

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 11/21/2018

GAIN Report Number: JA8098

Japan

Post: Tokyo

Limited Impact on U.S. Corn Expected from Japan's FTAs

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

The Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) agreement will enter into force on December 30, 2018, and a free trade agreement between Japan and the European Union is expected to enter into force on February 1, 2019. The two agreements could bring about a limited increase in market competition for U.S. corn products as both agreements contain tariff concessions for a range of corn products. Japan imported 15.3 million metric tons (MMT) of corn and corn products in 2017 (excluding ethanol), valued at US\$3.09 billion. U.S. corn and corn products accounted for roughly 80 percent of Japan's imports (by both volume and value).

General Information:

Following the Cabinet's endorsement, the Government of Japan (GOJ) submitted a bill to approve the Japan-European Union (EU) Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) to the Japanese Diet on November 6, 2018, with a goal of passing the bill before December 10, 2018 (the day the current Diet session is scheduled to end). If approved on schedule, the agreement is anticipated to be effectuated on February 1, 2019. Earlier in 2017, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) published on its website a summary of the tariff reductions for several EU agricultural products which largely resemble the concessions that Japan made in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement negotiation. Meanwhile, with the completion of the requisite procedures to ratify the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (hereinafter referred to as CPTPP) in late October, the CPTPP is expected to enter into force on December 30, 2018.

1. Corn

Japan imported 15.3 million metric tons (MMT) of corn in 2017, of which the United States accounted for 78 percent. The majority (roughly 75 percent) of imported corn is used for feed, with the remainder used for food and industrial purposes, such as cornstarch.¹ Japanese corn production (excluding sweet corn) is negligible. As corn is the principle ingredient for compound feed and Japan relies heavily on corn imports, tariffs are set at zero for feed (HS100590010). Tariffs are also set at zero within the tariff rate quotas (TRQ) established for corn for manufacturing cornstarch (HS100590091), for "feeding purposes" (HS100590095), and for manufacturing corn flakes, ethyl alcohol, or distilled alcoholic beverages (HS100590092).

There is an additional TRQ for corn intended to be used for other purposes (HS100590096) on which a three percent tariff is imposed. This corn is believed to be processed into corn grits, meal, and flour which are used for the production of snacks and food in Japan. Japan imported 67,000 MT (valued at US\$16.9 million) under this category in 2017, with the United States accounting for 90 percent by volume and 86.6 percent by value, followed by India at 8.6 percent by volume and 11.1 percent by value. Under the CPTPP and Japan-EU EPA, this three percent tariff will be eliminated immediately. In 2017, Japan did not import corn under this HS code from any CPTPP Member States², while approximately 90 MT was imported from EU member States (France and Poland).

An ad valorem duty of 50 percent or a specific duty of 12 yen/kg, whichever greater, is applied to imports of "Corn Not Elsewhere Specified (N.E.S)" (HS100590099). Under the CPTPP, this duty will be eliminated for giant corn and purple corn from Peru. Japan imported roughly 1,100 MT of corn from Peru in 2017 under this HS code. There is no change under the Japan-EU EPA.

When the use of corn (whether for feed or cornstarch, etc.) is unknown at the time of importation, importers temporarily enter their corn under the Corn N.E.S HS code. Because of this, trade statistics typically indicate more than one million MT of corn is imported under this category per year. However,

¹ Future demand for feed corn in Japan may be adversely affected by an increase in pork and pork product imports from EU Member States. See, e.g., [JA7135](#).

² The CPTPP Member States are: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam.

it is believed that the majority of corn imported under this HS code is eventually re-categorized under the feed or cornstarch HS codes and subjected to the tariffs established for those codes.

Because Japan imports a limited amount of corn from the CPTPP and the EU Member States, tariff concessions for corn under these trade agreements are not expected to significantly affect Japan's imports.

2. Corn Seed

The tariff on chemical treated seed for sowing (HS100510010) is zero. For other seed (HS100510020), a specific duty of 9 yen/kg is applied. However, this duty will be eliminated immediately under both the CPTPP and Japan-EU EPA. In 2017, Japan imported 1,663 MT of seed, of which chemical treated seed for sowing (HS100510010) accounted for 99.8 percent (1,659 MT) while only 4 MT of other seed (HS100510020) was imported from Chile and France.

