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China Files Complaint Over EU Food Bans

On 24 January, China filed a WTO complaint over a European ban on poultry, shrimp, and other foodstuffs that contained traces of banned antibiotics. Chinese experts say that China tends to use higher levels of antibiotics and other medicines in meats and seafood prepared for domestic consumption. Food produced for export usually meet the target-country standards.

This is China's first complaint about a European trade measure since its inception into the WTO in December. According to WTO rules, the Europeans have the right to ban food products for health reasons, but the issue in this case is whether or not the EU gave China enough time to deal with the issue after detecting the problem. Both sides are eager to resolve the dispute peacefully, and have agreed upon a joint study group to explore health concerns as well as setting up "early warning systems" to prevent similar future occurrences.

In May 2001 the EU lifted a five-year ban on imports of frozen chicken. The ban had been imposed in 1996 due to hygiene concerns. Prior to the ban, China's average annual exports of poultry meat to the EU amounted to 50,000 MT, roughly one sixth of China's total poultry exports.

Sources: BRIDGES Weekly Trade News <http://www.ictsd.org>, Dow Jones, www.chinaonline.com, USDA/FAS

Broiler Meat Comparisons: Japan and China

	Production		Imports		% Import Dependency	
	Japan	China	Japan	China	Japan	China
1995	1.17	4.40	0.54	0.59	31.40	11.82
1996	1.13	5.00	0.55	0.61	32.78	10.87
1997	1.12	2.65	0.58	0.73	33.84	21.55
1998	1.10	3.45	0.59	0.72	34.97	17.19
1999	1.08	4.40	0.57	0.91	34.47	17.14
2000	1.09	5.00	0.72	0.99	39.79	16.54
2001	1.08	5.20	0.67	0.90	38.14	14.75
2002(f)	1.09	5.35	0.69	0.90	38.91	14.40

Source: USDA/FAS

USDA Library of Export Requirements

2/6/2002 Philippines - Ineligible Product Until further notice, poultry and poultry products originating from birds from the State of Pennsylvania slaughtered on or after December 1, 2001 are ineligible for export to the Philippines. Poultry and poultry products trans-shipped through Japan and PRC (China) may not be allowed entry into the Philippines.

2/6/2002 Taiwan – Documentation Requirements

FSIS Form 9285-1 (04/11/2000) contains a block at the bottom of the form to be completed by the exporter or shipper. The FSIS veterinarian may sign the certificate without this block completed and the exporter is responsible for its accuracy. Failure to complete this block may result in detained product.

Japan: New Allergen Labeling Requirements

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare will introduce allergen labeling on food products on April 1, 2002. Foods containing one of five ingredients known to cause significant allergic reactions, wheat, buckwheat, egg, milk and peanut, will be subject to mandatory allergen labeling. Foods containing those five foods, or ingredients prepared from them, must be labeled. For example, lysozyme extracted from eggs needs to be labeled as "egg white lysozyme" or "lysozyme (from egg)" rather than just "lysozyme."

Source: USDA/FAS

Philippines Broiler Industry

CY 2002 started unfavorably for the broiler industry according to a recent industry report. There is an oversupply of broilers. Production costs are higher and have pushed retail prices up. Demand has declined due to an economic slowdown. There is competition from cheaper imported chicken meat.

Since January 2001 the Peso has weakened by at least 15 percent. This resulted in higher prices for imported production inputs. The report estimates current production costs at around US\$0.94 per kilo and farm gate prices at about US\$0.78 per kilo. Production costs were estimated at US\$0.75 in 2000.

The report focused on a few issues. The industry's lack of a system of monitoring and reporting results in a "boom and bust" environment. The lack of post-harvest facilities for local inputs such as corn, results in losses and poor quality. The country's commitment to the WTO is unrealistic and the Department of Agriculture (DA) is compromised by its lack of current information and statistical data on the actual industry situation. Specific and definite developmental directions are not guiding the DA.

The report offered four recommendations. (1) The industry needs a poultry industry committee under the Livestock Development Council (LDC) to monitor developments in the industry. (2) Efforts must be made to improve the corn industry. (3) Products such as chicken leg quarters should be excluded from the WTO and ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) coverage. (4) Better cooperation and coordination between the industry and the DA is needed.

