



Foreign Agricultural Service

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Korea, Republic of

Fishery Products

Salmon Voluntary

2000

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Report Highlights:

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
Unscheduled Report
Seoul [KS1], KS

Annual Korean salmon production remains less than 150 MT. In 1999, Korea caught an estimated 114,000 salmon in total composed of 22,000 in fresh water and 92,000 in on/off shore. Fry release in the spring of 2000 was curtailed due to the reduced return of salmon full of roe in the autumn of 1999. Government plans to release 22 million salmon fry in 2001.

Korea's salmon market is dominated by imported products mostly consisting of frozen Atlantic salmon, frozen Pacific salmon and fresh Pacific salmon. Atlantic salmon is primarily used as raw material for prepared and preserved products used for re-export or by hotels and restaurants in buffet preparation. Japanese restaurants in Korea typically use salmon for grilled/roasted dishes. Frozen Pacific salmon is primarily used for canned salmon for re-export. Fresh salmon is imported for the raw fish and sushi market. Norway remains the largest supplier of fresh Pacific salmon and frozen Atlantic salmon. Russia provides competition for frozen Pacific salmon for canning. However, most of the salmon imported from Russia is re-exported to third countries like Japan, China and EU as either frozen salmon or canned salmon with only a small portion of salmon consumed domestically.

In 1999, Korea imported 4,509 MT of frozen and fresh salmon, composed of 488 MT of fresh Pacific salmon, 2,617 MT of Frozen Pacific salmon and 1,405 MT of frozen Atlantic salmon, slightly increased from the 4,468 MT of 1998.

For the first five months of 2000, Korea imported 1,386 MT worth US\$5.8 million, down 13 percent in quantity while up 48 percent in value from the previous year, because red frozen Pacific salmon has been a major imported species while pink salmon was the major species in the same period in 1999. Red salmon is traded at a price more than eight times of pink salmon. Traders expect pink salmon to be imported on July/August.

Korean economic recovery encouraged the import of fresh Pacific salmon for the raw fish market. For the first five months, Korea imported fresh salmon recorded at 896 MT worth US\$ 5.6 million, up 78 percent in quantity and 93 percent in value amount from the same period of 1999.

Stimulated by the Alaska State Seafood Festival at the buffet restaurant of Westin Chosun hotel during June, Norwegian Seafood Festival is scheduled at the same hotel restaurant during August. The hotel will come up with some seafood special menu made of Norwegian seafood included salmon at the restaurant for the festival period. Public advertisement and information for the promotion will be provided through a monthly magazine of Hotels and Restaurants.

A Norwegian seafood marketing cooperator called EFF reportedly started its activities to promote Norwegian fresh salmon aiming at major department stores this year. The Norwegian fresh salmon cultivated at fishing farm has been popular to Korean people who are accustomed to raw fish.

Korea: Salmon Production per Fishing Type

(Unit: MT)

Fishing Type	1996	1997	1998	1999
On and Off-Shore	102	111	56	57
Fresh Water	44	44	65	70
Total	146	155	121	127

Source: The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF)

The National Statistical Office (NSO)

Korea: Salmon Fry Release

(1,000 heads)

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000
Fry Release	16,340	19,410	21,500	18,800

Source: The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF)

Salmon Imports per Type

(Unit: MT)

Species	H.S. Code	1998		1999	
		World	U.S.	World	U.S.
Pacific Salmon, Fresh	0302.12.0000	277	4	487	4
Pacific Salmon, FZ	0303.10.0000	3,478	54	2,616	124
Atlantic Salmon, FZ	0303.22.0000	713	18	1,045	0
Total		4,468	76	4,508	128

Source: Korea Custom Service

Korea: Import Trade Matrix - Salmon, Whl/Eviscerated

Units: Metric Ton

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	MT
Commodity:			
Time period:	JAN/DEC		
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.	76	U.S.	128
Others		Others	
E. U.	819	E. U.	1779
Canada	57	Canada	69
Russia	2745	Russia	2299
Chile	41	Chile	0
Japan	327	Japan	61
Newzealand	403	China	171
Total for Others	4392		4379
Others not listed	0		1
Grand Total	4468		4508

Source: Korea Custom Service