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Report Highlights:

Korea's marketing year (MY) 2024/25 citrus production is forecast down 2.6 percent to 565,000 MT, a 10-year low, on gradually declining acreage and adverse weather conditions. Jeju Island, where nearly all Korean citrus is grown, experienced a prolonged summer heat wave lasting into mid-September, followed by excessive fall rain, which caused fruit cracking and rot. Citrus consumption increased in MY 2023/24, as shortages of other domestic fruit (apples, pears, persimmons) led consumers to substitute with amply supplied domestic mandarins and imported oranges, whose consumption increased by 4.3 and 11.5 percent, respectively. Imports of fresh oranges, mostly from the United States, are forecast down in MY 2024/2025, as emergency tariff rate quotas for imported fruit are not expected to be renewed. In June 2024, the United States gained market access for Texas grapefruit, and the first shipments are expected to arrive in Korea in December.

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Tangerines/Mandarins

Table 1
Korea: Production Supply & Distribution (PS&D) of Tangerines/Mandarins

Tangerines/Mandarins, Fresh	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2022		Oct 2023		Oct 2024	
Korea, Republic of	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted (HECTARES)	19871	19871	19720	19726	0	19514
Area Harvested (HECTARES)	18679	18679	18537	18537	0	18343
Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	23348	23348	23171	23171	0	22929
Non-Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	6458	6458	6409	6409	0	6342
Total No. Of Trees (1000 TREES)	29806	29806	29580	29580	0	29271
Production (1000 MT)	582	582	570	580	0	565
Imports (1000 MT)	1	1	3	3	0	4
Total Supply (1000 MT)	583	583	573	583	0	569
Exports (1000 MT)	3	3	4	4	0	3
Fresh Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	514	514	514	536	0	526
For Processing (1000 MT)	66	66	55	43	0	40
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	583	583	573	583	0	569
(HECTARES) ,(1000 TREES) ,(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Tangerine/Mandarin Production

In marketing year (MY) 2024/25 (October 2024 to September 2025), Korea's tangerine/mandarin production is projected to reach 565,000 metric tons (MT), marking a 2.6-percent decline (15,000 MT) from the previous year's 580,000 MT. This represents the lowest citrus production level in the past decade and is also about 8 percent lower than the five-year average production of 612,000 MT. The primary reason for this decline is the reduced harvest of open-field Unshu tangerines, which account for approximately 70 percent of total citrus production in Korea, because of gradually declining planted area, adverse weather conditions, and the alternate fruit-bearing cycle.

In 2024, Jeju Island, where nearly all Korean citrus is grown, experienced extreme heat during the summer season and frequent rainfall just before the harvest period (September to October), which led to increased rates of fruit cracking, fruit drop, and spoilage. Consequently, the

production of marketable fresh fruit for MY 2024/25 is expected to decrease. Fall rains particularly affected the quality of extra-early maturing and early maturing varieties and disrupted the harvest. Some late-maturing varieties such as Redhyang also experienced severe fruit cracking.

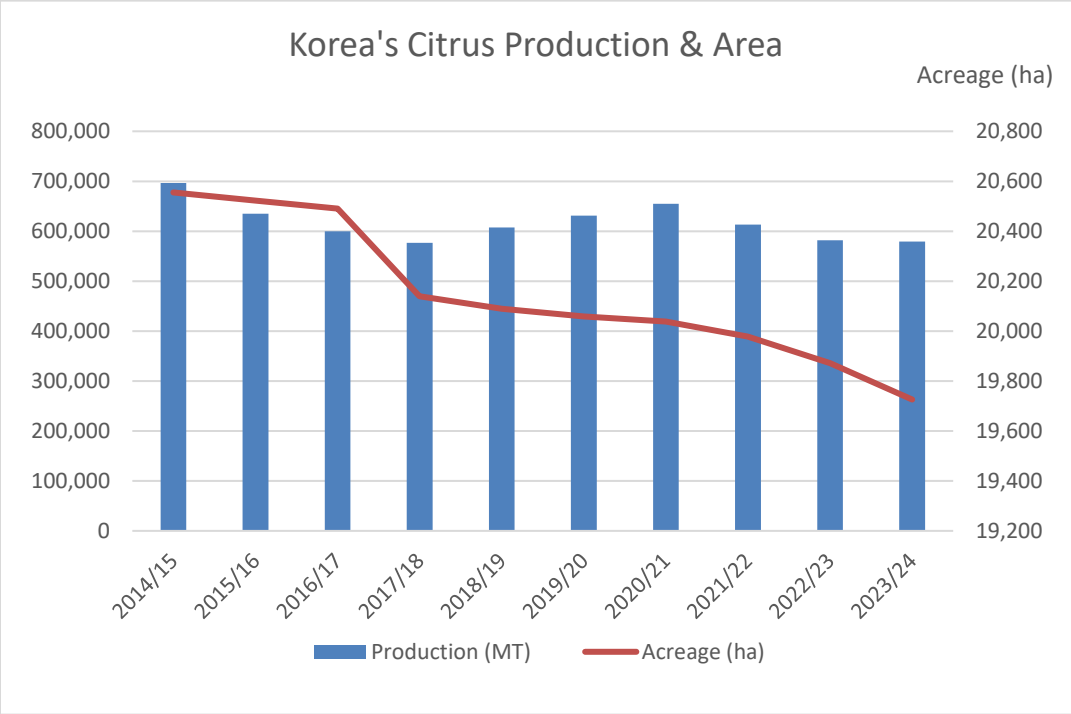
Additionally, the Seogwipo area of southern Jeju, a region responsible for around 65 percent of Jeju's citrus production, experienced an "off-year" in its alternate fruit bearing cycle, further contributing to the overall reduction in citrus production. The northern part of Jeju typically follows the opposite fruit bearing cycle, and thus had an "on-year" in 2024, partially offsetting the reduction in Seogwipo.

