

**INDONESIA**

Indonesia harvests native river lobster which is smaller in size and more affordable than imported lobster species. Total landings for 1992 were 1,800 MT, down from 4,400 MT in 1991 {59.1 percent}. Lobsters are only consumed in Indonesia at five star hotels, certain restaurants, and on special occasions. Lobster consumption is largely by expatriates and within Indonesian high society. Most lobster imported to the Indonesian market is imported from Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Canada. Import statistics for 1992 were: H.S.0306.1100 {261kg}; 0306.1200 {4,272kg}; 0306.2190 {106kg}; and 0306.2290 {501kg}. In 1992, 4.2 MT of lobster entered the Indonesian market through Batam Island.

*Indonesian Frozen Lobster Exports to Japan*

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Metric Tonnes	298	194	345	461	165

Source: National Statistics, Japan.

Labelling of food products is controlled by the Indonesian Government. Languages used on the label should be either Bahasa Indonesian, or English. Size of the lettering on the package must be sufficiently large enough to be readable. Names and addresses of the producer and/or distributor should be included on the product label. For certain types of products, the label should show the date of expiration and the required method of storage. The word Halal is required for specific food products such as meat, animal fat and fisheries products. According to the joint decree of the Minister of religion and the Minister of Health, No.427/1985, "Halal" food is defined as any kind of food not containing forbidden elements and processed according to Muslim religion. "Halal" should be written on the package to guarantee Muslims are allowed to consume the product. Halal food manufacturers who put the word "Halal" on the package are held responsible for the substance and the process of the products. An appropriate trade show for introducing lobster products into Indonesia is the Food and Hotel Indonesia Show, an international hotel, catering, equipment and food exhibition held in February. For the moment, the possibilities for exporting lobster to Indonesia is limited.

**ISRAEL**

Israel has a population of 5.3 million and Gross Domestic Product equal to US\$65 billion. In 1992, fish and seafood imports were valued at US\$73.3 million, while fish and seafood consumption per capita is estimated at 13.2kg per annum {frozen fish 5.9kg; deep sea fish 1.3kg; canned fish 2.2kg; and fresh water fish 3.8kg}. The domestic market for lobster in Israel is very limited. Until recently, there were no imports of lobster products due to the "Kashrut Laws" {religious dietary requirements}. During the first six months of 1994, approximately one tonne of lobster was imported into Israel from Canada {Nova Scotia}. Fish and seafood imports have risen by 20 percent during the 1990's, largely due to the influx of Russian immigrants to Israel. Israeli domestic consumption of processed fish and seafood products has grown substantially over the same period. Retail prices for lobster in Israel as of late 1994, were approximately NIS\$100 per kilogram.

**JAPAN**

Landings of lobster in Japan totalled 1,194 MT in 1992, an increase from 1,172 MT in 1991 {1.9 percent}. Domestic Japanese lobster commands a premium price in the market. The Japanese market for Homarus spp. and spiny lobster totals approximately 20,000 MT per year; of which 15,000 MT is frozen {75 percent}. The Japanese market for lobster is large and growing, especially for North American lobster {Homarus spp.}. Warm water lobster {spiny} dominates the Japanese market: 80 percent market share for frozen; and 60 percent for live fresh, or chilled lobster products. There has been a slow, but steady, erosion of spiny lobster's predominance in the Japanese market.

*Average Wholesale Price for Domestic Lobster*

Landed at Japanese Ports

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
{Yen per kilogram}	6,580	6,682	6,294	7,254	6,500

Source: Canadian Embassy, Tokyo.