France was the main supplier of corn seed to Japan, accounting for 59 percent in 2017, followed by New Zealand at 19.3 percent, and Australia at four percent. Imports from the United States accounted for 3.2 percent of the imported volume (53 MT).

Table 1. Corn

HS	Product	WTO MFN Duty	CPTPP Duty	Japan-EU EPA Duty		
100510010	Seed rendered suitable solely for sowing by chemical treatment	Free	No change			
100510020	Seed, other	9 yen/kg	0 yen/kg immediately			
100590020	For popcorn, corn which is explosive with heating under normal air pressure	Free	No change			
100590010	For feeding purposes, and used for fodder and feed under the supervision of Japanese Customs.	Free				
100590091	Corn for manufacturing cornstarch within the TRQ	Free (subject to a markup payment)				
100590095	Corn for feeding purposes stipulated by a Cabinet order within TRQ	Free				
100590092	Corn for manufacturing corn flakes, ethyl alcohol, or distilled alcoholic beverages within TRQ	Free				
100590096	Corn for other uses than the three codes referenced above and within the TRQ	3.0%			0% immediately	
100590099	Corn Not Elsewhere Specified	50% or 12 yen/kg, whichever is the greater			0% or 0 yen/kg will only be applied to giant corn and purple corn from Peru	No change

Source: MAFF, Japan Customs

3. Processed Corn

As shown in Table 2, Japan applies ad valorem duties of 21.3 percent, 16.2 percent and 18 percent to processed corn imports. Because of these high duties, Japan imported a limited amount of processed corn (3,992 MT) in 2017, of which corn intended for manufacturing cornflakes (HS110423010) accounted for 84 percent by volume (3,363 MT), followed by corn flour at 8.2 percent (327 MT). India, being a dominant supplier of corn for cornflakes (3,179 MT), accounted for 80 percent (3,195 MT) of Japanese processed corn imports in 2017, followed by the United States at 8.8 percent (352 MT) and Australia at four percent (162 MT). India and the United States accounted for 59.8 percent and 17.5 percent by value, respectively. Imports from CPTPP and the EU Member States accounted for 4.5 percent (180 MT) and 1.6 percent (62 MT), respectively, by volume, and 6.1 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively, by value.

Under the CPTPP and Japan EU EPA, duties on processed corn will be reduced to zero in Year 6 or Year 8. Due to the limited imports of processed corn from CPTPP and EU Member States, tariff concessions under these agreements are not expected to significantly affect Japan's processed corn imports.

Table 2. Processed Corn

HS	Product	WTO MFN Duty	CPTPP Duty	Japan-EU EPA Duty	
110220000	Corn flour	21.3%	Year 1: 18.6%	Year 1: 18.6%	
110313000	Corn groats and meal	21.3%	Year 2: 15.9%	Year 2: 16.0%	
			Year 3: 13.3%	Year 3: 13.3%	
			Year 4: 10.6%	Year 4: 10.7%	
			Year 5: 7.9%	Year 5: 8.0%	
			Year 6: 5.3%	Year 6: 5.3%	
			Year 7: 2.6%	Year 7: 2.7%	
			Year 8: 0%	Year 8: 0%	
			Year 8: 0%	Year 8: 0%	
110320310	Corn pellets	21.3%	Year 1: 17.7%	Year 1: 17.8%	
110419210	Rolled or flaked corn	21.3%	Year 2: 14.2%		Year 2: 14.2%
			Year 3: 10.6%		Year 3: 10.7%
			Year 4: 7.1%		Year 4: 7.1%
			Year 5: 3.5%		Year 5: 3.6%
			Year 6: 0%		Year 6: 3.6%
			Year 6: 0%	Year 6: 0%	

110423010	Other worked (e.g., hulled, pearled, sliced, kibbled) corn for manufacturing cornflakes	16.2%	Year 1: 14.1% Year 2: 12.1% Year 3: 10.1% Year 4: 8.1% Year 5: 6.0% Year 6: 4.0% Year 7: 2.0% Year 8: 0%	Year 1: 14.2% Year 2: 12.2% Year 3: 10.1% Year 4: 8.1% Year 5: 6.1% Year 6: 4.1% Year 7: 2.0% Year 8: 0%
110423090	Other worked (e.g., hulled, pearled, sliced, kibbled) corn for other use than making cornflakes	18.0%	Year 1: Year 2: Year 3: Year 4: Year 5: Year 6:	15.0% 12.0% 9.0% 6.0% 3.0% 0%