Table 2
Korea's Citrus Production and Area by Year

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Five-year Average
Area (Ha)	20,059	20,038	19,978	19,871	19,726	19,934
Yield (Kg/0.1Ha)	3,147	3,268	3,069	2,938	2,937	3,072
Production (MT)	631,310	654,864	613,118	581,858	579,432	612,116

Source: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province & Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (MAFRA)

Figure 1
Korea's Citrus Production & Planted Area by Year



Source: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

In September 2024, a crop survey conducted by the Jeju citrus industry forecasted open-field tangerine production for this season to reach approximately 400,000 MT, similar to the previous year (406,000 MT). However, they later revised their forecast downward by 20,000 MT to 380,000 MT due to frequent rainfall, which increased fruit cracking and spoilage.

Despite the expected reduction in total citrus production, the overall quality of Jeju tangerines is assessed to be high. Initial quality tests indicate that sugar content should be similar to or slightly higher than the previous season. Additionally, tangerine prices are anticipated to remain strong, comparable to the elevated price levels seen in the previous season due to the combination of reduced production of available marketable fruits and high fruit quality.

Adverse Weather Affected Citrus Production

This marketing year's reduced open-field tangerine production is mainly due to significant damage caused by extreme summer heat, which led to an increase in fruit cracking and fruit drop. Like the Korean mainland, Jeju Island experienced a record number of tropical nights during the summer that lasted through mid-September. Tropical nights occur when the nighttime low temperature remains above 25 degrees Celsius. According to the Jeju citrus industry, the fruit cracking rate surged to 23.3 percent this year, compared to 8.2 percent last year and 5 percent during average years. This year's rate is projected to be the highest on record. In addition to the heat damage with cracking and dropping, prolonged high temperatures and frequent rains during the early October harvest period worsened the situation by disrupting harvest plans and increasing the incidence of rotting fruit. As a result, production of marketable tangerines also declined significantly this season.

Tangerine/Mandarin Planted Area

In MY 2024/25, Korea's citrus planted area is estimated down by around 1 percent to 19,514 ha from 19,726 ha the previous year, continuing the recent trend of gradually declining citrus acreage and the shift to greenhouse production as farmers transition to more profitable varieties. In MY 2023/24, the citrus planted area of 19,726 ha represented a decrease of 0.7 percent from the previous season. Within the total citrus planted area, the open-field tangerine area fell by 1.1 percent, while the area for high-value varieties like late maturing citrus increased by 1.2 percent. The Jeju citrus industry predicts that the total planted area will remain around 19,000 ha for the near future.

The primary reasons for declining planted area include the ongoing issues of Korea's aging farm population and real estate development around citrus farms on Jeju Island, both of which are leading to farm closures. This reduction in planted area is mainly occurring in regions where open-field tangerines are grown, which tend to have lower farm income compared to higher

quality late maturing citrus and other facility-grown varieties. Meanwhile, the decline in open-field tangerine planted area has been offset by growth in facility (greenhouse) acreage for production of varieties like late-maturing citrus and summer greenhouse tangerines, which are more profitable by taking advantage of off-season premium prices. As a result, overall citrus planted area is declining at a slower pace than it might otherwise.

According to Jeju citrus growers' cooperative data, the planted area and production of open-field tangerines were 24,261 ha and about 520,000 MT in 2000, but these data gradually decreased by 41 percent and 21 percent to 14,242 ha and about 410,000 MT in MY 2023/24. On the other hand, production of late ripening citrus, which is mainly grown in facilities (greenhouses), increased from 665 ha and 10,617 MT in 2000 to 4,172 ha (527 percent) and 116,559 MT (998 percent) in MY 2023/24, representing a more than tenfold increase in production over the past two decades.

Late Maturing Varieties

In MY 2024/25, the production of late-maturing citrus varieties is projected to reach 130,000 MT, about 11.5 percent higher than the previous season's 117,000 MT, reflecting the ongoing increase in planted area, especially newly build greenhouse facilities. This growth is driven by the relatively higher income for citrus growers compared to the main open-field variety (Unshu) and rising consumer demand for high-quality fruit. While the majority of late-maturing citrus production is inside facilities to mitigate the risk of weather damage, some farmers have found that they can grow varieties like Hallabong in open fields, thereby reducing production costs.

In MY 2023/24, the primary late-maturing variety, Hallabong, accounted for 33 percent of total late-maturing citrus production. Other key varieties, including Cheonhyehyang and Redhyang, accounted for 26 percent and 22 percent, respectively. Additionally, production of other late-maturing citrus varieties is steadily rising, reflecting a trend toward greater diversification.

Summer Greenhouse Tangerines

In MY 2024/25, summer greenhouse tangerine production is expected to remain around 26,000 MT, similar to the previous year, due to the expected end of new planting largely due to increased production costs, especially higher heating costs. This extra early-maturing variety requires warm conditions during its growth period in the spring months, when the greenhouses must be heated. Over the past two to three years, the production area for summer greenhouse tangerines gradually increased, driven by the stabilization of international oil prices and growing consumer demand. However, with the recent rise in international oil prices, the summer greenhouse tangerine production area is expected to stagnate due to the increased cost burden associated with heating expenses.

