

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Turkey Re-Introduces Olive Oil and Pulse Export Restrictions

**Country:** Turkey

**Post:** Ankara

**Report Category:** Trade Policy Monitoring, Trade Policy Incident Report, Grain and Feed, Agricultural Situation, Oilseeds and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

Turkiye announced a three-month export ban on olive oil in bulk and in barrels due to the shortage of olive oil production in Mediterranean countries and subsequent negative effects on domestic prices. Turkiye also announced new regulations on the pulse sector, which restricts lentil and chickpea exports. These restrictions are similar to those in past years.

## Olive Oil

To ensure domestic price stability, over the past few years Turkiye has taken measures to restrict exports and impose tariff changes in food products.

The Ministry of Trade (MoT) banned the export of olive oil as of August 1, 2023. In [a press statement](#), MoT noted, “the negative impact of olive oil exports in bulk and barrels, which have increased significantly due to increasing foreign demand caused by decreasing olive oil yield around the world.” They further stated, “Our Ministry has carried out a reevaluation under these circumstances, and additional measures have been put into effect for the export of olive oil in bulk or in barrels until the beginning of the next olive oil harvest period (November 1, 2023).”

According to the ministry, in Marketing Year (MY) 2022/23, Turkiye’s packaged olive oil exports increased by 3 percent by volume, while bulk olive oil exports increased 5.5 times and barrel exports increased 4 times. Looking at the distribution of exports by shipment type, total exports of bulk and barrel olive oil increased from 42 to 83 percent.

In July of this year, to increase the export of value-added products (like consumer-ready packaged olive oil) and discourage the export of olive oil in bulk and barrels, the government instituted a fee of \$0.20 per kilogram for all bulk and barreled olive oil exports. The new fee was announced in Presidential Decision No. 7391, which was published in the Official Gazette July 19, 2023.

Olive oil exports have been banned three times in the last 3 years to stabilize the local market conditions, surprising local exporters who feel victimized by the government’s changes.

## Pulses

The second restriction imposed relates to the pulse sector. Turkiye has been an important pulse exporter in recent years, and in the first 6 months of 2023 approximately \$300 million worth of pulses were exported.

New rules were introduced regarding the export of chickpeas and red lentils, which include lists of goods subject to export registration from August 1, 2023, until January 1, 2024. The rules to be applied when issuing registration permission for chickpea and lentil exports are as follows:

- 1) In the export of chickpeas, companies will be granted export registration permits for a maximum of 55 percent of their exports in the same month of the previous year, monthly from August 1, 2023, to January 1, 2024. If the company is newly established or has not exported in the same month of the previous year, or if 55 percent of its exports in the relevant month are below 25 tons, up to 25 tons will be registered monthly.
- 2) In the export of red lentils, a registration will be given for the amount calculated monthly on a company basis, not exceeding 7.5 percent of the 3-year average on the amount basis of the total exports of the company in 2020, 2021, 2022 (including those made under the Inward Processing Regime (IPR)). If the company is newly established or has not exported in the last 3 years, or if

7.5 percent of its 3-year average exports is below 15 tons, a maximum of 15 tons will be registered monthly.

According to this regulation, a company that exported 100 tons of chickpeas in August last year will be able to export a maximum of 55 tons in August this year. A newly established company will be able to export a maximum of 25 tons of chickpeas. This application will be valid until November 1, 2023.

Mediterranean Exporters Union (MEU) officials were critical of the restriction decision. Like the olive oil industry, chickpea exporters raised objections to the decision, [stating](#) that the changes made in the registration application procedures regarding the export of chickpeas and red lentils will cause irreparable losses on the part of both farmers and exporters, and that the decision should be reviewed, with quota-free exports allowed. “This latest decision regarding the export of chickpeas will reduce our current exports by 45 percent, and will have a negative effect on the farmers, as they will avoid planting the product next season.”

**Figure 1: Turkiye Olive Oil Exports (HS 1509) in Metric Tons**

Country	Years			Year to Date		
	2020	2021	2022	11/21-06/22	11/22-06/23	%Δ
United States	15,863	16,094	22,050	13,163	33,711	156.1
Spain	5,876	9,112	8,888	3,294	73,105	2,119.3
Saudi Arabia	9,290	3,912	5,751	3,623	5,361	48.0
Japan	2,229	3,309	4,401	2,684	3,632	35.3
Israel	1,898	3,591	4,317	3,036	3,187	5.0
Other	17,364	19,329	23,452	17,145	25,570	1.5
Total	52,520	55,347	68,859	42,945	144,566	236.6

Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Figure 2: Turkiye Chickpeas (HS 071320) Exports in Metric Tons**

Partner Country	Years			January-June		%Δ 2023/22
	2020	2021	2022	2022	2023	
Iraq	57,994	58,122	39,483	16,908	58,731	247.4
Syria	21,684	22,039	18,047	11,115	3,497	-68.5
Iran	3,056	27,710	16,629	6,965	2,125	-69.5
Italy	11,871	12,477	15,269	3,822	5,084	33.0
Algeria	10,540	15,208	12,428	5,896	4,359	-26.1
Other	136,137	107,466	77,336	26,286	35,867	136.4
Total	241,282	243,022	179,192	70,992	109,663	54.5

Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Figure 3: Turkiye Red Lentil (HS 07134000013) Exports in Metric Tons**

Partner Country	Years			January-June		
	2020	2021	2022	2022	2023	%Δ 2023/22
Iraq	64,780	60,514	218,781	81,160	114,730	41.36
Sudan	65,549	25,660	75,655	32,560	27,057	-16.90
Egypt	23,291	24,990	22,159	4,338	8,900	105.16
Syria	24,920	23,391	19,089	11,984	4,836	-59.65
Germany	17,245	14,419	12,299	5,258	9,227	75.48
Algeria	9,532	6,867	11,259	1,710	1,230	-28.07
Other	167,980	101,280	105,738	52,317	54,870	1.05
Total	373,297	257,121	464,980	189,327	220,850	16.65

Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Attachments:**

No Attachments