Source: MAFF, Japan Customs

4. Starch

Japan has established a World Trade Organization (WTO) pooled quota of 157,000 MT per Japanese fiscal year (JFY) (April – March) for the importation of cornstarch, potato starch, cassava starch, sago starch, other starch, inulin, and food preparations mostly containing starch.³ As shown in Table 3, no duty is applied to imports within the pooled quota for cornstarch (HS110812010), potato starch (HS110813010), cassava starch (HS110814010), sago starch (HS110819011), and other starch (HS110819091) which are used for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue. However, importers are required to pay a markup⁴ to the Agriculture and Livestock Industries Corporation (ALIC). For imports of cornstarch (HS110812020), potato starch (HS110813020), cassava starch (HS110814020), sago starch (HS110819012), and other starch (HS110819092) and inulin (HS110820010) which are used for purposes other than the manufacturing of starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue within the pooled quota, a 25 percent duty is applied (but no markup payment is required). Additionally, for imports of food preparations mostly containing starch with added sugar (HS190120156, HS190190176) and food preparations mostly containing starch with no added sugar (HS190120157, HS190190177) within the pooled quota, a 25 percent duty and a 16 percent duty, respectively, is applied (but no markup payment is required). Imports of corn for manufacturing cornstarch within the TRQ (HS100590091) are also subject to the markup payment. A 119 yen/kg duty is applied to imports of these starches, inulin and starch preparations outside of the Pooled Quota.

³ Depending on demand, MAFF may issue additional quota beyond the WTO pooled quota volume.

⁴ Prior to importation, importers agree to a contract with ALIC to sell imported starch to ALIC and simultaneously buy back the products from ALIC. ALIC, in turn, keeps the difference (markup) between the sales price and the purchase price to support potato and sweet potato (intended for starch) farmers and potato starch manufacturers.

Japan imported a total of 184,595 MT of starch, inulin and food preparations in JFY2017, of which 157,825 MT, or 85.5 percent, was imported within the Pooled Quota (the remaining 26,770 MT, 14.5 percent, was imported outside of the pooled quota). Of Japan's total starch, inulin and food preparation imports in JFY2017, cassava starch accounted for 79.5 percent (146,744 MT), followed by sago starch at 11.6 percent (21,344 MT). By use, 80 percent of the total starch, inulin and starch preparation imports were used for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue. By supplier, imports from Thailand accounted for 77.8 percent of Japanese imports of starch, inulin and starch preparations in JFY2017, followed by Malaysia at 7.9 percent, and Germany at 4.5 percent. Imports from the United States accounted for 0.02 percent (43 MT) of JFY 2017 imports.

Table 3. Current Japanese Tariff Schedule for Starch

HS	Product	WTO duty		Markup payment
		In quota duty	Out of quota duty	
110812010	Cornstarch for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (Pooled Quota)	Free		Yes
110812020	Cornstarch for other use than HS110812010 (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110812090	Cornstarch, other		119 yen/kg	No
110813010	Potato starch for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (Pooled Quota)	Free		Yes
110813020	Potato starch for other use than HS110813010 (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110812090	Potato starch, other		119 yen/kg	No
110814010	Cassava starch for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (Pooled Quota)	Free		Yes
110814020	Cassava starch for other use than HS110814010 (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110814090	Cassava starch, other		119 yen/kg	No
110819011	Sago starch for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (Pooled Quota)	Free		Yes
110819012	Sago starch for other use than HS110819011 (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110819019	Sago starch, other		119 yen/kg	No
110819091	Other starch for manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (Pooled Quota)	Free		Yes
110819092	Other starch for other use than HS110819092 (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110819099	Other starch		119 yen/kg	No
110820010	Inulin (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
110820090	Inulin, other		119 yen/kg	No
190120156	Food preparations mostly containing starch with added sugar (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
190120157	Food preparations mostly containing starch with no added sugar (Pooled Quota)	16%		No
190120159	Food preparations mostly containing starch		119 yen/kg	No
190190176	Food preparations mostly containing starch with added sugar (Pooled Quota)	25%		No
190190177	Food preparations mostly containing starch with no added sugar (Pooled Quota)	16%		No
190190179	Food preparations mostly containing starch		119 yen/kg	No