Table 3
Korea: Summer Greenhouse Citrus Production Situation

Year	Area (HA)	Production (MT)	Gross Income (Mil. Krw)	Households	Farm Profit (Krw/Kg)
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	443	26,824	112,407	996	4,191
2024 [1]	445	27,000	N/A	N/A	N/A

[1] Preliminary forecast by FAS Seoul
Source: Jeju Provincial Government & Korea Rural Economic Institute

Tangerines for Processing

In MY 2024/25, the usage of citrus for processing (tangerine juice concentrate) is expected to decrease by approximately 7 percent compared to the previous year (43,000 MT), reaching around 40,000 MT. This decline is mainly due to reduced supplies of open-field tangerines and an anticipated increase in domestic tangerine prices, which encourages farmers to sell to the fresh market. Additionally, significant damage occurred in extra early-maturing tangerines in October 2024, and local concentrate processors expect to fall short of their target of 50,000 MT of processing tangerine purchases for this season.

Normally, about 13 to15 percent of the total citrus production (around 60,000 - 70,000 MT) has been used for concentrate processing to stabilize the domestic tangerine price. However, in recent years, with a continuous decrease in open-field tangerine production, the volume of tangerines used for concentrate processing also declined. Last year, due to reduced overall citrus production and strong fresh fruit prices, only 43,000 MT, or 7.4 percent, of the total citrus production, was used for processing. The overall decrease in citrus concentrate production is expected to result in reduced exports to Japan as well.

Due to the decrease in the amount of citrus purchased for processing, the Jeju citrus industry adjusted the purchase price for this year at 210 Korean Won (KRW) per kilogram, a KRW 30 increase from the previous year. The purchase price includes KRW 140 from concentrate processors and KRW 70 as a subsidy from the Jeju Provincial Government.

The Korean fruit juice market also saw reduced production of citrus juice products due to the lower volume of tangerines purchased for processing and a decrease in imports of orange juice

concentrate. As a result, more products have been released that combine citrus juice with other fruit juices.

Tangerine/Mandarin Consumption

In MY 2024/25, Korea's citrus consumption is expected to decrease by about 2 percent from 536,000 tons in the previous year to an estimated 526,000 MT because of reduced supplies of domestically produced open-field tangerines. Due to this year's production challenges, the tangerine season, which typically lasts until late January or early February, is expected to end around the middle of January. Despite the reduced production, the quality (sweetness level) has remained high. Additionally, with their relatively affordable prices compared to other fruits, tangerines enjoy strong consumer demand.

Over the past five years, annual per capita citrus consumption in Korea remained around 12 kilograms. For MY 2024/25, Korea's per capita citrus consumption is forecast to be around 11.7 kilograms, similar to the previous year (11.8 kg).

Table 4
Korea: Total Fruit and Citrus Per Capita Consumption

Year	Total Fruit (Kg)	Total Tangerine (Kg)
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
2023	N/A	N/A

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

Tangerine/Mandarin Trade

In MY 2024/25, Korea's fresh citrus exports, comprised mostly of early maturing tangerines, are expected to decrease by 25 percent from the previous year to an estimated 3,000 MT. In MY 2023/24, Korea's citrus exports reached 3,997 MT, a 22 percent increase compared to the previous year, driven by growing demand in the Russian market. This year's decline is primarily due to reduced exportable supplies of open-field tangerine production and the strong domestic market prices. The major export destination will be Russia, which accounted for 56 percent (2,234 MT) of total citrus exports in MY 2023/24. Canada and the United States are the next largest markets, accounting for 12.3 percent (493 MT) and 9.5 percent (379 MT), respectively. Usually, larger sized mandarins, which are less popular in Korea, are set aside for export.

Korea's mandarin exports face some challenges due to the fruit's thin skin, which makes it easily damaged during long-distance transportation. Additionally rising production costs, especially labor, can affect the cost-competitiveness of Korean citrus, while increasing domestic fruit prices have recently kept fruit away from the export market. As a result, a sharp increase in export volumes is unlikely in the near future.

Recently, Korea has increased imports of mandarins. Notably, imports of mandarins (HS code 0805.21/22/29), which amounted to only 740 MT in MY 2022/23, increased to 3,100 MT in MY 2023/24. This increase is projected to continue, especially as consumer demand in Korea adapts with the phase-out of tariffs under the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS). In 2024, tangerines/mandarins are subject to a 19.2 percent tariff and will reach zero duty in 2026.

Table 5
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 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)		MY 2023/24 (Oct. 23 – Sep. 24)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	399	808	379	904
Others				
Russia	1,607	1,151	2,234	1,923
Canada	522	516	493	503
Hong Kong	251	504	181	359
Guam	73	175	54	120
Malaysia	117	175	274	364
Mongolia	33	69	43	82
Singapore	216	684	241	819
Others	45	96	98	195
Total for Others	2,864	3,370	3,618	4,365
Grand Total	3,263	4,178	3,997	5,269

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Tangerine/Mandarin Prices

In MY 2024/25, the market price of open-field tangerines is expected to be high due to adverse weather conditions during the growing and harvesting periods, which led to reduced open-field tangerine production and a decrease in the availability of marketable fruits. As a result, market prices are projected to remain at similar levels to the previous year, when domestic fruit prices were strong. Additionally, with the overall decline in citrus production, the citrus distribution in Jeju is expected to finish earlier than usual. Typically, open-field tangerine distribution lasts until

February, but last year it was almost completed by the end of January. This season is also expected to conclude early, which will likely result in strong prices for tangerines in the fruit market.

In MY 2023/24, the average consumer price for the preferred sizes of Unshu tangerines (10 fruits) in January and February was KRW 4,301 for small and KRW 5,208 for medium, marking increases of 52 percent and 26 percent compared to the previous year (KRW 2,829 and KRW 3,427). The main reason for this price increase was the 20 to 30 percent decrease in production of other major domestic fruits (apples, pears, and persimmons) in 2023, which led to increased substitution demand for tangerines, allowing them to obtain higher prices in the fruit market.

