



Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 11/3/1998

GAIN Report #KS8098

Korea, Republic of

Trade data - Multiple commodities only

U.S. Share of Korea's Ag. Imports (Jan - Sep 1998)

Prepared by: **William L. Brant**
U.S. Embassy

Drafted by: Kim, Yong Ja / Michael T. Henney

Report Highlights:

From January through September 1998, Korea imported \$6.57 billion worth of agricultural, fishery and forestry products, a 40-percent decline from the same period of 1997. September 1998 imports equaled \$718 million, 39 percent below the September 1997 total, but 4 percent above August 1998 level.

U.S. market share for imported grains and meats improved on the strength of competitive U.S. corn prices and strong demand for beef during the Chusok holiday season. U.S. raw cotton prices have been on the rise causing Korean spinners and weavers to source more inputs from third countries.

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

Korea: Imports of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Products								
As of September 1998 (Unit in \$ Million)								
		Comparisons						
CH. DESCRIPTION	Total	Jan. - Sep.			Market Competitors			
	1997	1997	1998	Change	U.S.	China	E.U.	Austl.
1 Live animals	36	25	8	-68%	2	2	2	0
2 Meat and edible meat offals	790	603	301	-50%	147	3	75	39
4 Dairy products, eggs, etc.	141	101	63	-37%	13	1	24	13
5 Products of animal origin	118	94	45	-52%	10	13	2	2
6 Live trees & plants, bulbs	40	31	9	-71%	0	0	2	0
7 Edible vegetable	167	121	89	-26%	3	40	0	2
8 Edible fruit & nuts	194	171	88	-49%	43	3	0	0
9 Coffee, tea, spices	241	167	138	-18%	2	3	6	0
10 Cereals	1,886	1,444	1,279	-11%	552	338	40	107
11 Milling products	62	50	40	-19%	4	6	13	5
12 Oilseeds	814	608	408	-33%	269	34	4	28
13 Lacs, gums, resins	47	37	22	-41%	3	2	8	0
14 Vegetable plaiting material	19	12	8	-29%	0	2	0	0
15 Animal/veg oils & fats	342	257	198	-23%	61	3	8	8
16 Meat preparations	156	124	42	-66%	8	6	10	1
17 Sugars and sugar confectionery	549	412	365	-11%	7	2	9	147
18 Cocoa and cocoa preps	106	78	45	-43%	10	1	19	2
19 Preps of cereals, flour	80	61	36	-41%	7	17	8	2
20 Preps of vegetables/fruits	328	265	145	-46%	67	18	9	1
21 Misc. preps	257	206	105	-49%	32	15	25	6
22 Beverages, spirits	326	257	138	-47%	12	16	85	0
23 Residues & waste	627	464	374	-19%	94	27	14	10
24 Tobacco products	397	287	135	-53%	75	0	32	0
41 Raw hide & skin	1,359	1,074	638	-41%	383	35	86	4
52 Cotton	1,255	981	705	-28%	256	75	7	44
-- Sub-Total, Ag. products	10,339	7,929	5,424	-32%	2,060	662	488	423
Market Share					38%	12%	9%	8%
3 Fish & crustaceans	860	637	324	-49%	47	123	3	0
43 Furskins 1/	425	304	62	-79%	14	2	40	0
44 Wood and articles	2,376	1,813	648	-64%	86	60	28	14
51 Wool, fine or coarse 2/	312	260	115	-56%	1	15	2	69
-- Grand Total	14,311	10,943	6,574	-40%	2,207	863	561	507
Market Share					34%	13%	9%	8%

Footnotes:								
1/ Chap 43, includes only raw and dressed furskins								
2/ Chap 51, includes only wool and hair, not yarns and fabrics								
3/ Differences between totals and rate of change are due to rounding.								
Source: Korea Trade Information Services, CIF basis								