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Report Highlights:

Korea's total citrus production is forecast at 570,000 metric tons (MT), a 2.1 percent decline from the previous marketing year (582,000 MT), driven by lower yield for open-field tangerines, and a slight reduction in planted area. As the prices of other domestic and imported fruits rise, consumption of relatively cheap citrus - both imported and domestic - is expected to remain strong. Korea's imported orange consumption in MY 2023/24 is forecast to increase by 5.7 percent (5,000 MT) to 92,000 MT from the previous year (87,000 MT), helped by the decrease in domestic fruit supply and a recovery in the supply of U.S. navel oranges.

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Tangerines / Mandarins

Table 1.
Korea: Production Supply & Distribution (PSD) of Tangerines/Mandarins

Tangerines/Mandarins, Fresh	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2021		Oct 2022		Oct 2023	
Korea, Republic of	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted (HECTARES)	19978	19978	19930	19871	0	19720
Area Harvested (HECTARES)	18800	18800	18734	18679	0	18537
Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	23500	23500	23418	23348	0	23171
Non-Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	6500	6500	6477	6458	0	6409
Total No. Of Trees (1000 TREES)	30000	30000	29895	29806	0	29580
Production (1000 MT)	613	613	595	582	0	570
Imports (1000 MT)	1	1	1	1	0	1
Total Supply (1000 MT)	614	614	596	583	0	571
Exports (1000 MT)	6	6	3	3	0	3
Fresh Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	542	542	523	514	0	513
For Processing (1000 MT)	66	66	70	66	0	55
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	614	614	596	583	0	571
(HECTARES) ,(1000 TREES) ,(1000 MT)						

Tangerine/Mandarin Production

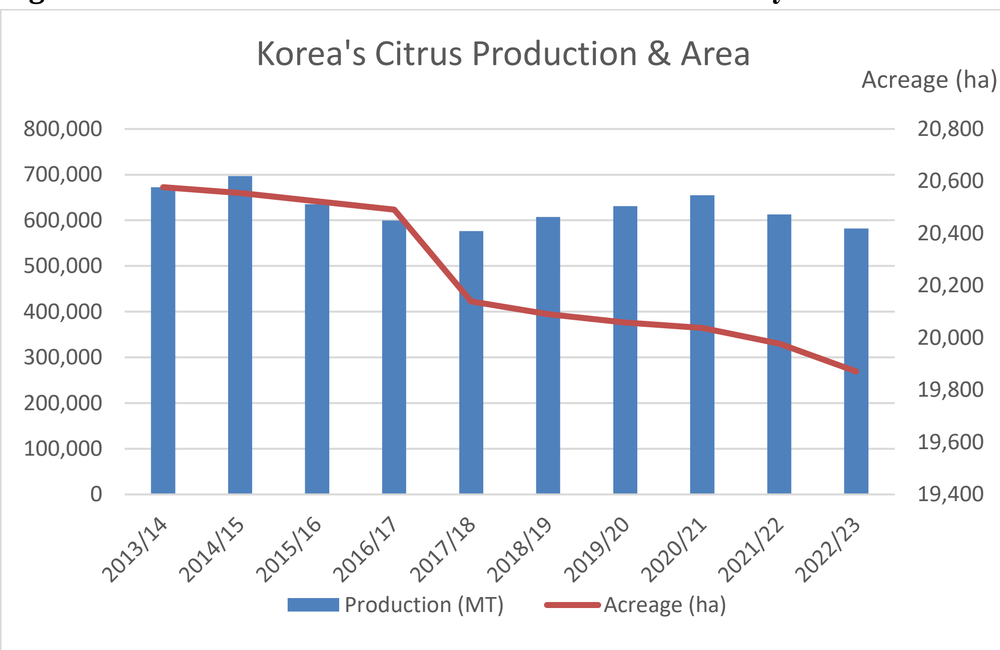
In Marketing Year (MY) 2023/24 (October – September), Korea's total citrus production is forecast at 570,000 metric tons (MT), indicating a 2.1 percent decline from the previous marketing year (582,000 MT), driven by lower yield for open-field tangerines, especially decreased fruit set per tree, and a slight reduction in planted area. Open-field citrus production in Korea's primary citrus growing area of Jeju Island is projected at 413,000 MT for MY 2023/24, down about 3.7 percent from the previous year (429,000 MT). Open-field 'Unshu' tangerines grown in Jeju's southern Seogwipo region, which accounts for 70 percent of total production, saw increased premature fruit drop during the summer fruit growing period because of fruit cracking caused by high temperatures and heavy rains in August. The overall quality in the 2023/24 season is generally expected to be better than the previous year due to the absence of typhoon damage in the summer season and low rainfall after September until the harvest season, resulting in higher sweetness levels.

Open-field citrus yields in Jeju are influenced by an alternate fruit bearing cycle, but recently growers have been closing the gap between "on-year" and "off-year" yields through management practices such as targeted pruning during "on-years." Additionally, northern Jeju and southern Jeju regions are on opposite biennial cycles, such that an "on-year" in one region tends to offset reduced production during the other region's "off-year." In MY 2023/24, the northern part of Jeju Island is experiencing an "off-year" in the alternate fruit bearing cycle, while southern Jeju has an "on-year." However, because of the fruit cracking issue in Seogwipo, southern Jeju's citrus yield is projected to be lower than expected for a typical "on-year."

Conversely, MY 2023/24 production of late-maturing varieties and citrus grown in protected facilities is expected to increase by 2.7 percent year-on-year to 157,000 MT on increased planted area, as consumer demand for greenhouse-grown varieties such as winter 'Unshu' and summer greenhouse tangerines continues to drive new investment in protected facility construction.

