

Of the various species of clam, only Venus gallina (called chirla in Spain and generally imported from Italy) is subject to import quotas.

In 1987 the quota for this species was 165 tonnes (75 tonnes in the first quarter, 150 tonnes in the second quarter, 75 tonnes in the third quarter, and 265 tonnes in the fourth quarter).

Given the demand for this product, the quota for 1988 was raised to 15 000 tonnes (1090 tonnes in the first quarter, 3095 tonnes in the second quarter, 1990 tonnes in the third quarter, and 7035 tonnes in the fourth quarter).

All other clam species enter free of duty.

All clams imported from Canada come from the province of British Columbia and include the following varieties:

Manila clam (Saxidomus nuttali; Venus mortoni) - hard shell clam.

Soft shell clam (Mya arenaria).

Little neck clam (we do not know the scientific name for this species).

It appears that the species being imported into Spain is the first listed above, and that shipments are entering through Barcelona.

Imports of frozen clams are classified under Tariff Code 03.07.99.13.0 and are subject to 8% duty according to Boletin Oficial No. 286 (however, according to another publication, non-EEC countries pay a 4.5% duty under Tariff Code 03.07.99.13.0.10 F or 03.07.99.13.0.90 H.

Frozen yellowish-white clams are currently being imported from France in 1kg and 5kg mesh bags.

August 1988