Table 6

Korea: Average Retail Prices for Regular Unshu (tangerines), Nationwide

(Unit: Korean Won per 10 Fruits)

Month	S size		% Change	M size		% Change
	2023	2024	-	2023	2024	-
Jan.	2,754	3,711	+34.7	3,349	4,548	+35.8
Feb.	2,903	4,891	+68.5	3,504	5,867	+67.4
Mar.	2,939	-	-	3,574	-	-
April - September: N/A						
Oct.	3,175	3,022	-4.8	3,971	3,919	-1.3
Nov.	2,852	-	-	3,528	-	-
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Note: S size fruit diameter: 55 – 58 mm / M size fruit diameter: 59 – 62 mm

Table 7

Wholesale Prices for Greenhouse Tangerine, Nationwide

(Unit: Korean Won per 3 kg)

Month	2023	2024	% Change
May	27,067	31,028	+14.6
Jun.	19,439	20,233	+4.1
Jul.	17,987	16,040	-10.8
Aug.	22,132	17,179	-22.4
Sep.	16,344	14,148	-13.4
Oct.	9,527	8,929	-6.3
Nov.	13,605	-	-

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

Oranges

Table 8
Korea: Production, Supply and Distribution (PS&D) of Fresh Oranges

Oranges, Fresh	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2022		Oct 2023		Oct 2024	
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)	87	87	97	97	0	95
Total Supply (1000 MT)	87	87	97	97	0	95
Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fresh Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	87	87	97	97	0	95
For Processing (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	87	87	97	97	0	95
(HECTARES) ,(1000 TREES) ,(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Orange Production

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

Orange Consumption

In MY 2024/25, Korea's fresh orange consumption is expected to remain stable at around 95,000 MT, similar to the previous year (97,000 MT) due to steady demand for high quality (high brix) U.S. navel oranges. Imported oranges are still relatively affordable compared to other domestically grown fruit such as apples, pears, strawberries and late-maturing citrus. Production of California navel oranges, the most popular orange variety, is forecast up 2 percent for MY 2024/25 according to the September 2024 survey by California citrus industry.

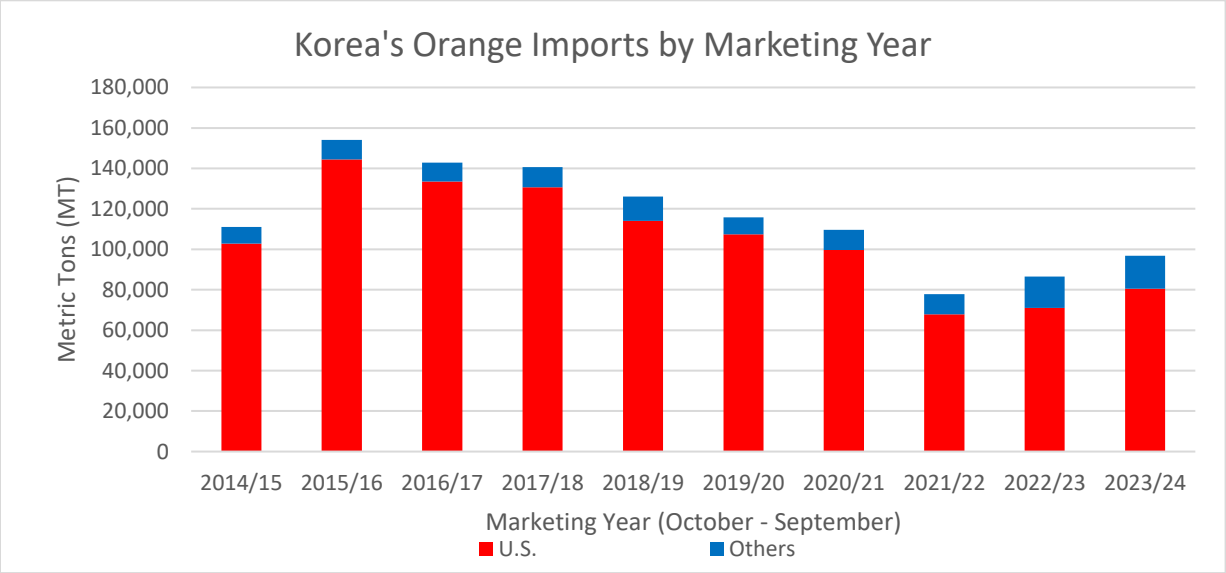
In MY 2023/24, orange consumption increased by 11.5 percent as consumers turned to imported oranges to fill a gap left by insufficient supplies of domestically grown fruit. As production of Korean apples, pears, and persimmons suffered 20-30 percent losses from adverse weather, fresh fruit prices skyrocketed. To stabilize consumer prices, the government implemented a series of policies to increase the supply of imported fruit, especially emergency tariff rate quotas (TRQs) for many tropical fruits and oranges.

Orange Trade

In MY 2024/25, Korea's orange imports are expected to remain stable at around 95,000 MT, similar to the previous year (97,000 MT). Despite a forecasted increase in California's production of navel oranges, which will provide strong price competitiveness, the import volume is expected to align with last year due to a slowdown in domestic consumption that started in the latter half of 2024. The United States will continue to be the dominant supplier of oranges, holding over 80 percent market share with its navel oranges.