Source: MAFF, Japan Customs

Under CPTPP, a per-fiscal year pooled quota of 7,500 MT⁵ will be established for starch, inulin and food preparations (containing mostly starch) imported outside of the WTO pooled quota and whose current WTO MFN duty stands at 119 yen/kg (Table 4). The in-CPTPP quota tariff will be eliminated immediately for cornstarch, potato starch, cassava starch, sago starch, and other starch when they are used to manufacture starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue (but will be subject to up to a 25 percent markup payment). The tariff for in-CPTPP quota for starches for other use, will be reduced to 12.5 percent, 16 percent and 25 percent immediately (see Table 4). Under the CPTPP, a Country Specific Quota (CSQ) for Chile will be established for inulin (HS110820090, outside of the pooled quota) which starts at 40 MT in Year 1⁶ and increases to 50 MT in Year 11. The tariff within the CSQ will be eliminated to zero immediately (Table 5).

Under the Japan-EU EPA, a per-fiscal year 6,400 MT EU quota is established in Year 1⁷ that will gradually increase to 7,150 MT in Year 6. Similar to the CPTPP quota, the in-EU quota tariff will be eliminated immediately for cornstarch, potato starch, cassava starch, sago starch, and other starch when they are used to manufacture starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue, however, subject to up to a 25 percent markup payment.

Potato starch imported within the in-EU quota is duty free when it is used for manufacturing processed foods (not being used directly for retail sale or foodservice), or used to manufacture starch powder (on the condition that the importer uses potato starch made from domestically produced potatoes and imported potato starch at a ratio of: 1 (domestic): 3 (imports)). For other starches, 12.5 percent, 16 percent and 25 percent in-quota tariffs are applied with the exception of inulin whose in-quota tariff is zero (see Table 4).

Japan imported a total of 26,770 MT (valued at US\$13.6 million) of starch, inulin and food preparations mostly containing starch outside the WTO pooled quota in JFY2017, for which a new CPTPP quota and EU quota are established. Of the 26,770 MT, imports from Thailand accounted for 83 percent (22,219 MT) by volume, followed by Vietnam at 10 percent (2,673 MT) and Australia at 2.7 percent (612 MT). By value, Thailand accounted for 55.3 percent, followed by China at 23.1 percent and Vietnam at 6.4 percent.

Imports from the CPTPP and the EU Member States accounted for 12.3 percent (3,296 MT) and 2.1 percent (559 MT) by volume, respectively, and 12.8 percent and 3.9 percent by value, respectively, in JFY2017. Imports from the United States accounted for 0.14 percent (39 MT) by volume, and 2.1 percent (US\$285,199) by value in JFY2017.

Japan consumed approximately 2.7 MMT of starch in “Starch Year” 2017 (October 2017 – September 2018), of which 66 percent was used for manufacturing sweeteners, 13 percent for manufacturing modified starch, and seven percent for manufacturing paper and board. By starch type, cornstarch accounted for 85.5 percent (2.3 MMT) of Japan’s total starch consumption, followed by potato starch made from domestically produced potatoes and sweet potatoes at 7.7 percent (208,000MT) and imported

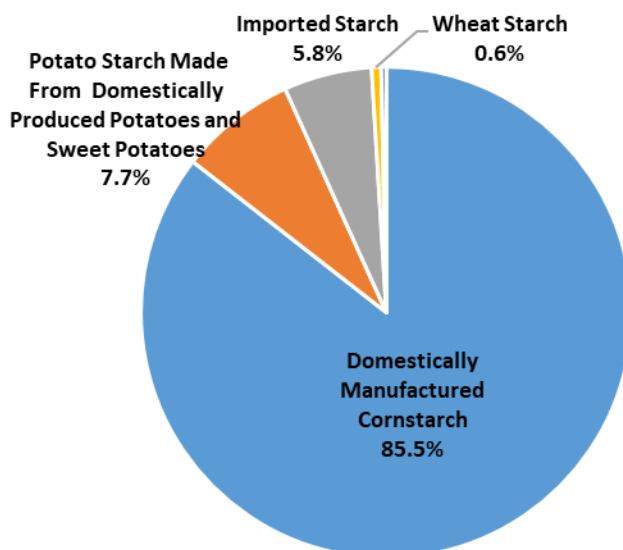
⁵ TRQs are expected to be prorated in year 1 (full year volumes will not be provided until year 2).

