

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Japan Plans Low Imports of Butter and NFDM in JFY2023

Country: Japan

Post: Tokyo

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Dairy and Products

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Report Highlights:

Japan announced low tariff-rate quotas for butter (8,000 MT) and non-fat dried milk (750 MT) in Japanese fiscal year 2023.

General Information:

On January 27, 2023, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) announced plans to import 8,000 metric tons (MT) of butter and 750 MT of non-fat dry milk (NFDM) for Japan fiscal year (JFY) 2023, which begins on April 1, 2023, and ends on March 31, 2024.

The announced butter volume of 8,000 MT is down from 9,788 MT in the last fiscal year. In its announcement, MAFF noted that 2022 domestic butter ending stocks are at 30,774 MT and down nearly 17 percent from 2021, but still sufficient to meet demand.

The NFDM volume of 750 MT is unchanged from JFY 2022. Though down 13 percent from 2021, NFDM ending stocks in 2022 remained high at 82,418 MT as consumption of dairy products such as yogurt remains sluggish.

Total planned dairy imports, including products such as butter oil, whey, and prepared whey, are estimated at 137,000 MT (milk equivalent). MAFF indicates they will revise these volume targets in May and September to reflect current market dynamics.

Imports of designated dairy products are conducted through a state-trading system operated by the Agriculture and Livestock Industries Corporation (ALIC). ALIC holds butter tenders every month; tenders for other products are held on an ad hoc basis depending on market demand.

Attachments:

No Attachments.