

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Pork Market Brief

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Report Highlights:

Croatia is a large pork importer. In 2010, pork imports reached \$128 million (43,200 MT), mostly from the EU and Chile. Currently, the US is a minor supplier to the Croatian market. As an EU-candidate country, pork exports to Croatia must meet EU standards. However, this should not be a constraint to US exporters.

General Information:

Market Overview

In 2009, Croatia produced 159,745 MT of pork from domestic and imported pigs. Even so, pork is an important staple and Croatia is not self sufficient in pork but imports between 35,000 MT and 46,000 MT annually. In 2009, Croatia imported 46,024 MT of pork valued at \$143 million.

Currently, Croatian pork producers are losing their competitiveness to imported pork due to high feed and fuel prices, especially small or indebted farmers. Some observers believe Croatia possesses a comparative advantage for pork production and the only constraint is the extensive fragmentation of farms. Others, however, counter that many large, modern farms also are losing their competitiveness due to their debt, which many had hoped to repay at subsidized rates before the global financial crisis intervened. As long as input prices remain high and farms fragmented and/or in debt, the number of producers and total pork production is likely to continue to decline.

Imports and Exports

Croatia is a large pork importer. In 2010, pork imports reached \$128 million (43,200 MT), mostly from the EU (Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, Austria, and Spain) and Chile. Imports in 2010 declined mainly due to higher prices and reduced purchasing power. Currently, the US is a minor supplier to the Croatian market. As an EU-candidate country, pork exports to Croatia must meet EU standards. However, this should not be a constraint to US exporters.

Following are import and export statistics:

Croatia Import Statistics UDG: Pork,							
Year To Date: January - December							
Partner Country	United States Dollars			% Share			% Change
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2010/2009
World	134038340	143337941	128151254	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 10.60
Germany	27139139	29907379	31069297	20.25	20.86	24.24	3.89
Netherlands	29060146	28848717	26869777	21.68	20.13	20.97	- 6.86
Italy	12958911	14496621	15695001	9.67	10.11	12.25	8.27
Denmark	22986479	15424220	14326519	17.15	10.76	11.18	- 7.12
Austria	12362806	12036883	11569792	9.22	8.40	9.03	- 3.88
Spain	10293167	11505737	8435869	7.68	8.03	6.58	- 26.68
Chile	5114550	17724428	6437933	3.82	12.37	5.02	- 63.68
Hungary	3390171	5091111	3657012	2.53	3.55	2.85	- 28.17
Slovenia	5252429	3545824	3140020	3.92	2.47	2.45	- 11.44
United States	386428	283850	2420904	0.29	0.20	1.89	752.88
Belgium	515052	1225687	1484988	0.38	0.86	1.16	21.16
France	4091984	1895573	946166	3.05	1.32	0.74	- 50.09
Bosnia & Herzegovina	338379	271170	777496	0.25	0.19	0.61	186.72
Canada	0	563548	677846	0.00	0.39	0.53	20.28
Poland	108798	451103	604877	0.08	0.31	0.47	34.09

Iceland	39901	0	21032	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.00
Macedonia	0	0	16725	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Brazil	0	66090	0	0.00	0.05	0.00	- 100.00

Source: Global Trade Atlas(GTA)

Croatia Export Statistics							
UDG: Pork,							
Year To Date: January - December							
Partner Country	United States Dollars			% Share			% Change
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2010/2009
World	11713389	13500967	11577109	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 14.25
Bosnia & Herzegovina	8354133	10109995	8003145	71.32	74.88	69.13	- 20.84
Slovenia	1381725	1225790	1280942	11.80	9.08	11.06	4.50
Australia	383409	444891	430583	3.27	3.30	3.72	- 3.22
Serbia	295135	322383	423808	2.52	2.39	3.66	31.46
United States	365081	342740	344655	3.12	2.54	2.98	0.56
Macedonia	319215	135433	249143	2.73	1.00	2.15	83.96
Montenegro	131947	179719	235727	1.13	1.33	2.04	31.16
Netherlands	0	138055	175490	0.00	1.02	1.52	27.12
Austria	125493	89490	114694	1.07	0.66	0.99	28.16
Denmark	0	19990	70569	0.00	0.15	0.61	253.02
Canada	102426	125576	69450	0.87	0.93	0.60	- 44.69
Germany	84853	68373	46635	0.72	0.51	0.40	- 31.79
Italy	30811	0	32193	0.26	0.00	0.28	0.00
United Kingdom	8947	4436	30833	0.08	0.03	0.27	595.06
Israel	0	0	30656	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.00
Hungary	0	116053	18462	0.00	0.86	0.16	- 84.09
Sweden	6025	14492	13556	0.05	0.11	0.12	- 6.46
Cyprus	0	1390	4349	0.00	0.01	0.04	212.88
Iceland	2279	0	1776	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00
South Africa	0	0	443	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Spain	62631	84117	0	0.53	0.62	0.00	- 100.00
France	4561	64437	0	0.04	0.48	0.00	- 100.00
Slovakia	0	12680	0	0.00	0.09	0.00	- 100.00
New Zealand	0	927	0	0.00	0.01	0.00	- 100.00
Russia	54718	0	0	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Global Trade Atlas (GTA)

Tariffs and VAT

The value added tax (VAT) on all products is 23% at present.

The most recent tariff rates can be found at:

<http://www.carina.hr/ActInternet/MainFrame/AplMainFrame.aspx>

Market Access

As an EU-candidate country, Croatia complies with all relevant EU legislation and all pork that is eligible to be exported to the EU market, is eligible to be exported to Croatia. Croatia's adoption of EU requirements should not discourage US exporters. Information on the required certification can be obtained at:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Croatia_Requirements/index.asp

Key Contacts and Further Information

A list of Croatian pet food importers is available to the U.S. pork exporters and can be obtained by contacting:

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