⁶ TRQs are expected to be prorated in year 1 (full year volumes will not be provided until year 2).

⁷ TRQs are expected to be prorated in year 1 (full year volumes will not be provided until year 2).

starch at 5.8 percent (157,000MT). Japan relies almost entirely on imported corn to manufacture cornstarch due to its price competitiveness over imported cornstarch (only 865 MT (0.04 percent) of cornstarch was imported in “Starch Year” 2017). With corn’s price competitiveness, Japan is expected to continue to import corn as an ingredient for domestically produced starch in lieu of importing finished starches after the implementation of tariff concessions under the CPTPP and the Japan-EU EPA.

Figure 1. Starch Supplies by Type in Japan



Source: MAFF

Table 4. Starch

HS	Product	WTO MFN Duty	CPTPP Duty	Japan-EU EPA Duty
110812090	Cornstarch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg	CPTPP TRQ Year 1: 7,500 MT The aggregate quota quantity will remain at 7,500 MT in Year 2 and onwards. In-quota tariffs (immediately effective): 1. For manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, and starch glue Free for HS110812090,	EU TRQ Year 1: 6,400 MT Year 2: 6,550 MT Year 3: 6,700 MY Year 4: 6,850 MT Year 5: 7,000 MT Year 6: 7,150 MT The aggregate quota quantity will remain at 7,150 MT in Year 7 and onwards. In-quota tariffs (immediately effective): 1. For manufacturing starch sugar, dextrin, dextrin glue, dissolve starch, roasted starch, or starch glue
110813090	Potato starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg		
110814090	Cassava starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg		
110819019	Sago starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg		
110819099	Other starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg		
110820090	Inulin, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg		

190120159	Food preparations mostly containing starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg	HS110813090, HS110814090, HS110819019, HS110819099 (but subject to up to a 25 percent markup)	Free for HS110812090, HS110813090, HS110814090, HS110819019, HS110819099 (but subject to up to a 25 percent markup)
190190179	Food preparations mostly containing starch, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg	<p>2. Other than for 1. above</p> <p>(1) 12.5 percent for cornstarch (HS110812090)</p> <p>(2) 16 percent for food preparations not containing added sugar (HS190120159, HS190190179)</p> <p>(3) 25 percent for potato starch (HS110813090), cassava starch (HS110814090), sago starch (HS110819019), and other starch (HS110819099)</p> <p>(4) 25 percent inulin (HS110820090), and food preparations (HS190120159 and HS190190179 containing added sugar)</p>	<p>2. Other than 1. above</p> <p>(1) Free for potato starch (HS110813090) when:</p> <p>-used to make processed food, thus not used directly for retail sale or food service industry.</p> <p>-used to manufacture potato starch powder on condition that the importer uses potato starch produced from domestic potato and imported potato starch at the ratios of 1 domestic : 3 imports.</p> <p>(2) 12.5 percent for cornstarch (HS110812090)</p> <p>(3) 25 percent for cassava starch (HS110814090), sago starch (HS110819090), and other starch (HS110819099)</p> <p>3. Free for inulin (HS110820090)</p> <p>4. 16 percent for food preparations not containing added sugar (HS190120159, HS190190179)</p> <p>5. 25 percent for food preparations containing added sugar (HS190120159 HS190190179)</p>

Source: MAFF

Table 5. Inulin

HS	Product	WTO MFN Duty	CPTPP Duty
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110820090	Inulin, outside the WTO Pooled Quota	119 yen/kg	<p style="text-align: right;">Chile Quota</p> Year 1: 40 MT Year 2: 41 MT Year 3: 42 MT Year 4: 43 MT Year 5: 44 MT Year 6: 45 MT Year 7: 46 MT Year 8: 47 MT Year 9: 48 MT Year 10: 49 MT Year 11: 50 MT In-quota tariff will be free immediately.
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Source: MAFF

5. Ethanol

Since Japan began its biofuels program, Japan has only used bio-Ethyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether (bio-ETBE) made from Brazilian sugarcane-based ethanol. However, on April 17, 2018, Japan revised its policy to allow the usage of U.S. corn-based ethanol as well (for additional information see JA8026).

