

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Turkiye Establishes State Managed Feeder Cattle Import Quotas for 2026

**Country:** Turkiye

**Post:** Ankara

**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation, Livestock and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

On January 26, 2026, Türkiye's Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry issued a circular establishing a state-managed quota for feeder cattle imports to address high inflation and meat prices. The Meat and Milk Board (ESK) is authorized to import 500,000 head in 2026, with permits for imported animals allocated by farm size. Based on recent import history, ESK is expected to purchase low-cost feeder cattle from South American suppliers.

## **Turkiye Announces Import Quota for Feeder Cattle**

On January 26, 2026, the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MinAF) published the *2026 Feeder Cattle Import Application and Evaluation Circular* (attached), listing its criteria for importing 500,000 male feeder cattle under a state-managed quota.

As a result of high inflation and rising meat prices in domestic markets, MinAF has sought to assert control of imports of male feeder cattle by creating an import quota. The Meat and Milk Board (ESK), which is a state-owned enterprise that helps regulate domestic meat and milk prices, will manage the quota. ESK has been authorized to import 500,000 male feeder cattle in 2026, “from countries that have a veterinary health certificate agreement and are deemed appropriate by the Ministry.” Of that figure, import permits for 392,000 feeder cattle will be allocated to farms with a cattle barn capacity of 200 head or more, and the remainder will go to farms with fewer animals.

ESK separately imports female feeder cattle to boost the domestic animal population, though there is no specific quota. Female feeder cattle are sent to TIGEM farms where they are bred and then their offspring is distributed to farms.

According to Turkish sources, since 2024 ESK has sought the cheapest feeder cattle regardless of their meat quality, sourcing mostly from South American countries like Brazil and Uruguay. However, feeder cattle stocks in those countries are dwindling and prices are rising, according to local contacts. As a result, Turkiye has started to import from Australia to help cover the gap. The United States can't ship feeder cattle to Turkiye since it is only eligible to supply breeding cattle. However, since May of 2024 Turkiye has imposed an unjustified ban on the importation of livestock from the United States.

### **Attachments:**

[Circular on Feeder Cattle Import in 2026 \(1\).docx](#)