

FOREIGN TRADE

IMPORTS. U.S. imports of edible fishery products in 1998 were valued at a record \$8.2 billion, \$418.9 million more than in 1997. The quantity of edible imports was 3.6 billion pounds, 308.2 million pounds more than the quantity imported in 1997.

Edible imports consisted of 3.1 billion pounds of fresh and frozen products valued at \$7.4 billion, 428.2 million pounds of canned products valued at \$587.6 million, 72.2 million pounds of cured products valued at \$140.6 million, 4.4 million pounds of caviar and roe products valued at \$33.2 million, and 23.1 million pounds of other products valued at \$55.9 million.

The quantity of shrimp imported in 1998 was 695.4 million pounds, 47.1 million pounds more than the quantity imported in 1997. Valued at \$3.1 billion, shrimp imports accounted for 38 percent of the value of total edible imports. Imports of fresh and frozen tuna were 571.0 million pounds, 132.5 million pounds more than the 438.5 million pounds imported in 1997. Imports of canned tuna were 240.4 million pounds, 28.2 million pounds more than in 1997. Imports of fresh and frozen fillets and steaks amounted to 578.6 million pounds, an increase of 63.8 million pounds from 1997. Regular and minced block imports were 232.8 million pounds, a decrease of 1.1 million pounds from 1997.

Imports of nonedible fishery products were valued at \$7.4 billion -- an increase of \$685.4 million compared

with 1997. The total value of edible and nonedible products was \$15.6 billion in 1998, \$1.1 billion more than in 1998 when \$14.5 billion of fishery products were imported.

EXPORTS. U.S. exports of edible fishery products were 1.7 billion pounds valued at \$2.3 billion, a decrease of 329.9 million pounds and \$445.1 million when compared with 1997. Fresh and frozen items were 1.4 billion pounds valued at \$1.8 billion, a decrease of 331.6 million pounds, and \$346.0 million compared with 1997. In terms of individual items, fresh and frozen exports consisted principally of 153.4 million pounds of salmon valued at \$255.1 million, 255.3 million pounds of surimi valued at \$284.4 million and 43.0 million pounds of lobsters valued at \$187.8 million.

Canned items were 144.2 million pounds valued at \$211.2 million. Salmon was the major canned item exported, with 77.4 million pounds valued at \$143.3 million. Cured items were 15.5 million pounds valued at \$23.2 million. Caviar and roe exports were 72.4 million pounds valued at \$258.0 million.

Exports of nonedible products were valued at \$6.4 billion compared with \$6.6 billion in 1998. Exports of fish meal amounted to 210.7 million pounds valued at \$68.4 million. The total value of edible and nonedible exports was \$8.7 billion--a decrease of \$648.2 million compared with 1997.

U.S. Trade in Edible Fishery Products, 1998

