

16. MACKEREL

Japanese catch (1000 MT)

<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
773	945	701	649	527	273	251

Imports (MT)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Canada	945	610	434	2,691	1,191
Norway	32,715	53,011	60,768	144,224	117,863
Denmark	643	1,496	6,209	9,814	7,286
Ireland	613	651	27	9,814	1,372
UK	1,182	640	1,161	8,562	4,957
Netherlands	1,181	1,544	1,010	6,707	2,244
Other	2,049	2,727	1,144	12,240	2,356
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Total	39,328	60,679	70,753	194,054	137,270

Prices - Tokyo Wholesale (Yen/kg)

	<u>Year ago</u>	<u>6 mo. ago</u>	<u>Last mo.</u>	<u>Feb. 93</u>
Japanese 600g up	700-1300	400-1000	600-1300	600-1300
500-600g	500-800	300-500	500-700	500-700
Norway 600g up	380-400	360-370	300-310	300-310

Market Situation and Outlook

- Mackerel has long been one of the most popular fish in Japan. However, the Japanese catch of mackerel has been decreasing drastically in recent years, which has led to a tremendous increase in imports of mackerel into Japan.
- In 1992, mackerel imports amounted to 137,000 metric tons, of which 118,000 metric tons, or 86.1%, were imported from Norway. However, total imports of mackerel, including those from Norway, decreased significantly in 1992 as a result of the softened market following a sharp increase in imports in 1991.
- Imports from Canada also decreased from 2,691 mt in 1991 to 1,191 mt in 1992.
- Unlike Norwegian mackerel, Canadian mackerel is limited in its usages in Japan and this is one of the obstacles preventing exports of Canadian mackerel from increasing in the same way