In MY 2022/23, Korea's citrus production was 582,000 MT, down 5 percent from the previous year's 613,000 MT, due mainly to a reduction in the number of fruits per tree as the Seogwipo region experienced an "off-year" in the alternate fruit-bearing cycle. Meanwhile, citrus production in greenhouses (summer greenhouse mandarins and winter 'Unshu') increased by 7,056 MT (4.6 percent) year-on-year to 152,881 MT due to a steady rise in cultivated area.

Figure 1: Korea's Citrus Production and Planted Area by Year



Source: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (JSSGP)

Tangerine/Mandarin Planted Area

Korea's total citrus planted area is projected at 19,720 hectares (ha) in MY 2023/24, down 0.75 percent from the previous year (19,871 ha). The decline is attributed to various factors, including the aging of citrus farmers, the continuous development of property by the tourism industry in Jeju Island, and the gradual shift from open-field citrus cultivation to more profitable protected facility cultivation of late-maturing citrus varieties and other fruit (e.g. kiwis). Meanwhile, greenhouse citrus cultivation, including late-maturing varieties, is expected to grow by 2.7 percent year-on-year to 5,613 Ha in MY 2023/24. This growth is mainly driven by high demand for late-maturing varieties among consumers, justifying farmers' investments in greenhouse facility development. The total citrus planting area in Jeju is expected to remain between 19,000 and 20,000 ha for the next several years, with a gradual reduction in open-field citrus farming and an increase in protected-facility production of high-quality citrus, including late-maturing varieties.

Late Maturing Varieties

In MY 2023/24, late-maturing citrus production is expected to be around 105,000 MT, up five percent from the previous year (99,991 MT), as a result of increased planting of ‘Cheonhyehyang’, ‘Red Hyang’, and ‘Hamgeum Hyang’ varieties. The increased price of imported oranges, caused by higher exchange rates and production costs over the past few years, nearly erased the price gap between domestically grown late-maturing citrus and imported navel oranges. As a result, production of late-maturing citrus varieties increased steadily as these varieties have become more cost-competitive with imports and appealing to Korean consumers. Late-maturing citrus varieties are about three times more profitable for citrus farmers than 'Unshu' mandarin production in open fields. They are highly regarded for their quality by Korean consumers, and production is expected to continue increasing in the next few years.

In MY 2022/23, Korea produced 99,991 MT of late-maturing varieties, an increase of 8 percent compared to 92,983 MT in MY 2021/22. Korea’s main late-maturing cultivar ‘Hallabong’, whose elongated neck resembles the shape of Korea’s highest peak, Mt. Halla, was produced at 40,090 MT, accounting for 40 percent of total late-maturing citrus, though its share has declined slightly in recent years. In contrast, the second and third most popular varieties, ‘Cheonhyehyang’ and ‘Red Hyang’, were produced at 26,921 MT and 17,996 MT, respectively, up 15 percent and 6 percent from the previous year.

Summer Greenhouse Tangerines

Korea’s summer greenhouse citrus production for the MY 2023/24 is expected to be approximately 28,000 MT due to increased acreage in response to consumer demand. Summer greenhouse citrus is typically distributed to the market from May through September, before the first open-field harvest of extra early-maturing mandarins. Summer tangerine production requires additional costs for heating the greenhouse during the citrus growth process, especially during the winter (November-January) flowering period, but farmers' income is typically two or three times higher than that of open-field mandarins.

In MY 2022/23, major domestic summer fruits (watermelon, plum, peach, etc.) experienced quality and production problems due to heavy July rains, so the demand for summer greenhouse citrus increased as a substitute. The average price of greenhouse mandarins (per 3 kilograms) in July and August 2023 increased by 15 percent and 39 percent from the previous year to 17,987 Korean won (KRW) and KRW 22,132, respectively, as the citrus market benefited from the decreased supply of major summer fruits.

Table 2.
Korea: Summer Greenhouse Citrus Production Situation

Year	Area (HA)	Production (MT)	Gross Income (Mil. Won)	Household	Price (Won/Kg)
2014	255	21,571	60,695	713	2,814
2015	250	20,401	63,021	659	3,089
2016	284	21,660	76,087	697	3,513
2017	301	22,637	80,771	737	3,568
2018	321	22,898	81,046	783	3,539
2019	339	27,543	90,703	842	3,293
2020	363	25,358	100,603	887	3,999
2021	373	27,009	91,814	917	3,399
2022	415	25,775	99,506	961	3,861
2023 1/	420	28,000	N/A	N/A	N/A

1/ Estimate by FAS Seoul
Source: Jeju Provincial Government & Korea Rural Economic Institute

Tangerines for Processing

In general, the Jeju citrus industry seeks to maintain adequate market prices through market isolation policies, such as purchasing 10 to 15 percent of annual production for processing and destruction at farms. The current purchase price for citrus for processing into tangerine concentrate is KRW 180 per kilogram (KRW 120 from companies and KRW 60 from the Jeju Provincial Government), which has been maintained since the last increase in 2017. Meanwhile, the market isolation program compensates farmers for fruit destroyed at the farm at KRW 150 per kg (KRW 120 from Jeju Provincial Government and KRW 30 from grower cooperatives).

