

Total	2 536 tonnes
Imported from Canada	660 tonnes

Total market for whole frozen lobsters (cooked or uncooked), 1988:

Imports (there is no French production)	1 998 tonnes
Imported from Canada	1 948 tonnes

Total market for frozen lobster consisting of other than whole lobsters (cooked in some instances but not prepared), 1988:

Imports (there is no French production)	433 tonnes
Imported from Canada	411 tonnes

Total canned and prepared lobster market, 1988:

Imports	152 tonnes
Imported from Canada	63 tonnes

Live lobsters and whole frozen lobsters are subject to a customs duty of 8%.

For other products, see Appendix 1.

8.2.1 Live lobsters

Competing product: live rock lobsters (red and pink)

Competing suppliers: French producers, Scotland, Ireland, United States.

Live lobster is a delicacy that is consumed particularly during the year-end holiday season; it is often the key ingredient in a very elaborate dish. However, what the French call "American" lobster, i.e. lobster originating from the United States and Canada, is regarded as a lower-quality product than European lobster and commands a much lower price.

Most of the large supermarket chains sell live lobsters at the end of the year at low prices (i.e. with no margin for the corporation). In many instances they buy direct, as do some restaurant chains. Lastly, there are a number of firms at Rungis that sell to restaurateurs.

There are two types of product that coexist in the market: lobsters that have arrived directly from Canada, and lobsters that have spent some time in a pound in Brittany. The consumer is not informed which are which.