

4. SALTED HERRING ROE

Imports - salted (MT)

	1985	1986	1987	Jan-Jul	
				1987	1988
Canada	4,001	2,867	6,450	2,378	3,751
USA	1,626	781	587	308	446
S/Korea	830	1,124	1,007	745	583
China	617	578	322	3	2
Denmark	228	300	273	-	-
Netherlands	67	424	1,453	705	910
Total	7,683	6,762	10,974	4,504	6,170

Supply Reconciliation - salted herring roe

	1984	1985	1986	1987
Beginning inventory (Jan)	1,150	1,800	1,600	1,700
Imports of salted roe	7,300	7,680	6,700	11,000
Production from roe herring	2,200	2,900	2,600	2,500
Total supply available	10,650	12,380	10,900	15,200
Ending inventory	1,800	1,600	700	3,700
Apparent consumption	8,850	10,780	10,200	11,500

Prices - Tokyo wholesale (yen/kg)

	Sept/87	Mar/88	Aug/88	Sep88
Can#1	4600/4500	5500/5000	5300/5200	5300/5200
Br. Bay#1	4000	4000/3000	4500/4200	4500/4200

Market Situation and Outlook

- After the abundant supply in 1987, the market will be somewhat on the short side in 1988 due to reduced roe herring catch in B.C. and Alaska. There is a substantial surplus of very small roe, some of which may be used in seasoned roe production.
- Wholesale prices have increased from year ago levels reflecting the shortage and also the higher prices paid to Canadian exporters in 1988.
- If sales go as expected during the New Year's season, product should be cleared and market conditions very favourable for next year's harvest season.