In the first half of 2024 (January-June), navel orange imports (mostly from California) increased by 13 percent to 80,473 MT compared to the previous year (71,504 MT) mainly due to tariff reductions under the emergency tariff rate quota (TRQ). Under the KORUS FTA, U.S. oranges have duty-free access only from March 1 until the end of August. From September to February, there is a seasonal KORUS TRQ with zero duty on 3,565 MT in 2024. Outside of the KORUS TRQ, U.S. oranges carry a tariff rate of 50 percent. The emergency TRQ program allowed more U.S. oranges to enter duty free before the normal duty-free season, especially in February 2024.

Figure 2
Korea's Fresh Orange Imports by Marketing Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC.

After the United States, Australia is the second largest supplier of oranges to Korea. Thanks to a similar seasonal tariff exemption in their FTA with Korea, since 2020 Australia has gradually increased its export volume to 15,285 MT in MY 2023/24 from 6,740 MT in MY 2021/22. However, Australian navel (which are not as high brix as U.S. navel oranges) oranges face limitations in gaining a larger market share in Korea because of consumer preferences for high brix navel oranges.

Table 9
Korea: Monthly Orange Imports (Unit: MT; KORUS duty-free season shaded)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
'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	275	203
'24	2,533	7,431	38,028	24,826	6,041	1,615	6,425	3,683	1,774	2,149	-	-

Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Table 10
Korea: Import Matrix for Oranges

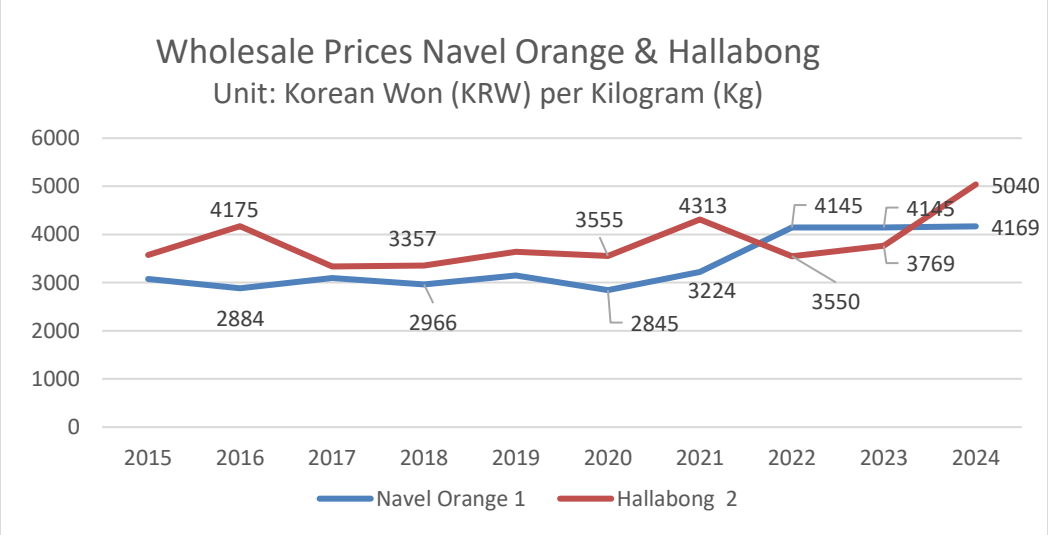
Import Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: Orange (HS 0805.10)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Imports from	MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)		MY 2023/24 (Oct. 23 – Sep. 24)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	70,994	147,362	80,488	175,135
Others				
South Africa	1,957	2,017	314	310
Australia	12,275	19,881	15,285	24,814
Spain	883	1,623	490	933
Chile	209	346	285	436
Other	238	169	2	32
Total for Others	15,562	24,036	16,376	26,525
Grand Total	86,556	171,398	96,864	201,660

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Orange Prices

As a result of the emergency TRQs implemented in 2024, the wholesale price of navel oranges (per kilo) increased by less than 1 percent year-on-year in the first half of 2024 (from KRW 4,145 to KRW 4,169), while the average wholesale price of competing domestic late-maturing citrus (Hallabong variety) increased by 34 percent (KRW 3,770 to KRW 5,040) during the same period. The dramatic 21-percent price difference between these two competing products reversed recent trends, as Hallabong prices had dropped below imported navels for the first time in 2022. The higher price of domestic late-maturing citrus appears to have been demand-driven, reflecting increased consumer willingness to pay for domestic fruit.

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



[1] High quality "Navel" Oranges
[2] Late maturing variety "Hallabong" Tangerines
Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation / Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Citrus Marketing & Shipping Association

Orange Juice

Post has revised data on Korea's orange juice market from MY 2023/24 and earlier to reflect corrected conversion rates to 65 Brix equivalent. Changes will be reflected in USDA Official import, export, consumption, and stocks data through PSD Online in early 2025.

Table 11
Production, Supply and Distribution of Orange Juice

Orange Juice	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2022		Oct 2023		Oct 2024	
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	1500	7500	1600	0	1500
Production (MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Imports (MT)	20300	11567	17600	11191	0	10000
Total Supply (MT)	25800	13067	25100	12791	0	11500
Exports (MT)	400	397	400	308	0	300
Domestic Consumption (MT)	17900	11070	18200	10983	0	9800
Ending Stocks (MT)	7500	1600	6500	1500	0	1400
Total Distribution (MT)	25800	13067	25100	12791	0	11500
(MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Note: Orange juice imports represent the total of imports under HS codes: 2009.11, 2009.12, and 2009.19. As Korean import statistics (via Trade Data Monitor) for orange juice are in tons, the table includes all imports converted to Frozen Concentrate Orange Juice (FCOJ) 65 Brix equivalent in 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. Please refer to the Tangerine/Mandarin section for more information on tangerine processing into juice concentrate.

