

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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JAPAN

The following paper has been received from the delegation of Japan in connexion with the discussion on item (ii) of document TN.64/Ce/W/1.

Estimates of Supply and Demand for Feed Grains in Japan

1. Production of feed grains in Japan is so limited that it falls far short of domestic demand. The bulk of the feed grain production in Japan consists of soiling plants such as soiling oats, soiling corns, soiling ryes, and wheat and barley for feeding purposes, while production of other coarse grains is negligible.
2. On the other hand, demand for feed grains in Japan has been rapidly increasing year by year, as a result of the increase of numbers of livestocks. Consequently, the import of feed grains has shown a sharp upward trend.
3. No internal support measure nor any import restrictions is at present applied by the Japanese Government with respect to feed grains except for wheat and barley. While the customs duties are, therefore, the sole means of protection existing in Japan for these types of coarse grains, these grains are currently either allowed duty-free entry or exempted from duties.
4. In comparison with demand for feed grains in 1964 which is estimated at 6.6 million tons, in 1971 is expected to increase by nearly 50 per cent, i.e. 9 million or 10 million tons in total. The imported feed grains are mainly accounted for by maize, sorghum, oats, wheat and barley. In the meantime, the domestic production of feed grains in Japan including wheat and barley for animal feed use is estimated to increase only from about 1.6 million tons in 1964 to about 1.9 million tons in 1971.

Accordingly, the import of feed grains is estimated to continue to increase substantially in the future.