63	5	4	1
Taiwan	2	2	1	2
Total:	**578**	**225**	**84**	**34**
5)Kidney Bean Seed Imports(HS# 0713.33-010)				

U.S.A.	482	307	138	110
Netherlands	13	22	9	14
Thailand	3	3	1	1
Italy	1	1	-	-
New Zealand	1	-	-	-
Total:	500	333	148	125
6) Broad Bean Seed Imports(HS# 0713.50-010)				
U.S.A	82	88	27	30
Rep. of Korea	-	10	-	14
China	9	7	1	2
Netherlands	-	2	-	1
France	-	1	-	-
Total:	91	108	28	47

	Quantity(MT)		**Value(Million Yen)**	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
7)Sugar Beet Seed Imports(HS# 1209.11-000)				
France	30	41	207	311
Italy	17	10	95	55
Sweden	4	9	46	39
Germany	5	3	58	36

U.S.A	-	1	-	8
Netherlands	1	-	48	-
Belgium	2	-	7	-
Total:	58	64	461	449
8)Other Forage Seed Imports(HS# 1209.29-090)				
Australia	89,702	72,608	2,120	2,157
U.S.A.	1,275	1,372	409	477
China	290	228	66	50
Zimbabwe	49	73	26	40
Thailand	53	47	9	7
Taiwan	68	34	12	6
South Africa	22	10	7	5
Brazil	-	6	-	6
New Zealand	4	5	-	-
Rep. of Korea	2	2	6	4
Philippines	6	-	1	-
Others	75	1	40	-
Total:	**91,546**	**74,386**	**2,696**	**2,752**

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
9)Other Sugar Beet Seed Imports(HS#1209.19-000)				
U.S.A.	43	92	21	47
FRANCE	9	0	4	0
Total:	**52**	**92**	**25**	**47**
10)Red Clover Seed Imports(HS# 1209.22-010)				
Canada	37	32	5	8
U.S.A.	67	28	25	11
Total:	**104**	**60**	**30**	**19**
11) White Clover Seed Imports(HS# 1209.22-020)				
New Zealand	264	162	100	71
U.S.A.	23	10	13	5
Australia	-	5	-	2
Denmark	5	5	3	3
Total:	**292**	**182**	**116**	**81**
12)Other Clover Seed Imports(HS# 1209.22-090)				
New Zealand	46	39	18	16
U.S.A.	24	37	10	17
Canada	1	2	1	1
Total:	**71**	**78**	**29**	**34**
13) Fescue Seed Imports(HS# 1209.23-000)				
U.S.A.	2,108	1,812	474	491
Canada	535	573	77	90
Netherlands	11	5	4	3
Total:	**2,654**	**2,390**	**555**	**584**

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
14) Kentucky Blue Grass Seed Imports(HS# 1209.24-000)				
U.S.A	766	653	391	340
Denmark	10	3	2	-
Canada	3	-	3	-
Total:	**779**	**653**	**396**	**340**
15) Rye Grass Seed Imports(HS# 1209.25.000)				
U.S.A.	3,704	3,399	523	486
Denmark	34	30	7	6
Australia	50	29	7	7
Germany	4	27	1	6
New Zealand	12	27	2	5
Netherlands	20	-	4	-
Total:	**3,824**	**3.512**	**544**	**510**
16)Timothy Grass Seed Imports(HS# 1209.26-000)				
U.S.A.	625	385	125	88
Canada	34	40	5	7
Total:	**659**	**425**	**130**	**95**
17) Orchard Grass Seed Imports(HS# 1209.29-010)				
U.S.A.	399	299	97	72
Total:	**399**	**299**	**97**	**72**

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
18) Imports of Other Seeds of Forage Plants(HS# 1209.29-090)				
Australia	89,702	72,608	2,120	2,157
U.S.A.	1,275	1,372	409	477
China	290	228	66	50
Zimbabwe	49	73	26	40
Thailand	53	47	9	**7**
Taiwan	68	34	12	6
South Africa	22	10	**7**	5
New Zealand	4	5	10	12
Rep. of Korea	2	2	6	4
Philippines	6	-	1	-
India	16	-	3	-
Others	59	7	27	-
Total:	**91,546**	**74,386**	**2,696**	**2,758**
19)Rye Seed Imports(HS# 1002.00-010)				
U.S.A.	252	194	17	17
Canada	30	30	2	2
New Zealand	49	8	4	1
Germany	15	-	1	-
Total:	**346**	**232**	**24**	**20**

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
20)Oat Seed Imports(HS#1004.00-010)				
Australia	3,794	2,151	144	122
U.S.A.	338	301	19	23
Canada	36	125	2	10
New Zealand	-	18	-	1
Sweden	51	-	4	-
Total:	**4,219**	**2,595**	**169**	**156**
21) Maize Seed Imports(HS# 1005.10-010)				
U.S.A.	973	926	520	516
France	511	558	214	260
Canada	88	205	39	103
Thailand	52	72	17	27
Austria	55	70	21	31
Germany	30	22	12	10
China	1	16	1	3
Philippines	30	15	15	10
Hungary	14	12	7	6
Chile	-	2	1	3
Others	-	2	-	-
Total:	**1,754**	**1,900**	**847**	**969**
22)Grain Sorghum Seed Imports(HS# 1007.00-010)				
U.S.A.	329	337	43	49
Australia	107	69	17	14

China	4	29	1	5
Total:	**440**	**435**	**61**	**68**

	Quantity(MT)		**Value(Million Yen)**	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
23)Other Cereal Seed Imports(HS# 1008.90-010)				
Australia	30	15	2	1
U.S.A.	19	13	2	1
Thailand	2	-	-	-
Total:	**51**	**28**	**4**	**2**
24) Flower Seed Imports(HS# 1209.30-000)				
China	206	147	254	190
U.S.A.	186	94	352	332
Denmark	18	70	58	55
Rep. of Korea	34	30	77	46
U.K.	7	30	58	86
Netherlands	29	27	271	254
Chile	8	9	560	688
Taiwan	9	9	45	45
Thailand	21	8	31	20
Germany	4	8	46	41
Others	45	22	190	243
Total:	**567**	**454**	**1,942**	**2,000**

	Quantity(MT)		Value(Million Yen)	
From/To:	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1997**
25)Flower Seed Exports(HS# 1209.30-000)				
Hong Kong	13	45	6	12
Taiwan	-	15	4	6
Netherlands	7	12	918	1330
U.S.A	17	8	1,229	1,353
Rep. of Korea	2	5	53	47
France	-	2	11	3
Italy	1	1	1	1
North Korea	-	1	-	1
Others	2	1	199	266
Total:	**42**	**90**	**2,421**	**3,019**

END OF REPORT