Post expects the amount of citrus purchased for processing into concentrate in MY 2023/24 to be around 55,000 MT, a 16.7 percent (11,000 MT) decrease from the previous year (66,000 MT). Accordingly, the production of citrus concentrate is expected to decrease in MY 2023/24, and the export volume of citrus concentrate (mainly to Japan) is also expected to fall. In MY 2023/24, the Jeju citrus industry indicated that it had planned to purchase 70,000 MT of citrus for processing in cooperation with the Jeju Development Corporation and private citrus processors. Additionally, industry expected around 10,000 MT to be destroyed at farms, for a total of 80,000 MT diverted from the fresh market to maintain the optimal level of citrus production and price stabilization. However, due to the 20 to 30 percent decrease in production of major domestic competing fruits (apples, pears, and sweet persimmons) and strong domestic citrus prices, many farmers appear to be selling tangerines independently to the fresh market instead of selling to the market isolation program.

Recently, as citrus concentrate exports increased due to stronger international orange prices, the Jeju citrus industry had planned to expand its purchase volume for processing. However, that expansion is unlikely in the coming year due to Korea's robust domestic fruit market.

Tangerine/Mandarin Consumption

Korea's tangerine consumption in MY 2023/24 is forecast at 513,000 MT, similar to the previous year (514,000 MT). Along with the decrease in Korea's total citrus production, the volume of citrus withdrawn from the fresh market (for concentrate processing and destruction) will also likely decline due to the tight supply of other domestically grown fruits. This season, consumer demand is expected to be good, as citrus quality is generally high, with no typhoon damage and higher sugar content than last year. As the prices of other domestic and imported fruits rise, consumption of relatively cheap citrus is expected to remain steady. As the prices of strawberries, apples, etc. have increased by more than 20 percent, the demand for local citrus as a substitute fruit has been growing so far in MY 2023/24.

Table 5.
Korea's Total Fruits and Citrus Per Capita Consumption

Year	Total Fruits (Kg)	Tangerine (Kg)
2014	61.8	14.2
2015	59.8	12.5
2016	60.6	11.9
2017	61.2	11.6
2018	57.5	12.0
2019	56.6	12.1
2020	51.5	12.6
2021	54.4	12.2
2022	55.0	11.8

Source: Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

Tangerine/Mandarin Trade

In MY 2023/24, Korea's citrus exports are expected to reach around 3,400 MT, similar to the previous year's (3,263 MT), as the decrease in open-field citrus production and the robust domestic fruit market have tempered plans to expand exports. At the beginning of the season, the Jeju citrus industry set a target of exporting 4,000 MT, but it is expected to supply more for the domestic market than for export. In general, when the domestic fruit market is strong, citrus export volumes show a decline.

Korea's citrus exports are mainly comprised of open-field citrus, with the main export destinations being Russia and Canada. These two countries are expected to continue to import Korean fresh mandarins due to the consistent demand for large-size mandarins, which are less favored by Korean consumers. In recent years, Korea's citrus exports to Southeast Asian countries (Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore) have also increased slightly as a result of the popularity of Korean culture.

In MY 2022/23, Korea's citrus exports decreased by 50 percent to 3,263 MT compared to the previous year (6,462 MT). This was mainly due to a 69-percent reduction in exports to Russia, down 3,566 MT to 1,607 MT because of the war between Ukraine and Russia since February 2022 and the resumption of Chinese citrus exports to Russia following the resolution of MRL issues.

Table 6.
Export Matrix for Korean Tangerines

Export Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: Tangerine (HS 0805.21/22/29) Unit: MT & US$1,000				
Exports to	MY 2021/22 (Oct. 21 – Sep. 22)		MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	0	7	399	808
Others				
Russia	5,173	4,280	1,607	1,151
Canada	494	530	522	516
Hong Kong	261	549	251	504
Guam	69	143	73	175
Malaysia	189	314	117	175
Mongolia	13	77	33	69
Singapore	234	741	216	684
Others	29	96	45	96
Total for Others	6,462	6,730	2,864	3,370
Grand Total	6,462	6,737	3,263	4,178

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Tangerine/Mandarin Prices

In 2023, Korea's citrus producers have benefited from exceptionally high fresh fruit prices. Korean domestic apple and pear production is forecast to be 25 percent and 19 percent lower than the previous year, respectively (see Post's recent Deciduous Fruit Reports), while sweet persimmons are expected to be 30 percent lower due to disease and pest damage. On the other hand, citrus production in Jeju Island is forecast only slightly below last year, but market prices are expected to increase due to higher demand as a substitute for other fruits.

Table 3.
Wholesale Prices for Greenhouse Tangerines, Nationwide
(Unit: Korean Won per 3kg)

Month	2022	2023	% change
May	25,485	27,067	+6.2
Jun.	19,653	19,439	-1.1
Jul.	15,676	17,987	+14.7
Aug.	15,883	22,132	+39.3
Sep.	14,462	16,344	+13.0
Oct.	9,628	9,527	-1.0
Nov.	10,900	13,596	+24.7

Source: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Citrus Marketing & Shipping Association

Table 4.
Korea: Average Retail Prices for Regular Unshu Tangerines
(Unit: Korean won per 10 Fruits)

Month	Small size		% change	Medium size		% change
	2022	2023		2022	2023	
Jan.	2,345	2,754	+17.4	3,041	3,349	+10.1
Feb.	2,606	2,903	+11.4	3,043	3,504	+15.1
Mar.	3,079	3,949	+28.3	3,408	6,997	+105.3
Oct.	3,908	5,134	+31.4	5,260	6,518	+23.9
Nov.	2,658	2,904	+9.3	3,401	3,599	+5.8
Dec.	2,578	-		3,209	-	

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation
Note: S size fruit diameter: 55 – 58 mm / M size fruit diameter: 59 – 62 mm

Oranges

Table 7.
Korea: Production, Supply and Distribution (PSD) of Fresh Oranges

Oranges, Fresh	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2021		Oct 2022		Oct 2023	
Korea, Republic of	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted (HECTARES)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested (HECTARES)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total No. Of Trees (1000 TREES)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Imports (1000 MT)	78	78	85	87	0	92
Total Supply (1000 MT)	78	78	85	87	0	92
Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fresh Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	78	78	85	87	0	92
For Processing (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	78	78	85	87	0	92
(HECTARES) ,(1000 TREES) ,(1000 MT)						

Orange Production

There is no domestic production of Navel or Valencia oranges in Korea.

