

13. REDFISH

Imports (MT dressed wt)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Canada	3,018	3,089	2,090	1,782	2,836
Iceland	10,436	8,117	8,937	11,539	18,177
Norway	3,624	3,388	10,515	15,395	6,976
Portugal	10,242	8,849	2,458	3,530	3,171
Germany	3,265	1,819	1,404	513	0
Bulgaria	2,469	1,563	931	550	228
Russia, Est., Lat.	11,490	5,082	3,190	3,316	9,653
USA	10,983	15,247	20,521	8,937	12,623
Cuba	871	2,170	443	1,143	0
Other	2,531	2,122	3,872	2,630	6,267

Total	58,929	51,446	54,361	49,337	59,931

Prices - Tokyo wholesale (yen/kg)

	<u>Year ago</u>	<u>6 mo. ago</u>	<u>Last mo.</u>	<u>Feb. 93</u>
500g & up	-	550-600	500-550	400-450
300-500g	450-480	450-500	400-450	350-400
200-300	-	330-380	330-380	300-350

Market Situation and Outlook

- Total imports of redfish in 1992 amounted to 59,931 metric tons. As the inventory carried over from 1991 to 1992 was 15,000 metric tons, the total supply in 1992 was approximately 75,000 metric tons.
- As the Japanese annual demand for redfish for both processing and retail sales in thawed form is approximately 40,000 metric tons, as much as 35,000 metric tons are said to have been carried over from 1992 to 1993.
- The market for redfish softened in 1992 due to increased imports. The low price of redfish kirimi (slices) has made some kirimi processors withdraw from processing redfish as a result of the labour shortage still seen in 1992.
- While imports from Norway decreased significantly in 1992, imports from Canada, Iceland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, and the USA increased noticeably.