

11. CRAB SECTIONS

Japanese catch (MT)

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
King	207	329	623	1,000	1,000
Snow	9,357	7,741	8,500	5,000	8,000
Blue	3,990	3,412	2,658	4,000	4,000
Other	63,081	57,870	57,172	49,000	65,000

Total	76,635	69,352	64,953	59,000	78,000

Imports (MT)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Canada	7,455	5,178	6,280	7,643	9,296
USA	28,658	29,465	45,097	70,790	68,188
S/Korea	797	380	296	334	336
N/Korea	132	99	108	142	54
China	7,724	9,736	7,601	7,389	11,080
Russia	5,193	5,498	9,137	9,624	11,439
Other	3,827	4,335	3,586	3,240	2,499

Total	53,786	54,691	72,105	99,162	102,892

Prices - Tokyo wholesale (yen/kg)

	<u>Year ago</u>	<u>6 mo. ago</u>	<u>Last mo.</u>	<u>Feb. 93</u>
Canadian size 2L (5kg pack)	1700-1800	1350-1650	1300-1500	1300-1500
Canadian size L	1400-1500	1050-1250	1000-1100	1000-1100
Alaska size 2L	1200-1300	1050-1350	1100-1300	1000-1300

Market Situation and Outlook

- The increase in catch and exports of snow crab by the United States has led to a rapid expansion of the market in Japan.
- While the market before the winter of 1992 was not as active as the market in 1991, the demand for snow crab has gone up as snow crab is one of major items used for Japanese hot fish pot, which is one of the most popular winter recipes in Japan.
- As a result of the economic slow down, fish species which are used for expensive restaurants have incurred a considerable