Orange Consumption

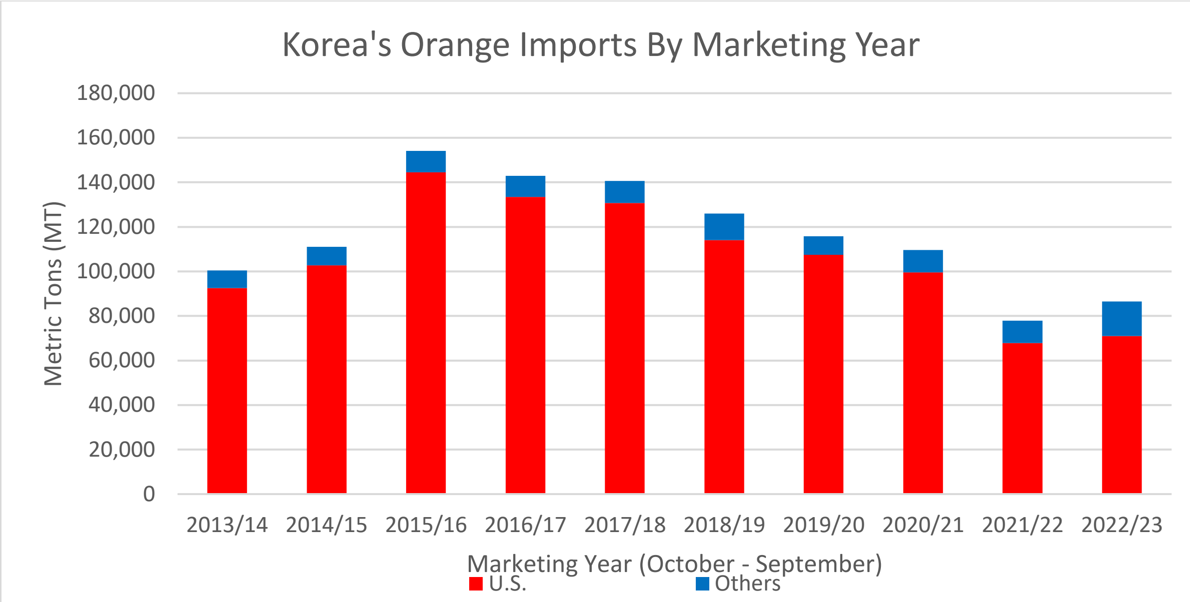
Korea's orange consumption in MY 2023/24 is forecast to increase by 5.7 percent (5,000 MT) to 92,000 MT compared to the previous year (87,000 MT). The main reasons for the increase are a decrease in domestic fruit supply due to the decline in major domestic fruit production, which is expected to increase demand for substitute fruits, and a recovery in the supply of U.S. navel oranges. However, higher import and production costs (labor, transportation) and the supply of domestic competing fruits (late-maturing citrus, strawberries) are expected to affect orange consumption throughout the current marketing year.

In MY 2022/23, Korea consumed around 87,000 MT of oranges, up 11.5 percent from the previous year (78,000 MT) due to a shortage of local fruit supply caused by heavy rains in the summer season and a shortage of stored domestic apples.

Orange Trade

With Korea's orange supply coming entirely from imports, MY 2023/24 orange imports are forecast at 92,000 MT to meet consumption needs. Korea imports mostly U.S. navel oranges, which accounted for 82 percent of total imports in MY 2022/23. Despite the limited 5.7-percent increase for MY 2023/24, orange imports are still expected to be well below average levels seen during the past ten years.

Figure 2. Korea's Fresh Orange Imports by Marketing Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC

In MY 2022/23, Korea's orange imports increased by 11.5 percent year-on-year to 87,000 MT due to a shortage of domestic fruit supply during the spring and summer seasons and increased demand for alternative fruits. In particular, orange imports during the months of July, August, and September 2023 increased by 84 percent to 11,494 MT compared to the same period last year (6,260 MT). This was mainly due to the availability of navel oranges from Australia, which also enjoys zero percent duty under the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA). Imports of Australian oranges increased by 82 percent from the previous year to 12,275 MT, and imports of South African oranges increased by 794 tons year-on-year to 1,957 MT. The United States remained Korea's top orange supplier in MY 2022/23, with 70,994 MT, up 4.6 percent from the previous year.

Table 8.
Korea: Monthly Orange Imports (Unit: MT)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
'16	5,210	10,830	68,324	46,908	9,719	1,780	2,340	2,275	2,166	1,473	838	3079
'17	5,918	11,421	60,543	40,549	8,925	3,471	1,946	2,067	2,669	1,357	1,012	1,694
'18	9,251	7,294	61,291	39,691	10,335	2,885	1,339	1,605	2,916	3,804	1,157	877
'19	5,424	5,700	41,025	48,408	12,121	1,709	2,098	2,047	1,631	1,647	583	1,994
'20	4,794	4,779	49,759	31,547	12,008	1,583	1,972	1,990	3,127	2,203	733	861
'21	2,338	4,325	46,399	33,256	10,201	1,905	2,996	2,349	1,988	1,136	1,211	1,233
'22	2,026	3,128	30,366	19,203	11,431	1,817	1,352	1,780	3,128	2,279	797	481
'23	1,201	3,138	37,377	20,048	8,436	1,305	2,251	3,675	5,568	4,031	-	-

Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Of the total fresh orange imports during the marketing year, the majority (76 percent of total imports in MY 2022/23) is imported during a three-month period from March to May, once the FTA seasonal duty starts on March 1. Since 2018, a zero-percent duty has been applied for U.S. oranges between March 1 and August 31 under the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS), with no quota. From September 1 to February 28, U.S. oranges are imported under the KORUS tariff rate quota (TRQ), which will be 3,461 MT in MY 2023/24 and increases by 3 percent annually. Oranges that come in within the quota are duty-free, while the out-of-quota rate is 50 percent. Korea manages additional orange TRQs and allows seasonal duty-free imports of oranges from other FTA partners, notably Australia and the European Union, as summarized in Annex II.

Table 9.
Korea: Import Matrix for Oranges

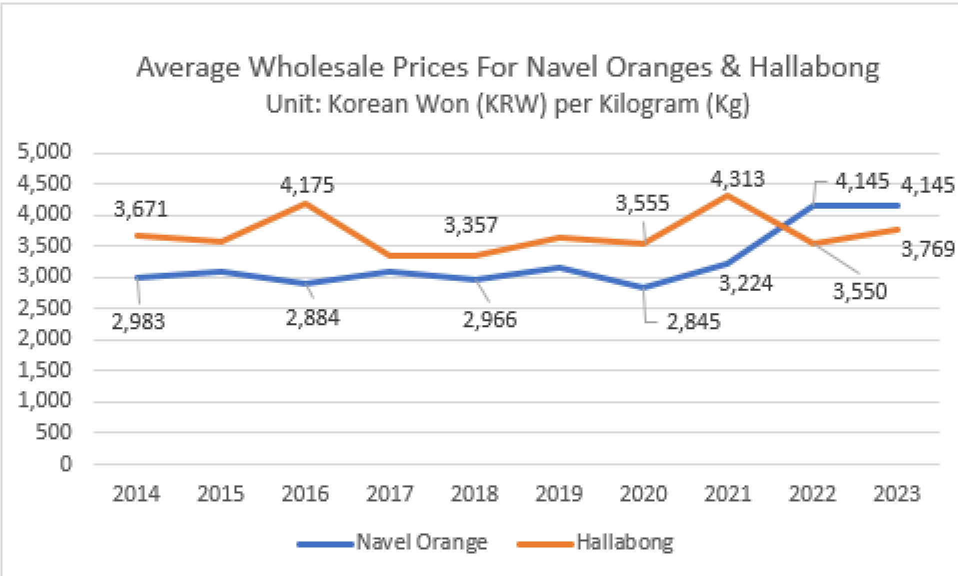
Import Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: Orange (HS 0805.10)		Unit: MT & US$1,000		
Imports from	MY 2021/22 (Oct. 21 – Sep. 22)		MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	67,888	149,288	70,994	147,362
Others				
South Africa	1,163	1,317	1,957	2,017
Australia	6,740	11,186	12,275	19,881
Spain	1,334	1,893	883	1,623
Chile	420	619	209	346
Other	265	197		
Total for Others	9,922	15,212	15,562	24,036
Grand Total	77,810	164,500	86,556	171,398

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Orange Prices

Korea’s main late-maturing citrus variety ‘Hallabong’ overlaps with the FTA duty-free season from March to June and thus competes directly with imported oranges. The average wholesale price for ‘Hallabong’ used to be around 20 to 25 percent higher than the price of imported navel oranges (mainly from California) until 2021. However, these two prices became inverted in 2022, as unfavorable exchange rates increased import prices and navel oranges suffered from higher production costs and supply chain issues after the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, ‘Hallabong’ prices decreased with improved supply. As more Korean citrus growers are willing to shift from open field cultivation to greenhouse production, late-maturing citrus varieties will continue to diversify, and their prices will be more competitive with navel oranges during the early FTA duty-free season.

Figure 3. Price Comparison of Imported Oranges and Korean Hallabong Tangerines
(Average wholesale price from January to June)



1/ High quality navel oranges
2/ Late variety Unshu oranges
Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation / Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Citrus Marketing & Shipping Association

Table 15. Korea: Monthly Wholesale Prices for Domestic Hallabong & Imported Oranges
(Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram)

Month	Imported Navel 1/		Hallabong 2/	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Jan.	4,333	4,713	4,989	4,536
Feb.	4,423	4,589	3,315	3,461
Mar.	3,721	3,982	3,214	3,452
Apr.	4,208	3,877	3,120	3,761
May	4,116	3,873	3,111	3,635
Jun.	4,069	3,837	-	-

1/ High quality navel oranges
2/ Late variety Unshu oranges
Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation / Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Citrus Marketing & Shipping Association