Orange Juice Consumption

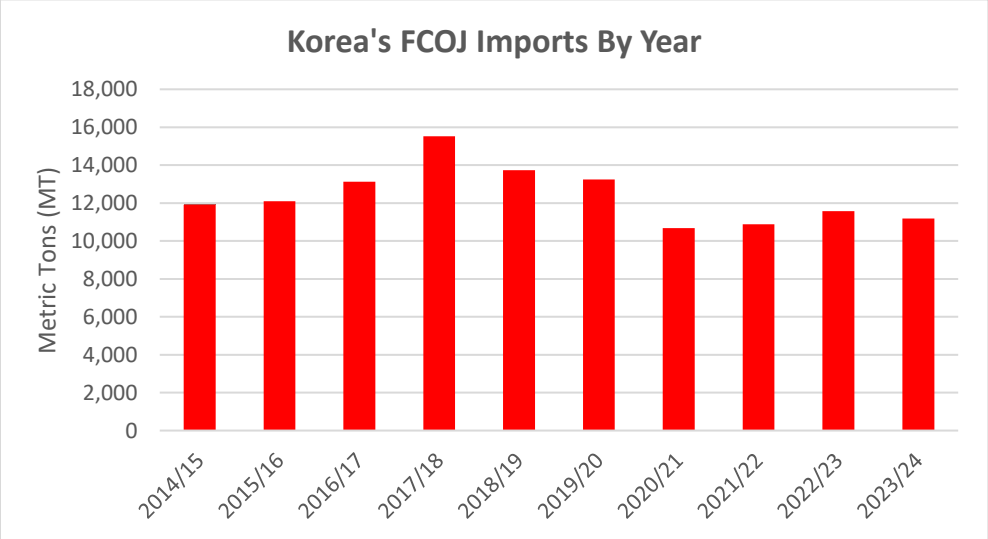
Although overall fruit juice demand in Korea has been declining for the past few years due to the popularity of low-calorie drinks, orange juice has a fairly steady demand from various sectors including group catering, franchise restaurant chains, and institutional buyers such as

government and public facilities. According to beverage industry contacts, Korean consumers are less resistant to sugar content in orange juice products than other fruit juices (grape, peach and other flavors).

In Korea, the fruit juice beverage market is experiencing a gradual decline in consumption as consumers are increasingly interested in coffee and health-related beverages. In particular, there has been an increase in demand for low-sugar or sugar-free beverages in recent years, while demand for high-sugar fruit juices continues to decline.

Nonetheless, orange juice remains one of the key products in the fruit juice market. Recently, due to the increase in the international price of orange juice, the cost of production for 100 percent pure orange juice products increased as well. As a result, blended fruit juice products combining orange juice with tangerine juice or other fruit flavors are now more common in the marketplace than single fruit juices such as 100 percent orange juice.

Figure 4
Korea's Frozen Concentrated Orange Juice (FCOJ) Imports by Year



Source: Trade Date Monitor LLC.

Orange Juice Trade

In MY 2024/25, Korea's frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) import volume (converted to 65-degree brix: FOJ) is expected to decrease by 11 percent from the previous year (11,191 MT) to around 10,000 MT. This decline is influenced by the continued high global prices of orange juice and a decrease in consumer preferences for sugary drinks. Although historically the United States was the main supplier of FCOJ, U.S. exports have dropped off because of limited exportable supplies due to citrus greening disease. Since 2018, Spain has held the greatest market

share, accounting for 70 percent of total orange concentrate imports, with around 7,900 MT in MY 2023/24. The remaining volume of about 3,300 MT was imported from countries such as the United States, Spain, Brazil, and Australia.

There are no official estimates of FCOJ stocks in Korea. However, industry contacts report that they usually keep 30-45 days' supply of FCOJ as stocks. Post estimates of FCOJ stocks are based on this assumption.

Table 12
Korea: Import Matrix for FCOJ

Import Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: FCOJ (2009.11/12/19)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Imports from	MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)		MY 2023/24 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	1,584	5,226	998	2,869
Others				
Spain	8,220	35,135	7,882	45,660
Brazil	622	2,070	921	4,262
Australia	157	1,974	241	2,300
Thailand	149	1,202	115	864
Other	835	2,520	1,034	4,176
Total for Others	9,983	42,901	10,193	57,262
Grand Total	11,567	48,127	11,191	60,131

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Lemons

Lemon Production

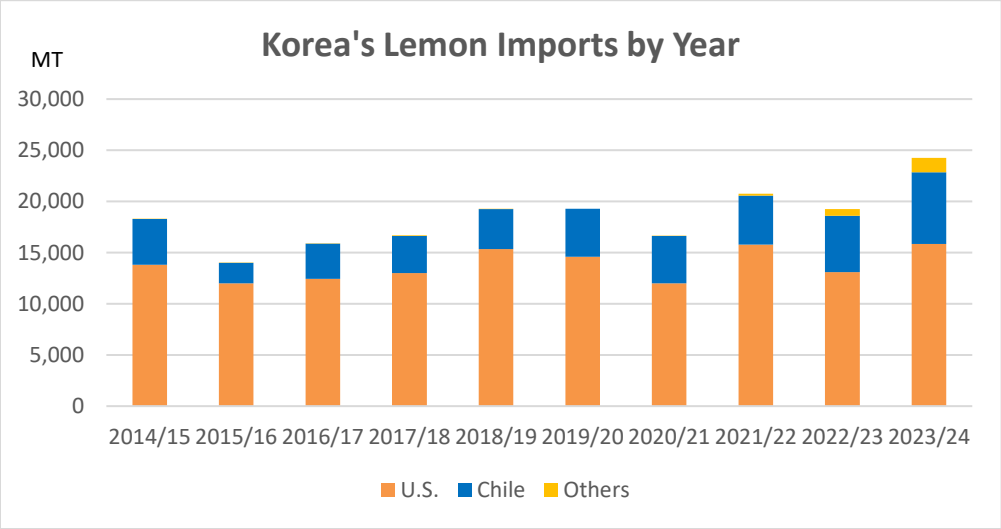
Korea has no official data available for lemon production, as it is not a major fruit. Based on information from the Rural Development Administration, post estimates Korean lemon production at about 550 MT on 35 hectares in 2023.

