

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: PRC Suspends Imports of Aquatic Products from Japan

Country: China - People's Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: Fishery Products

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Report Highlights:

On August 24, the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) suspended all imports of aquatic products (including edible aquatic animals) from Japan, effective immediately. The announcement follows Japan's announced plans to begin releasing more than one million metric tons of treated radioactive water from the Fukushima power plant into the Pacific Ocean. This report provides an unofficial translation of the GACC announcement and initial review of impacted trade.

On August 24, GACC issued [Announcement No. 103 of 2023 \(Announcement on Suspension of Import of Japanese Aquatic Products\)](#), suspending all imports of aquatic products (including edible aquatic animals) from Japan.

Japan is a major supplier of seafood products to China, with 2022 imports of 155,429 MT valued at \$546 million. China's imports of seafood from Japan have grown in recent years, up 31 percent by volume compared to 2019. By volume, mollusks (HS Code 0307) and frozen fish (HS Code 0303) account for 67 percent and 28 percent, respectively, in 2022. In 2022, China's seafood imports from the United States were 280,029 MT, of which frozen fish (HS Code 0303) was 214,356 MT or 76 percent, followed by mollusks at 16 percent (HS Code 0307) and fish fillet (HS Code 0304) at 4.6 percent.

Table 1. China: Imports of Seafood from Japan

Calendar Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan-Jul 2023
Total value (\$ million)	355.4	247.0	401.2	546.0	313.3
Total volume (MT)	118,267	104,975	139,140	155,429	79,479
Fish, Fresh (HS Code 0302)	1,410	1,454	2,608	3,093	2,087
Fish, Frozen (HS Code 0303)	43,311	39,337	34,140	42,951	24,936
Fish, Fillet (HS Code 0304)	559	945	901	961	760
Fish, Dried, Salted, Brined (HS Code 0305)	73	31	35	34	31
Crustaceans (HS Code 0306)	518	345	868	670	470
Mollusks and Other (HS Code 0307)	68,264	58,961	97,470	104,431	49,824
Prepared or Packaged Fish and Caviar (HS Code 1604)	2,294	2,134	2,078	1,967	827
Prepared or Packaged Crustaceans and Mollusks (HS Code 1605)	1,838	1,768	1,041	1,321	544

Source: Trade Data Monitor, Inc.

For more information about the China seafood and aquatic products market, please see FAS GAIN Report [2022 China Fishery Products Annual](#).

Being Unofficial Translation

Announcement No. 103 of 2023

In order to comprehensively prevent the risk of radioactive pollution caused by Japan's Fukushima nuclear pollution water discharge to food safety, protect the health of Chinese consumers, and ensure the safety of imported food, in accordance with the "Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China" and its implementation regulations, "The Import and Export of the People's Republic of China" According to the relevant provisions of the Measures for the Administration of Export Food Safety and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on the Implementation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization, the General Administration of Customs has decided to completely suspend the import of aquatic products originating in Japan from August 24, 2023 (inclusive) (including edible aquatic animals). General Administration of Customs of China August 24, 2023

End Unofficial Translation

Website Link: (<http://www.customs.gov.cn/customs/302249/2480148/5274475/index.html>)

Attachments:

No Attachments.