Orange Juice

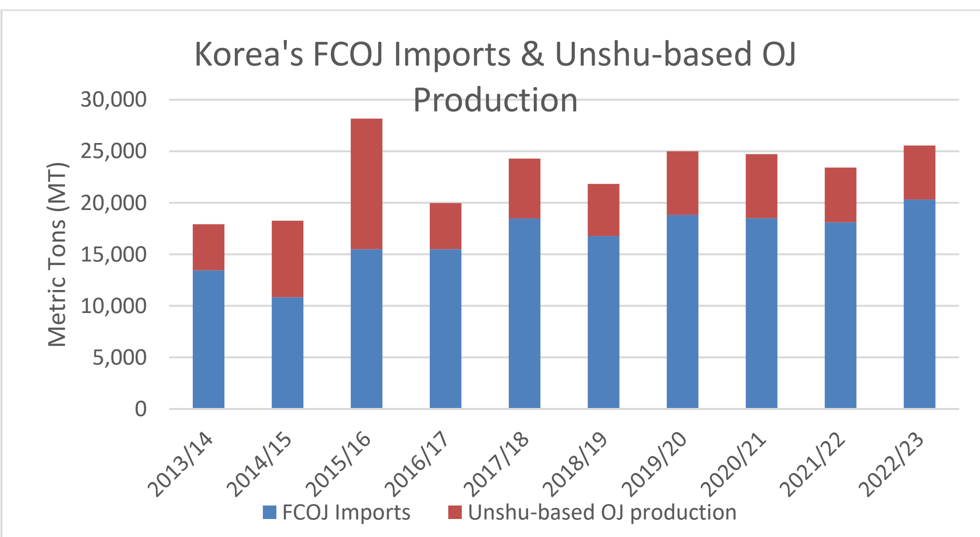
Table 16.
Production, Supply and Distribution of Orange Juice

Orange Juice	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2021		Oct 2022		Oct 2023	
Korea, Republic of	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Deliv. To Processors (MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks (MT)	5500	5500	5500	5500	0	7500
Production (MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Imports (MT)	18118	18118	17000	20300	0	17600
Total Supply (MT)	23618	23618	22500	25800	0	25100
Exports (MT)	400	400	400	400	0	400
Domestic Consumption (MT)	17718	17718	17800	17900	0	18200
Ending Stocks (MT)	5500	5500	4300	7500	0	6500
Total Distribution (MT)	23618	23618	22500	25800	0	25100
(MT)						

Orange Juice Production

There is no domestic production of frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) in Korea. However, the Korean beverage industry frequently combines imported FCOJ with domestically produced tangerine juice concentrate to produce blended citrus beverages.

Figure 3. Korea's Frozen Concentrated Orange Juice (FCOJ) Imports and Unshu-based Tangerine Concentrate Production by Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Jeju Tangerine Processing Industry

Orange Juice Consumption

Korea’s consumption of orange concentrate for fruit juice processing is expected to reach 18,200 MT in MY 2023/24, a slight increase from the previous year. For the past several years, the Korean beverage market has experienced low demand for fruit juice due to growing health consciousness among consumers favoring lower sugar content drinks. In addition, the recent increase in global orange juice prices has also led some domestic beverage companies to try to substitute orange juice concentrates with local citrus concentrates. Nonetheless, orange juice remains the most preferred fruit juice among Korean consumers.

Orange Juice Trade

In MY 2023/24, Korea's FCOJ imports are forecast to decline by 13.3 percent to 17,600 MT due to high global orange juice prices caused by reduced U.S. FCOJ production and high carry-over stocks. Korea's FCOJ imports for MY 2022/23 have been revised up to 20,300 MT based on official trade data reported to Trade Data Monitor, up 12 percent from MY 2021/22. With FCOJ consumption unlikely to increase significantly in this mature market, the additional imports are expected to buffer stocks against potential FCOJ supply shortages or price increases in the future.

In MY 2022/23, Korea imported 15,235 MT of FCOJ from Spain, up 30 percent from the previous year, accounting for 75 percent of total imports. After Spain, the United States was the next largest supplier of orange juice concentrate to the Korean market in MY 2022/23 with 8 percent market share. The United States was the top supplier until MY 2016/17, but its market share has declined gradually due to the supply impacts of citrus greening disease in Florida. As U.S. orange juice exports continue to decline, Spain is expected to remain Korea's top supplier.

Table 17.
Korea: Import Matrix for FCOJ

Import Trade Matrix				
Commodity: FCOJ (2009.11/12/19)		Unit: MT & US$1,000		
Korea Imports from	MY 2021/22 (Oct. 21 – Sep. 22)		MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	3,359	9,165	1,659	5,226
Others				
Spain	11,710	22,618	15,235	35,121
Brazil	171	346	638	2,070
Australia	582	1,531	822	1,957
Thailand	812	1,132	828	1,202
Other	1,484	3,102	1,118	2,354
Total for Others	14,759	28,729	18,641	2,354
Grand Total	18,118	37,894	20,300	47,930

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Lemons

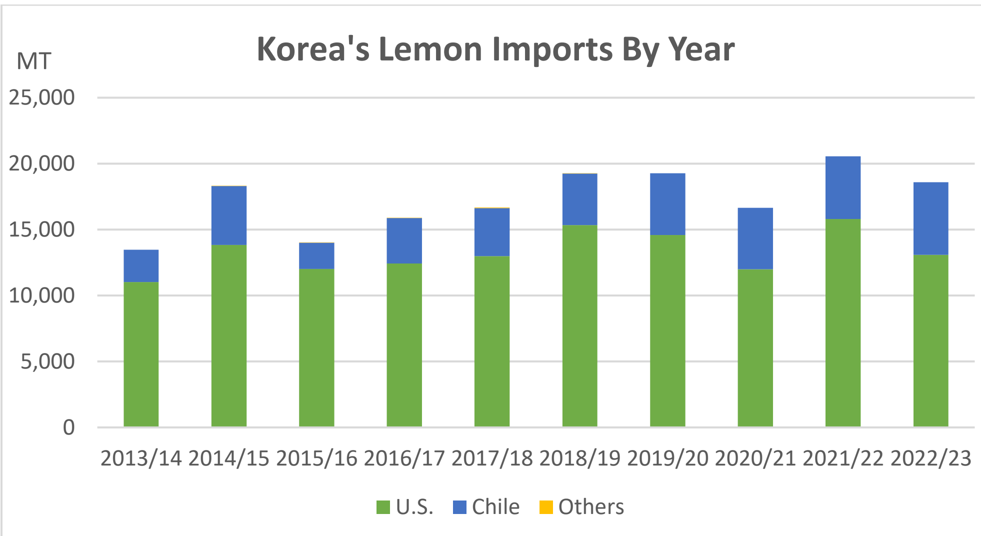
Lemon Production

Domestic lemon production in Korea is essentially non-existent with no official data available.