Despite officially imposing tariffs on imports of bio-ETBE (HS290919010), Japan has waived the duties imposed on these products, on an annual basis, since 2008 (for additional information see [JA7100](#)). In 2016, Japan also began waiving duties on imports of ethanol for the domestic production of bio-ETBE (HS220710191).⁸

Under the CPTPP, Japan will immediately and permanently eliminate the 4.6 percent import tariff on bio-ETBE, and will phase out tariffs for ethanol for the domestic production of bio-ETBE and ethanol for other fuel use (HS220710199⁹) over 11 years (see Table 6). Under the EU EPA, Japan will maintain the 4.6 percent tariff on the import of bio-ETBE, but will phase out the tariffs for ethanol for the domestic production of bio-ETBE and ethanol for other fuel use over a similar 11-year schedule.

⁸ NOTE: Japan created new HS codes for imports of ethanol for the domestic production of bio-ETBE (HS220710191) and ethanol for other fuel use (HS220710199) in 2016, eliminating HS220710190 which previously covered both.

⁹ Japan's imports of ethanol for fuel use fall outside of Japan's biofuels mandate (all captured under HS220710199) but are quite limited in volume (59 million liters, less than 6 percent of imports in 2017).

Table 6. Japanese Tariff Schedule for Ethanol and ETBE

HS	Product	Cabinet Order	WTO MFN	CPTPP	EU EPA
220710191	Undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol or higher: Certified in accordance with the provisions of a Cabinet Order as being produced from biomass (organic matters obtained from plants or animals, excluding crude oil, petroleum gas, natural gas, coal and the products made therefrom) and intend for use in manufacturing ethyl-tertiary-butyl ether	Free	10%	Year 1: 9.0% Year 2: 8.1% Year 3: 7.2% Year 4: 6.3% Year 5: 5.4% Year 6: 4.5% Year 7: 3.6% Year 8: 2.7% Year 9: 1.8% Year 10: 0.9% Year 11: Free	Year 1: 9.1% Year 2: 8.2% Year 3: 7.3% Year 4: 6.4% Year 5: 5.5% Year 6: 4.5% Year 7: 3.6% Year 8: 2.7% Year 9: 1.8% Year 10: 0.9% Year 11: Free
220710199	“Other” (Ethanol for other purposes, including fuel ethanol)	N/A	10%	Year 1: 9.0% Year 2: 8.1% Year 3: 7.2% Year 4: 6.3% Year 5: 5.4% Year 6: 4.5% Year 7: 3.6% Year 8: 2.7% Year 9:	Year 1: 9.1% Year 2: 8.2% Year 3: 7.3% Year 4: 6.4% Year 5: 5.5% Year 6: 4.5% Year 7: 3.6% Year 8: 2.7% Year 9: 1.8%

				1.8% Year 10: 0.9% Year 11: Free	4.5% Year 7: 3.6% Year 8: 2.7% Year 9: 1.8% Year 10: 0.9% Year 11: Free
290919010	Ethyl-tertiary-butyl ether certified in accordance with the provision of a Cabinet Order as being produced from ethyl alcohol (ethanol) which is derived from biomass (organic matters obtained from plants or animals, excluding crude oil, petroleum gas, natural gas, coal and the products made therefrom)	Free	4.6%	Free	4.6%

In JFY 2017, Japan imported 873 million liters of ethanol, 94 percent of which was in the form of bio-ETBE that was applied towards Japan's biofuels mandate. Japanese energy policy mandates the utilization of 500 million liters of biofuels on a crude oil basis. Japanese industry elected to satisfy this requirement through the blending of 1.94 billion liters of ETBE, which contains 822 million liters of ethanol.

