

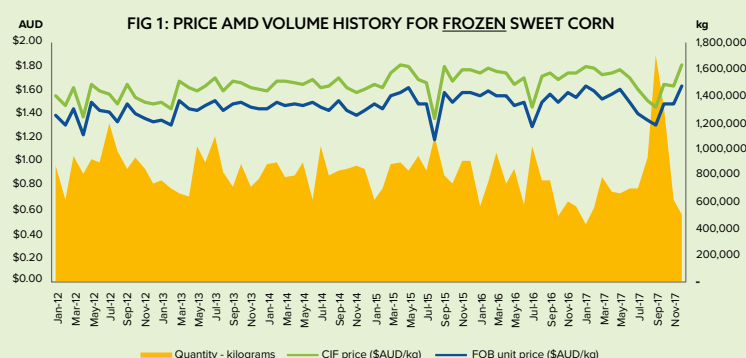
Sweet corn imports 2017

SNAP SHOT

- Australia imported 20,684 tonnes of frozen and processed sweet corn in 2017¹
- In 2017, 54% of sweet corn imports were processed or preserved imports, 46% were frozen
- No data was available for fresh sweet corn imports, it is unlikely that fresh corn is imported
- Australia produced 87,847 tonnes of sweet corn in the 2016/17 financial year²

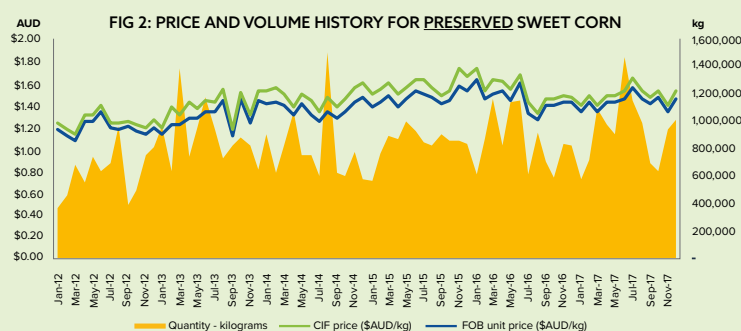
THE FACTS: SWEET CORN IMPORTS INTO AUSTRALIA

Price and quantity¹



- 2017 import volumes increased from 2016 levels, to be in line with the six-year average.
- Import volumes appear to be closely related to price. Price dropped to a low of \$1.46/kg CIF in September, which corresponds with the spike in import volumes. A high price (\$1.80/kg CIF) in January corresponded with a decrease in import volume.
- Prices of imported frozen sweet corn have been relatively stable over the six-year period.
- Prices for frozen sweet corn imports from Belgium and Thailand were variable in 2017. In comparison, prices for the USA, New Zealand and China were stable.

- Price was generally stable in 2017 ranging between \$1.39/kg and \$1.64/kg CIF.
- The current price is consistent with the six-year average import price of \$1.45/kg.
- Total import volume in 2017 was the largest for the six-year period. This was a 9% increase from 2016.
- Import volumes have increased by 46% since 2012.



KEY TERMS

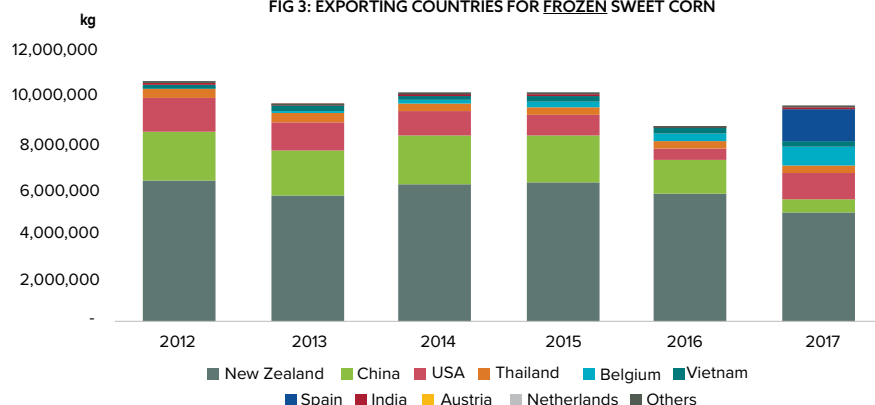
FOB: Freight on Board (e.g. price in exporting country)

CIF: Cost, Insurance and Freight (e.g. price landed in Australia)

Sweet corn imports 2017

WHERE DO SWEET CORN IMPORTS COME FROM?

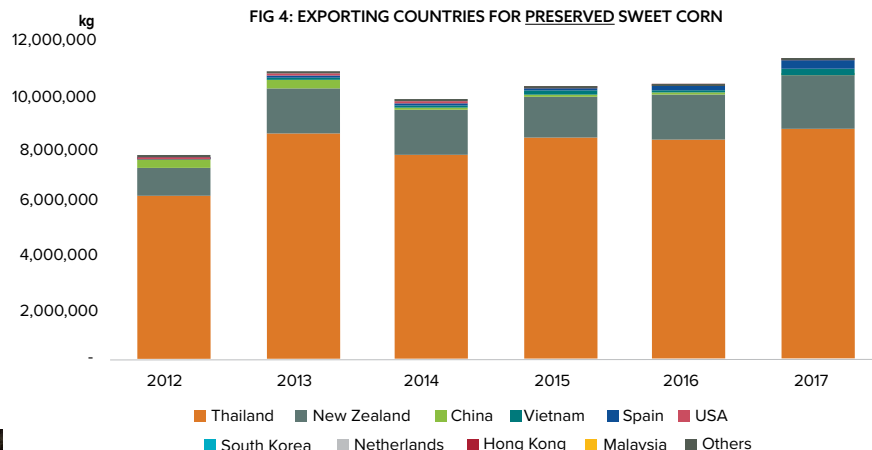
FIG 3: EXPORTING COUNTRIES FOR FROZEN SWEET CORN



- Frozen sweet corn imported from New Zealand continued to make up the largest proportion of total imports. The amount of frozen sweet corn imported from New Zealand was the lowest of the six-year period.
- In 2017 there was a large increase in the amount of sweet corn imported from Spain.

- Thailand was the largest importer of preserved sweet corn to Australia, followed by New Zealand
- Import volumes from New Zealand, Vietnam and Spain also increased from 2016 volumes.

FIG 4: EXPORTING COUNTRIES FOR PRESERVED SWEET CORN



Did you know?

Sweet corn is rated as one of the favourite vegetables among millennials in Australia.³

The typical consumer purchases 1.0kg of sweet corn at a price of \$4.30 and perceived the transaction as good value for money.⁴

The proper name for corn is maize. The word maize comes from the extinct Taino language which was once the principle language spoken by people of the Caribbean.⁵

Source:

1 - Tradedata International; 2 - Hort Innovation, 2017, Australia Horticulture Statistics Handbook; 3 - Colmar Brunton (2016) Hort Innovation. Project Harvest. Millennials Online Community Full Report, Prepared for Horticulture Innovation Australia Ltd in March 2016; 4 - Colmar Brunton (2016-2017), Wave 42, Project Harvest Monthly Tracker Reports; 5 - Interesting corn facts - viewed May 2017 <<http://weelldonestuff.com/10-interesting-facts-about-corn/>>

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Hort
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VEGETABLE
FUND

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Hort Innovation Project *Understanding the nature, origins, volume and value of vegetable imports (VG12083)*. This document is a summary; for more detailed information on bean (and other vegetable) imports, please request the full annual report from Hort Innovation, or contact RMCG for further information.