Lemon Trade

Korea's lemon imports in MY 2023/24 are expected to be around 18,000 MT, down about 1,000 MT from the previous year, due to lower production in the United States, the main supplier, and higher import prices because of increased production costs and unfavorable exchange rates. In MY 2022/23, lemon imports were down 1,494 MT year-on-year to 19,257 MT due to lower production in the United States.

Figure 4. Korea's Lemon Imports by Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC

Table 18.
Korea: Import Matrix for Lemons

Import Trade Matrix				
Commodity: Lemon (0805.50.10)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Korea Imports from	MY 2021/22 (Oct. 21 – Sep. 22)		MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	15,797	35,180	13,080	29,499
Others				
Chile	4,764	8,868	5,510	10,230
Other	190	379	667	1,065
Total for Others	4,954	9,247	6,177	11,295
Grand Total	20,751	44,427	19,257	40,794

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Grapefruit

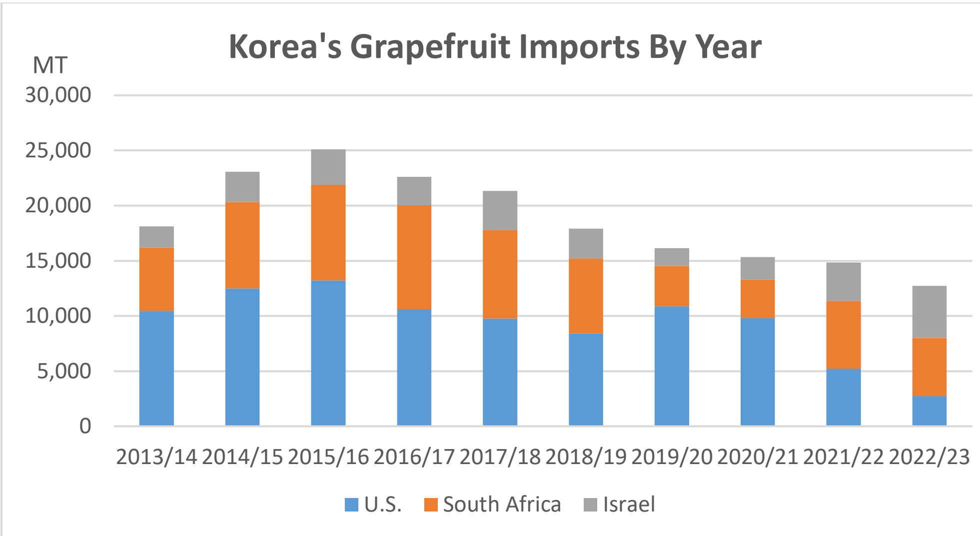
Grapefruit Production

There is no domestic grapefruit production in Korea.

Grapefruit Trade

Korea's grapefruit imports for the MY 2023/24 are forecast at 11,700 MT, down 1,000 MT from the previous year, due to lower U.S. production and transportation instability caused by the Israeli-Hamas war since October 2023. The United States lost the top supplier position in MY 2021/22 due to reduced production in Florida. South Africa recently became the top supplier with better price competitiveness, followed by Israel.

Figure 5. Korea's Grapefruit Imports by Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC

Table 19.
Korea: Import Matrix for Grapefruit

Import Trade Matrix				
Commodity: Grapefruit (0805.40)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Korea Imports from	MY 2021/22 (Oct. 21 – Sep. 22)		MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	5,223	10,712	2,727	5,189
Others				
Israel	3,483	5,290	4,724	6,840
S. Africa	6,145	8,063	5,268	5,738
Mexico	0	0	0	0
Total for Others	9,629	13,353	9,992	12,577
Grand Total	14,852	24,065	12,719	17,766

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Annex I. Additional Citrus Tables

Table 20.
Korea's Citrus Production by Year 1/

Year	Area (ha)	Production (MT)	Farm Household	Gross Income (Mil.won)
2014	20,555	696,763	31,404	670,739
2015	20,523	635,032	31,458	602,196
2016	20,491	599,642	31,525	911,392
2017	20,140	576,772	30,957	945,792
2018	20,090	607,638	30,846	940,239
2019	20,059	631,310	30,711	850,168
2020	20,038	654,864	30,843	950,828
2021	19,978	613,118	30,799	1,027,131
2022	19,871	581,858	30,912	1,041,846
2023 2/	19,720	570,000	N/A	N/A

1/ Calendar year basis including greenhouse
2/ Preliminary forecast by FAS Seoul
Source: Jeju Provincial Government

Table 23.
Korea: Citrus Utilization (Unit: MT)

Year	Total	Fresh	Processing	Other 1/
2014	696,763	400,712	158,371	137,680
2015	635,032	340,353	84,679	210,000
2016	599,642	351,826	56,372	191,444
2017	576,772	331,612	72,460	172,650
2018	607,638	354,172	63,402	190,064
2019	631,310	318,142	77,041	236,127
2020	632,921	320,059	77,602	235,260
2021	613,118	307,025	66,280	239,813
2022	581,858	270,404	65,640	245,814

1/ Other – including exports, military consumption and consumption within Jeju island
Source: Jeju Provincial Government