Lemon Consumption and Trade

Due to the increasing popularity of lemon-based food and beverage products, lemon imports are expected to remain strong at around 25,000 MT in MY 2024/25, similar to the previous year's level. This growing demand is particularly driven by female consumers, as lemon-related food and beverage products have seen increased exposure on home shopping TV channels, which are

predominantly watched by women. Products such as lemon water, lemon drinks, lemon juice, and lemon-flavored foods are perceived as healthy. Use of lemons in alcoholic beverages has also become popular. The domestic fruit industry attributes this increase in demand to the visibility of lemon products on these channels. In addition, as lemons are recognized for their versatility in the food and beverage sector, the import volume of fresh lemons is expected to remain stable in the future.

Figure 5
Korea's Lemon Imports by Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Table 13
Korea's Import Matrix for Lemon

Import Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: Lemon (0805.50.10)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Imports from	MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)		MY 2023/24 (Oct. 23 – Sep. 24)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	13,080	29,499	15,831	36,906
Others				
Chile	5,510	10,230	7,009	13,148
Australia	665	1,027	1,399	2,358
Other	2	38	24	33
Total for Others	6,177	11,295	8,432	15,539
Grand Total	19,257	40,794	24,263	52,445

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Grapefruit

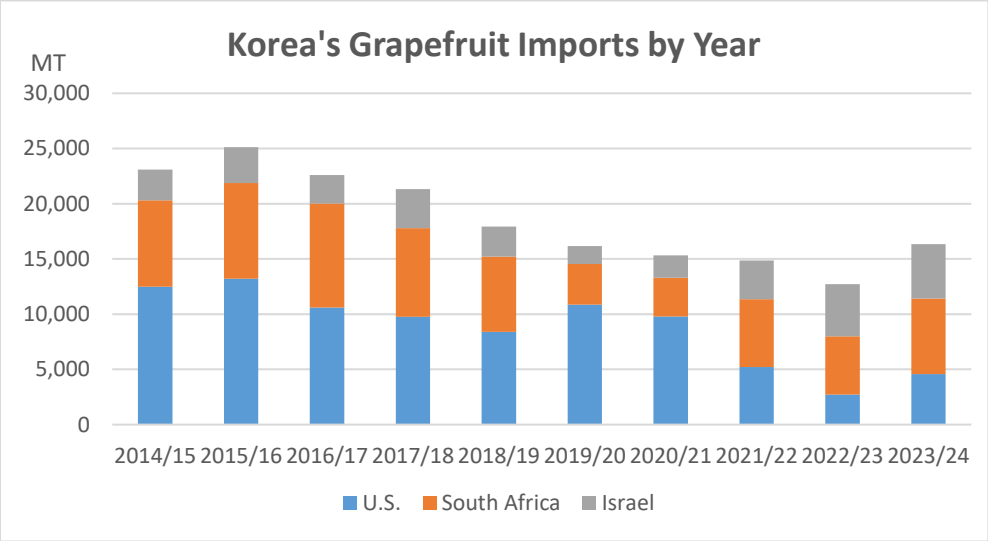
Grapefruit Production

There is no domestic grapefruit production in Korea.

Grapefruit Trade

For the 2024/25 season, Korea's grapefruit imports are expected to decrease by about 9 percent year-on-year to 15,000 MT. This decrease is due to the expiration of the emergency TRQ in 2024 and the recovery of domestic major fruit production. Unlike lemons and oranges, grapefruit has more limited uses when eaten fresh or in other food products, so a significant increase in consumption is not expected. Due to the Florida citrus greening disease that affected supply, currently grapefruit from the United States is primarily sourced from California. However, with the addition of Texas as a new grapefruit supplier beginning in 2024, there potential to increase U.S. market share, depending on the consumer response and market conditions.

Figure 6
Korea's Grapefruit Imports by Year



Source: Korea Customs Service & Trade Data Monitor LLC.

In MY 2023/24, Korea's grapefruit imports increased by about 30 percent to 16,500 MT compared to the previous year (12,719 MT), as grapefruit was included in the target commodities from the emergency TRQ on imported fruit (mainly tropical fruits) during the first half of 2024 (see Orange Trade section). In particular, grapefruit imports from the United States increased by 68 percent to 4,587 MT, while South African grapefruit imports increased by 30 percent to 6,831 MT. The local fruit industry believed that the increased grapefruit imports in 2024 were a

rebound effect from the past 2 to 3 years of stagnant domestic demand. The main suppliers were South Africa (41 percent), Israel (30 percent), and the United States (28 percent).

The import duty for fresh grapefruit (HS code 0805.40) is 30 percent, while U.S. grapefruit enjoys zero duty under the KORUS FTA. Korea implemented an 8,000 MT emergency TRQ for grapefruit with zero duty during the 8 months period of 2024 (January 19 to September 30). Although Israel and South Africa stood to benefit the most from the emergency TRQ, the United States saw the greatest increase in grapefruit exports to Korea.

