

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Chile

Post: Santiago

Chiles Cheese Production Consumption and Imports

Report Categories:

Dairy and Products

Approved By:

Rachel Bickford, Agricultural Attaché

Prepared By:

Luis Hennicke, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

For 2013 cheese and farmers cheese production is expected to reach 135,000 MT which is an eight percent increase over last year.

General Information:

In 2012 milk consumption by industry and the processing sector increased 2.3 percent in volume when compared to the previous year. During the first seven months of 2013 we have seen an additional 1.5 percent expansion in consumption and the industry projects it to further increase between 4 to 5 percent for the whole year. The domestic milk production is destined for various dairy products, from greatest to least importance: dry milk, cheese, fluid milk and yogurt. In 2012, forty percent was used for dry milk and 41 percent for cheese production. Cheese production has increased over 40 percent from 2001 to 2012. In 2013 alone cheese production has increased over 5 percent when compared to the same period of 2012. Per capita cheese consumption in Chile has increased from 5.6 Kgrs in 2004 to 8.5 Kgrs in 2012 and expected to increase to 9.5 Kgrs in 2013.

Cheese imports have also been growing during the last few years; they have expanded over 150 percent since 2007. The United States with 28 percent of total imports is Chile's second largest supplier of cheese after New Zealand with 37 percent and followed by Argentina with 27 percent during 2013 (January through October). Back in 2007 Argentina was the largest supplier of cheese with over 52 percent of total imports and the US supplied only 1.5 percent of total imports. There were no imports from New Zealand in 2007.

PRODUCTION AND TRADE TABLE

(In M.T.)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Production	61,745	57,369	56,526	64,558	66,679	80,619
Exports	16,358	12,254	9,147	10,811	10,361	8,256
imports	7,100	7,139	9,243	7,744	10,929	18,374