

Market Profile: Japan



Trade

- FY 2021/22 marked an all-time high for U.S. almond exports to Japan with **95 million pounds**
- Japan shipments **increased by 5%** in 2024/25 over the 2022/23 figures.



- Japan is the **8th largest export destination** for U.S. almonds, just behind Italy in FY 2024/25. It is also now the 2nd largest export market in Asia behind India.

Largest U.S. Export Markets in Asia



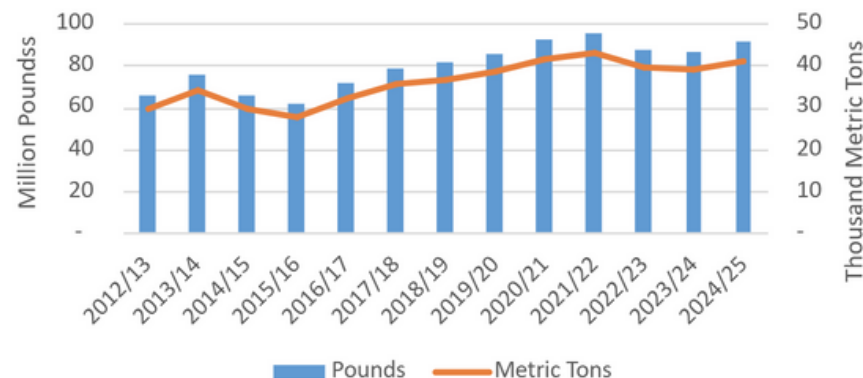
- Following the implementation of the U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement (USJTA) on January 1, 2020, **Japan eliminated the 2.4% tariff on almonds**. Tariffs on processed almond products are being eliminated on an accelerated schedule.

Key Facts:

Japan was the **#1** country for new almond product introductions in the Asia-Pacific region in 2022.



Almond Exports to Japan (Million Lbs.)
Aug-July ABC Data in Lbs/MTs



Market Access

- A phytosanitary Certificate is required for both shelled and in-shell nuts.

Key Issues

- ABC worked with USDA/FAS in DC and Tokyo, as well as Japan Nut Association and Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) to reach an agreement on a pre-shipment aflatoxin testing protocol that would reduce inspection frequency from 100% to no more than 5%. This protocol went into effect in April 2025.
- A pilot project is underway to allow reprocessing for rejected shipments using 'approved equipment' in a bonded warehouse at the Port of Yokohama. ABC has reiterated that reprocessing can be done with various technologies and is not equipment-dependent.