

USDA/Global Agricultural Information Network Reports

Below is a summary of export trade news highlights, compiled by the International Trade Office.

[Canada Biofuels Annual Report](#)

Fossil fuel carbon intensity (CI) reduction requirements came into effect on July 1, 2023, but an early carbon credit creation mechanism operating June 2022 to June 2023 incentivized growth in ethanol use and blending in 2022 under Canada's CFR. Rising ethanol use and blending continued in 2023 supported by the carbon credit exchange and provincial policies, and the same was true for biobased diesel (BBD) in 2023 and expected in 2024. Fuel ethanol consumption in 2024 is forecast 43% higher than 2021 (pre-CFR) levels; biodiesel and renewable diesel are forecast 19% and 243% higher, respectively. The first of two hydrogenation-derived renewable diesel (HDRD) plants began operation in November 2023, and HDRD exports to the United States began in June 2024. There is significant uncertainty for Canada's biofuel production and trade (especially BBD) given imminent changes in U.S. federal biofuel tax policy. – [More Info](#)

[Mexico Food and Agricultural Imports Regulations and Standards \(FAIRS\) Report](#)

This document provides an overview of major Mexican agricultural and food-product laws and regulations, as well as related import standards and regulations. Some products may be subject to regulatory oversight by several different Government of Mexico agencies. USDA recommends that U.S. food and agricultural exporters work with experienced and established customs brokers and importers. – [More Info](#)

[US Pork Exports Continue to Rise - ASF Becoming Endemic in Dominican Republic](#)

African Swine Fever (ASF) remains a significant challenge in the Dominican Republic. Despite initial emergency response efforts, the disease is now endemic, with outbreaks showing an upward trend in 2024 and continuing to consistently appear throughout the country. A decline in local production due to the disease continues to provide increased export opportunities for U.S. pork & pork products to the Dominican Republic, which are looking to set another record in 2024 after reaching 96,010 metric tons in 2023. – [More Info](#)

[Japan Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#)

This report provides the latest status of consumption, regulation, public perception, research, development, production, government policy and use of agricultural biotechnology in Japan. In general, Japan uses a science-based process for evaluating and granting approval for import and production of genetically engineered products. Japan is a major importer and consumer of products derived from biotechnology, but domestic production remains extremely limited. Japanese regulators have established handling procedures for genome edited food and ag products. Seven genome edited products developed by Japanese and American companies have completed the necessary consultation and notification processes, four of which are being produced and distributed in the domestic market. – [More Info](#)

[China's Bovine Market Overview and Distribution Channels](#)

The United States has become a leading supplier of beef products to China since its reentry into the market in 2017. This report reviews the development of the beef market, analyzes prospects, discusses potential opportunities and examines in detail the channels of beef products in the China market. – [More Info](#)

[Taiwan Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#)

Since the previous report, Taiwan has granted new approvals for imports of genetically engineered (GE) products for processing, food and feed use. Taiwan has never permitted domestic production of GE crops or animals. In 2023, Taiwan imported close to \$930 million of U.S. crops, accounting for 25% of total U.S. agricultural exports to the island. Taiwan authorities are discussing how to manage innovative biotechnologies, but do not yet have a public draft or policy for the products of these technologies. Taiwan continued to make some progress on approving microbial biotechnology products, albeit with other requirements for labeling and maximum dietary intake. – [More Info](#)

[Revised General Directive for Agricultural Seeds Labeling Published in China](#)

On October 28, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) published the revised mandatory national standard “General Directive for the Labeling of Agricultural Seeds”, which will come into effect on October 1, 2025. The revised labeling directive, which was notified to the WTO on February 12, 2024, requires significantly more information on the seed label, including identifying information, a description of cultivation and uses, and a QR code which links to traceability data. The directive also clarifies label requirements for GE seeds and imported seeds. This report provides an unofficial translation of the revised directive which will replace the national standard, which dates back to 2006. – [More Info](#)

[India Livestock and Products Annual Report](#)

India’s 2025 beef production (mostly carabeef) is forecast to reach 4.64 million metric tons (MMT), up from 4.57 MMT in 2024, on steady domestic and increased export demand. USDA forecasts a 4% increase in carabeef exports in 2025 over 2024 due to growth in demand from countries in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and Africa. Domestic consumption is expected to remain the same in 2025 as in 2024 at 2.99 MMT. The calf crop is forecast to grow marginally in 2025 to 71.03 million head, while the cattle herd size is forecast to largely remain unchanged at 307.49 million head. – [More Info](#)

[Indonesia Grain and Feed Update](#)

Indonesia’s 2024/25 wheat imports are forecast to decline 8% from 2023/24, when higher demand from feed mills, consumption of wheat flour-based food from major events in early 2024, and demand for cheaper alternatives to rice drove wheat imports up to new record highs. With larger production, rice imports in 2024/25 are expected to fall sharply from 2023/24, when the national logistics agency tendered to offset the smaller crop. Increased corn production in 2024/25 will reduce the volume of imports, although feed and wet milling demand remains strong. – [More Info](#)

[Egypt Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies Annual Report](#)

The planting of GE crops is currently not authorized and there is no biosafety legal framework in place in Egypt. The absence of a biosafety framework contributes directly to a lack of public awareness, funding and trust in agricultural biotechnology. In the current environment, there are no prospects for cultivation and production of GE crops for food nor feed in Egypt. – [More Info](#)

[An Overview of the Israeli Beef Market](#)

The beef sector in Israel is growing and is heavily reliant upon imports. Israel's lack of grazing land for cattle and an increasing population are the main factors contributing to the growth in demand for beef imports. However, exporting beef to Israel comes with strict Kosher requirements, making it difficult for some companies. – [More Info](#)

[More Restrictions on Live Cattle Exports to Türkiye](#)

Türkiye is the second largest cattle importing country after the United States, with imports valued at \$1.6 billion in 2023 despite strict health and technical requirements. As of May 15, 2024, the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry enacted an unjustified trade embargo on U.S. cattle following the detection of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) in some dairy herds in the United States. – [More Info](#)

[Translated Documents Related to Israel's Adoption of Additional European Union Standards for Agricultural Imports](#)

This report includes translations of the documents from Hebrew to English. The documents outline the 40 new European Union standards which will be implemented on January 1, 2025, and which will impact U.S. agricultural exports to Israel. The documents include: the "Protection of Public Health Law (Food) – 2015;" the "Tenth Amendment to the Protection of Public Health Law (Food) – 2015;" and the "Official Notice to Food Importers about Amendment No. 10." – [More Info](#)

[Netherlands Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#)

This report assesses the agricultural biotechnology sector in the Netherlands, and covers related production, trade and policies. It includes topics related to genetic engineering and innovative plant, animal and microbial biotechnologies. On July 5, 2023, the European Commission (EC) adopted a new proposal to regulate plants obtained by certain "new genomic techniques" (NGTs) and their use for food and feed. One of the key elements of the proposal is to lift the risk analysis for approval and labeling for the end-consumer of NGTs that could also occur naturally. Over the past five years, the Dutch Government position toward the application of NGTs has been roughly in line with the content of the current EC proposal. The Dutch Government's support for the application of NGTs is based on the use of these technologies as an important propagation tool for the Dutch plant breeding sector, and a vital technology to improve the sustainability of agricultural production systems. – [More Info](#)