



ATTACHE QUERY DETAIL

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 Approved By: William. L. Brant
 Drafted By: Y.J. Kim / Michael Henney

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 Agricultural Situation

To date in 1997, Korea has sauced all MMA imported onions from the U.S.

The Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation (AFMC), the exclusive importer of onions for MMA quota, purchased 11,000 tons of fresh onions from the USA through public tenders. The MMA quota for fresh onions this year is 14,208 tons. The tender date for the remaining 3,000 tons will be decided during the week of Nov. 17. According to AFMC, the USA is the only country to meet the quality requirement -- US #1 grade; 60% jumbo size (3 = diameter), 40% medium size (2 = diameter). Imported onions are packed in 20 kg size bags.

Summary of Tender Results as of October 31, 1997;

| Date | MT. | Country | Price | Delivery |
|-----------|-------|---------|----------|----------|
| * 1/31/97 | 2,000 | USA | \$480 | Feb. 28 |
| * 1/31/97 | 2,000 | USA | \$480 | Mar. 10 |
| 2/18/97 | 1,000 | USA | \$402 | Mar.5 |
| 2/18/97 | 1,000 | USA | \$399 | Mar.5 |
| 2/18/97 | 2,000 | USA | \$405 | Mar.10 |
| 10/29/97 | 3,000 | USA | \$369.50 | Dec. 5 |

* Denotes AFMC's purchase of onions directly through its subsidiary company in the USA, rather than public tender.
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