Table 14

Korea: Import Matrix for Grapefruit

Import Trade Matrix				
Country: Korea				
Commodity: Grapefruit (0805.40)			Unit: MT & US$1,000	
Imports from	MY 2022/23 (Oct. 22 – Sep. 23)		MY 2023/24 (Oct. 23 – Sep. 24)	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
U.S.	2,727	5,189	4,587	8,451
Others				
Israel	4,724	6,840	4,913	6,901
S. Africa	5,268	5,677	6,831	8,122
Mexico	0	0	169	665
Total for Others	9,992	12,517	11,913	15,688
Grand Total	12,719	17,706	16,500	24,139

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC.

Annex I. Additional Citrus Tables

Table 15
Korea: Citrus Production Situation [1]

Year	Area (HA)	Production (MT)	Farm Household	Gross Income (Mil.won)
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	19,726	579,432	31,763	13,248,793
2024 [2]	19,720	560,000	N/A	N/A

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

Table 16
Korea: Citrus Utilization (Unit: MT)

Year	Total	Fresh	Processing	Other [1]
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
2023	553,429	290,304	43,065	220,060

[1] Other – including exports, military consumption and consumption within Jeju Island
Source: Jeju Provincial Government

Table 17
Purchase Price of Processing Tangerine Oranges (Korean Won/kg)

Year	Price
2016	160
2017	180
2018	180
2019	180
2020	180
2021	180
2022	180
2023	180
2024	210

Source: Jeju Citrus Growers' Cooperative

Table 18
Citrus Production as Ratio to Total Fruit Production (Unit: 1,000 MT, Ratio: Percent)

Year	Total Fruits	Citrus	Ratio
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
2023	1,918	579	30.2

Source: Korea Statistical Information Service (KOSIS)

Annex II. Tariff Rates and Quotas

Table 19
Korea: Import Quota and Tariff for Fresh Oranges (Unit: MT, %)

Year	Quota	In-quota Tariff	Out-quota Tariff
2004	57,017	50	50
2022	57,017	50	50
2023	57,017	50	50
2024	57,017	50	50
2025	57,017	50	50

Table 20
Korea: Import Quota and Tariff for Other Citrus (Unit: MT, %)

Year	Quota	In-quota Tariff	Out-quota Tariff
2004	2,097	50	144
2022	2,097	50	144
2023	2,097	50	144
2024	2,097	50	144
2025	2,097	50	144

Note: HS 0805.21.1000, HS 0805.21.9000, HS0805.22.0000, HS0805.29.000, HS0805.50.2020 & HS 0805.90.0000.

Table 21
Import Quota under the KORUS FTA (Unit: MT, %)

HSK 10	Description	Base Rate	2023	2024	2025
0805100000	Oranges				
March1 – end Aug		50	Zero	Zero	Zero
Sept 1 – end Feb					
TRQ (MT)			3,461	3,565	3,672
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 22
Import Quota under the Korea – EU FTA (Unit: MT, %)

HSK 10	Description	Base Rate	2023	2024	2025
0805100000	Oranges				
March1 – 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 23
Import Quota under the Korea - Australia FTA (Unit: MT, %)

HSK 10	Description	Base Rate	2023	2024	2025
0805100000	Oranges				
April1 – end Sep		50	Zero	Zero	Zero
Oct 1 – end Mar					
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 24

Korea: Average Retail Prices for U.S. Oranges (Navel), Nationwide, January to July

(Unit: Korean Won per 10 Fruits)

Year / Month	2022	2023	2024	% Change from the previous year
Jan	15,855	-	17,430	-
Feb	14,914	15,766	17,662	12.0
Mar	13,061	16,242	16,707	2.9
Apr	15,681	15,908	15,114	-5.0
May	15,528	15,755	15,065	-4.4
Jun	14,874	15,158	17,710	16.8
Jul	13,779	15,295	18,081	18.2

Prices for high quality

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 25

Korea: Average Wholesale Prices for Imported U.S. Navel Oranges, January to June

(Unit: Korean Won per 18 Kilogram box)

Month	High Quality		Medium Quality	
	2023	2024	2023	2024
Jan.	84,842	-	80,127	-
Feb.	82,605	85104	78,161	82,176
Mar.	71,676	75371	67,246	72,706
Apr.	69,784	69660	65,023	67,171
May	69,708	72497	65,214	70,300
Jun.	69,073	72577	64,282	69,804

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 26

Monthly Wholesale Prices for Domestic Hallabong & U.S. Navel Oranges

(Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram)

Month	Imported Navel [1]		Hallabong [2]	
	2023	2024	2023	2024
Jan.	4,713	-	4,536	5,147
Feb.	4,589	4,728	3,461	5,188
Mar.	3,982	4,187	3,452	5,003
Apr.	3,877	3,870	3,761	4,957
May	3,873	4,028	3,635	4,904
Jun.	3,837	4,032	-	-

[1] High quality U.S. navel oranges

[2] Late variety Unshu oranges

Source: Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation / Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Citrus Marketing & Shipping Association

Table 27
Korea: Monthly Average Foreign Exchange Rate
(Unit: Korean Won / 1 USD)

Month	2022	2023	2024
Jan.	1194.01	1247.25	1323.57
Feb.	1198.34	1270.74	1331.74
Mar.	1221.03	1305.73	1330.70
Apr.	1232.34	1320.01	1367.83
May	1269.88	1328.21	1365.39
Jun.	1277.35	1296.71	1380.13
Jul.	1307.40	1286.30	1383.38
Aug.	1318.44	1318.47	1354.15
Sep.	1391.59	1329.47	1334.82
Oct.	1426.66	1350.69	-
Nov.	1364.66	1310.39	-
Dec.	1296.22	1303.98	-

Source: Industrial Bank of Korea

Attachments:

No Attachments