Table 22.
Korea: Purchase Price of Processing Tangerine Oranges (Korean Won/kg)

Year	Price
2015	160
2016	160
2017	180
2018	180
2019	180
2020	180
2021	180
2022	180
2023	180

Source: Jeju Citrus Growers' Cooperative

Table 23.
Korea: Citrus Production as Ratio to Total Fruit Production
(Unit: 1,000 MT, Ratio: Percent)

Year	Total Fruits	Citrus	Ratio
2013	2,207	655	29.7
2014	2,347	688	29.3
2015	2,364	640	27.1
2016	2,387	610	25.6
2017	2,358	597	25.3
2018	2,160	621	28.8
2019	2,206	630	28.6
2020	1,976	659	33.4
2021	2,109	636	30.2
2022	2,206	582	26.4

Source: Korea Statistical Information Service (KOSIS)

Table 24.
Korea: Total Fruits and Citrus Per Capita Consumption

Year	Total Fruits (Kg)	Total Tangerine (Kg)
2014	61.8	14.2
2015	59.8	12.5
2016	60.6	11.9
2017	61.2	11.6
2018	57.5	12.0
2019	56.6	12.1
2020	51.5	12.6
2021	54.4	12.2
2022	N/A	N/A

Source: Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

Annex II. Tariff Rates and Quotas

Table 25.
Korea: Import Quota and Tariff for Fresh Orange (Unit: MT, %)

Year	Quota	In-quota Tariff	Out-quota Tariff
2004	57,017	50	50
2021	57,017	50	50
2022	57,017	50	50
2023	57,017	50	50
2024	57,017	50	50

Table 26.
Korea: Import Quota and Tariff for Other Citrus (Unit: MT, %)

Year	Quota	In-quota Tariff	Out-quota Tariff
2004	2,097	50	144
2021	2,097	50	144
2022	2,097	50	144
2023	2,097	50	144
2024	2,097	50	144

1/ HS 0805.21.1000, HS 0805.21.9000, HS0805.22.0000, HS0805.29.000, HS0805.50.2020 & HS 0805.90.0000.

Table 27.
Korea: Import Quota under the KORUS FTA (Unit: MT, %)

HSK 10	Description	Base Rate	2022	2023	2024
0805100000	Oranges				
March1 – end Aug		50	Zero	Zero	Zero
Sept 1 – end Feb					
TRQ (MT)			3,360	3,461	3,565
In-quota Rate			0	0	0
Out of Quota Rate		50	50	50	50

Note: After year 5, the in-quota quantity increases by 3% per year, compounded annually.

Table 28.
Korea: Import Quota under the Korea-EU FTA (Unit: MT, %)

KOR-EU FTA	Description	Base Rate	2022	2023	2024
HS 0805100000	Oranges				
March 1 – end Aug		50	Zero	Zero	Zero
Sept 1 – end Feb					
TRQ (MT)			60	60	60
In-quota Rate			0	0	0
Out of Quota Rate		50	50	50	50

Note: After year 12, the in-quota quantity shall remain the same as the quantity of year 12.

Table 29.
Korea: Import Quota under the Korea-Australia FTA (Unit: MT, %)

KOR-AUS FTA	Description	Base Rate	2022	2023	2024
HS 0805100000	Oranges				
April 1 – end Sep		50	Zero	Zero	Zero
Oct 1 – end March					
TRQ (MT)			30	30	30
In-quota Rate			0	0	0
Out of Quota Rate		50	50	50	50

Note: After year 10, the in-quota quantity shall remain the same as the quantity of year 10.

Annex III. Prices and Exchange Rates

Table 30.

Korea: Average Retail Prices for High-Quality Imported Oranges (Navel), Nationwide

(Unit: Korean Won per 10 Fruits)

Year / Month	2021	2022	2023	% Change from the previous year
Jan	15,516	15,855	-	-
Feb	14,880	14,914	15,766	5.7
Mar	11,347	13,061	16,242	24.4
Apr	10,442	15,681	15,908	1.4
May	10,267	15,528	15,755	1.5
Jun	10,079	14,874	15,158	1.9
Jul	9,759	13,779	15,295	11.0
Aug	-	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-	-
Oct	-	-	-	-
Nov	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 31.

Korea: Average Wholesale Prices for Imported Navel Oranges

(Unit: Korean Won per 18 Kilogram box)

Month	High Quality		Medium Quality	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Jan.	78,000	84,842	73,000	80,127
Feb.	79,606	82,605	74,606	78,161
Mar.	66,982	71,676	61,154	67,246
Apr.	75,736	69,784	71,367	65,023
May	74,079	69,708	69,879	65,214
Jun.	73,247	69,073	68,722	64,282
Jul.	-	-	-	-
Aug.	-	-	-	-
Sep.	-	-	-	-
Oct.	-	-	-	-
Nov.	-	-	-	-
Dec.	84,700	-	79,700	-

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 32.
Korea: Monthly Average Foreign Exchange Rate
(Unit: Korean Won / 1 U.S. $)

Month	2021	2022	2023
Jan.	1097.49	1194.01	1247.25
Feb.	1111.72	1198.34	1270.74
Mar.	1131.02	1221.03	1305.73
Apr.	1119.40	1232.34	1320.01
May	1123.28	1269.88	1328.21
Jun.	1121.30	1277.35	1296.71
Jul.	1143.98	1307.40	1286.30
Aug.	1160.34	1318.44	1318.47
Sep.	1169.54	1391.59	1329.47
Oct.	1182.82	1426.66	1350.69
Nov.	1182.91	1364.66	-
Dec.	1183.70	1296.22	-

Source: Industrial Bank of Korea

Attachments:

No Attachments