

14. LOBSTER

Imports

Atlantic lobster (MT)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
(A) Live:					
Canada	494	647	826	1,026	859
USA	639	661	524	455	602
(B) Frozen:					
Canada	1,448	672	1,128	1,526	1,577
USA	85	108	34	329	149
Total Atlantic	2,666	2,088	2,512	3,335	3,187

Rock lobster (MT) (Ise-Ebi, fresh or frozen)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Hong Kong	12	1	0	0	0
Indonesia	401	298	183	332	461
India	1,144	1,314	1,387	1,383	803
Sri Lanka	118	129	184	153	117
Cuba	3,052	2,846	2,239	1,737	1,884
Namibia	1,516	987	535	354	137
S/Africa	1,189	1,255	1,470	1,503	1,250
Australia	3,607	3,291	2,373	2,961	3,252
New Zealand	1,159	217	188	194	80
Other	1,701	1,889	3,441	3,762	3,144

Total	13,899	12,227	12,000	12,379	11,129

Market Situation and Outlook

- Prices of spiny lobster supplied from such sources as Australia and other countries went up substantially in 1992. These increased prices contributed to the substitution of spiny lobster with Canadian lobster in the live and frozen lobster markets.
- The economic slow down has been causing a considerable decrease in the quantity of very expensive items used in the food service sector. According to trade, each hotel and restaurant purchase of lobster has been decreasing and trade have been endeavouring to maintain sales quantities of lobster at the same level as in 1992 by increasing the number of customers, i.e., outlets.