Trade Statistics

Table 7. Japanese Corn Imports

HS		Quantity (MT)			Value (United States Dollars)		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
100510	Seed	2,361	2,037	1,663	13,833,944	11,659,245	10,065,607
100590010	Feed	9,865,772	10,336,639	10,180,864	2,121,458,732	2,012,665,974	2,017,094,341
100590020	For Popcorn	13,273	10,267	9,430	11,661,792	8,473,130	7,241,192
100590091	TRQ for Cornstarch	3,173,982	3,306,444	3,241,859	720,480,602	683,032,635	666,546,687
100590092	TRQ for Flakes, Ethyl Alcohol, and Distilled Alcoholic	73,548	75,587	104,565	18,124,688	17,162,389	23,143,368
100590095	TRQ for feed	185,656	183,333	184,440	40,147,852	35,414,966	36,289,311
100590096	TRQ for other	63,984	68,807	66,908	17,531,941	17,799,757	16,889,099
100590099	Other	1,329,614	1,358,641	1,515,935	294,483,288	274,840,747	307,579,374
	Total	14,708,190	15,341,755	15,305,664	3,237,722,839	3,061,048,843	3,084,848,979

Source: Global Trade Atlas

Table 8. Japanese Corn Imports (excluding seeds)

	Quantity (MT)			Value (United States Dollars)		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
World	14,705,829	15,339,718	15,304,001	3,223,888,896	3,049,389,597	3,074,783,371
United States	11,809,049	11,426,437	12,005,592	2,609,919,286	2,291,034,195	2,444,510,028
Brazil	2,333,472	3,733,731	2,286,176	491,919,790	720,763,188	431,619,706
South Africa	19,539	112	550,212	4,442,602	83,900	102,900,214
Russia	-	102,432	220,633	-	19,227,135	43,553,223
Ukraine	394,512	41,866	173,319	81,697,602	7,719,782	34,416,281
All others	149,257	35,140	68,069	35,909,616	10,561,397	17,783,919

Source: Global Trade Atlas

Table 9. Japanese Processed Corn Imports

	Quantity (MT)			Value (United States Dollars)		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
World	3,553	3,377	3,992	1,929,712	1,775,613	1,930,854
EU-28	460	37	62	289,642	43,699	65,038
CPTPP	-	99	180	-	59,422	117,773
India	2,231	2,624	3,195	859,056	1,045,878	1,154,707
United States	505	442	352	492,948	412,223	338,603
Australia	-	90	162	-	37,128	71,720
Argentina	92	109	130	97,795	116,739	141,277
Netherlands	52	30	52	28,711	18,212	30,941
All others	265	66	73	190,271	97,652	113,456

Source: Global Trade Atlas

NOTE: Processed corn includes corn flour, corn groats and meal, corn pellets, rolled and flaked corn, and other worked corn.

Table 10. Japanese Starch Imports

	Quantity (MT)			Value (United States Dollars)		
	JFY2015	JFY2016	JFY2017	JFY2015	JFY2016	JFY2017
Corn starch	806	705	906	1,274,241	1,082,816	1,336,101
Potato starch	5206	8508	14968	3,943,048	6,269,818	11,663,682
Cassava starch	137940	131662	146744	58,159,078	45,616,442	52,702,395
Sago starch	15,748	17,693	19,651	9,838,200	9,756,402	10,201,925
Other starch	1,176	1,237	1,693	3,564,946	3,876,459	4,299,382
Inulin	399	698	553	1,356,351	2,278,261	1,962,635
Food preparations mostly containing starch	73	77	80	222,405	257,733	297,683
Total	161,348	160,580	184,595	78,358,269	69,137,931	82,463,803

Source: Global Trade Atlas

Table 11. Japanese Starch Imports

	Quantity (MT)			Value (United States Dollars)		
	JFY2015	JFY2016	JFY2017	JFY2015	JFY2016	JFY2017
World	161,349	160,580	184,595	78,358,269	69,137,931	82,463,803
EU-28	6,268	9,793	16,523	10,107,718	10,116,970	10,066,636
CPTPP	16,035	18,538	18,787	16,035	18,538	18,787
Thailand	132,633	127,128	143,550	56,044,241	44,078,842	51,957,297
Malaysia	12,478	13,873	14,656	7,830,319	7,660,759	7,680,459
Germany	1,800	2,836	8,294	1,478,813	2,193,588	6,418,763
Denmark	2,009	3,032	5,452	1,355,334	2,074,131	4,146,868
Indonesia	3,276	3,832	5,004	2,025,903	2,127,450	2,543,488
All others	3,137	1,289	731	10,164,372	12,796,131	17,877,595

Source: Global Trade Atlas

NOTE: Starch includes cornstarch, potato starch, cassava starch, sago starch, other starch, inulin, food preparations mostly containing starch.