Source: USDA/FAS

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade

U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Week Ending Feb 02, 2002		Year-To-Date	
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Liquid	442	91	1,276	489
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	0	0	0
Total	442	91	1,276	489

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Week Ending Feb 02, 2002		Year-To-Date	
	2002	2001/1	2002	2001
Liquid	127	156	366	568
Frozen	36	1	281	61
Dried	0	0	168	40
Total	163	157	815	669

Inspected Shell Eggs

U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

	Week Ending Feb 02, 2002		Year-To-Date	
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Extra Large	0	125	240	730
Large	800	501	3,499	7,181
Medium	0	0	1,160	750
Ungraded	0	1,530	0	5,280
Misc	0	0	66	787
Total	800	2,156	4,965	14,728

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

CHICKEN	PRICES		VOLUME		
	(Cents per Pound)		08-FEB-2002		

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT					
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	-	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED	PRICES		VOLUME		
	(Cents per Pound)		08-FEB-2002		

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT					
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	-	14.00		81,600	-
WTD AVERAGE		14.00			
15-20%					
RANGE	12.50	11.00-13.00		877,200	-
WTD AVERAGE	12.50	11.38			
20% OR MORE					
RANGE	-	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

* INCLUDES THE STATES OF AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 02-Feb-02
(PRELIMINARY) **U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,032	1,325	3,357
LAST WEEK	1,784	1,232	3,016
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,942	1,305	3,247
TO-DATE/2002	9,107	6,404	15,511
TO-DATE/2001	9,093	6,051	15,144

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	374	0	374
LAST WEEK	437	0	437
SAME WEEK YR AGO	608	0	608
TO-DATE/2002	1,648	8	1,656
TO-DATE/2001	2,768	20	2,788

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,406	1,325	3,731
LAST WEEK	2,221	1,232	3,453
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,550	1,305	3,855
TO-DATE/2002	10,755	6,412	17,167
TO-DATE/2001	11,861	6,071	17,932

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

CHICKEN	PRICES		VOLUME		
	(Cents per Pound)		08-FEB-2002		

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT					
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	-	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED	PRICES		VOLUME		
	(Cents per Pound)		08-FEB-2002		

FAT	FROZEN		FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT					
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	15.75-16.50	12.75-13.50		826,000	266,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.07	13.03			
15-20%					
RANGE	15.00	10.00-13.50		1,550,000	160,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.00	12.19			
20% OR MORE					
RANGE	-	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

* INCLUDES THE STATES OF CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 8 FEBRUARY 2002.

Fresh and frozen tom breast meat was readily available with trades at lower trending levels. The market tone on destrapped tenders was mostly steady. Light trading on tom drums was at higher prices, supplies were tight. Tom necks were weak and supplies exceeded demand. Trading was light on other parts items. Frozen wing meat was more available and about steady. Fresh wing meat moved at 80 to 82 cents delivered. Export demand on drums and thigh meat kept supplies in close balance. Export demand was fairly active on tom drums. The weekly weighted average on tom drums was 30.30 cents on 720,000 pounds. Thigh meat exports for the week averaged 59.39 cents on 1,728,000 pounds.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2002**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	30.00		30.00	420	30.30	720
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	25.00	104	25.00	104
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	30.00		30.00	54	29.51	106
TAILS		W	28.00	28	28.00	28
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		T	14.00	40	14.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	58.00-60.00		59.00	208	59.39	1,728

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 07, 2002**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	31.00		31.00	156
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	25.00	104
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	29.00		29.00	52
TAILS		W	28.00	28
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		T	14.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	55.00-63.00		58.77	712

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 06, 2002**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	31.50		31.50	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	24.00-26.00		25.00	104
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS	28.00		28.00	28
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		T	14.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	62.00		62.00	52

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2002**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	30.00		30.00	104
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		R	25.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	14.00		14.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	59.00-60.00		59.90	716

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 04, 2002**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	31.00	46
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		R	25.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	14.00	80
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	60.00		60.00	40

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY 2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.