

9. CAPELIN

Imports (MT)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Canada	39,923	33,516	28,962	15,214	11,863
Iceland	1,518	4,450	2,563	131	2,418
Norway	273	1,408	2,407	3,000	5,141
Russia	0	170	171	0	164
USA	0	-	995	0	16
Greenland	0	-	-	0	5
Denmark	0	-	-	0	0
Other	95	381	79	266	224
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Total	41,809	39,925	35,177	18,611	19,830

Prices (yen/kg)

	<u>Year ago</u>	<u>6 mo. ago</u>	<u>Last mo.</u>	<u>Feb. 93</u>
Importer to proc.	380-420	380-480	380-480	380-480
Retail*	300-350	350-450	350-450	350-450

\*yen/package 8 large capelin

Market Situation and Outlook

- Following increased import prices for Canadian capelin caused by poor landings in 1991 and 1992, Japanese processors raised their selling prices in 1991 and 1992 (by approximately 20-30% each time).
- These price increases accelerated the deterioration of consumer demand for capelin. The smaller supply at higher prices shifted many capelin processors toward processing other fish such as horse mackerel, atka mackerel, etc.
- As indicated in the following summary, a substantial decrease in the supply of such large sizes as under 40 caused by the decreased supply from Canada discouraged Japanese processors from processing capelin as small-sized capelin is more costly to process than larger sizes.