



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

TRADE POLICY REVIEW IN THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

2nd Quarter 2022 | Bulletin





WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO) MEMBERS SECURE PACKAGE OF TRADE OUTCOMES AT MC12

At the Twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12), which took place from 12 to 17 June 2022, ministers adopted a set of decisions and declarations on several trade issues, with important outcomes on agriculture and fisheries.

The main achievement is the Agreement on fisheries subsidies, which includes provisions to prohibit subsidies for vessels and operators engaged in illegal, unreported, or unregulated (IUU) fishing, and to establish new rules for subsidies targeting overfished stocks.

Members also converged around a Declaration on the emergency response to food insecurity. The Declaration acknowledges the role that trade and domestic production play in improving global food security and nutrition, and reaffirms the importance of not imposing export prohibitions or restrictions in a manner that is inconsistent with WTO provisions.

WTO Members also adopted a "Decision on World Food Programme (WFP) Food Purchases Exemption from Export Prohibitions or Restrictions", which commits WTO members not to impose export prohibitions or restrictions on foodstuffs purchased for humanitarian purposes by the WFP. This Decision was adopted in view of the important humanitarian support provided by WFP, which has become increasingly critical with global hunger levels rising rapidly.

Moreover, ministers adopted a Ministerial Declaration to launch a work programme on the role of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures in addressing new and emerging challenges.

Lastly, ministers agreed on a Declaration on the WTO response to the COVID-19 pandemic and preparedness for future pandemics, stipulating that emergency trade measures designed to tackle COVID-19 should not create unnecessary barriers to trade or unnecessary disruptions in supply chains.

wto.org

NEW WTO FISHERIES FUNDING MECHANISM

In June 2022 the WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism was introduced. It is a fund envisioned to support developing and least-developed countries in implementing the Agreement on fisheries subsidies.

wto.org



WTO LAUNCHES A NEW DATA PORTAL

The WTO has launched a new data portal to provide easy access to key databases containing trade statistics and information on trade-related measures. The WTO data portal is available [here](#).

[wto.org](#)

UZBEKISTAN TO INTENSIFY WTO ACCESSION EFFORTS

At the 5th Working Party meeting on the Accession of Uzbekistan on 21 June 2022, members commended Uzbekistan's readiness to advance the negotiations and to maintain the momentum provided by the success of MC12. Uzbekistan stressed its commitment to work together with WTO members to make rapid progress in its WTO accession process.

The Working Party reviewed the state of play in the bilateral market access negotiations. Uzbekistan reported that it had held bilateral engagements with 35 members to that date. A number of bilateral meetings also took place on the margins of the Working Party meeting.

On the multilateral side, the Working Party completed a review of all sections of the Factual Summary of Points Raised prepared by the WTO Secretariat, along with supporting documents including a questionnaire on state trading and a draft subsidies notification. The Working Party also reviewed Uzbekistan's Agricultural Supporting Tables for the reference period of 2016-2018.

On the legislative front the Working Party reviewed Uzbekistan's revised Legislative Action Plan as well as 39 pieces of legislation which have been made available to members.

[wto.org](#)



WTO MEMBERS INITIATE MEMBERSHIP TALKS FOR TURKMENISTAN

Turkmenistan's official application to join the WTO under Article XII of the Marrakesh Agreement was formally received on 24 November 2021, and was considered at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12).

The General Council agreed to establish a Working Party which will oversee negotiations between members and Turkmenistan on the terms of its accession.

By creating a working party for Turkmenistan's accession, the General Council has now completed the WTO accession map in Central Asia, one of the most active regions for expanding WTO membership.

Turkmenistan was invited to consult with the WTO Secretariat regarding further procedures and basic documentation to be considered by the Working Party.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, AND KAZAKHSTAN INTEND TO FACILITATE TRANSIT

An agreement on the facilitation of transit between Azerbaijan and Georgia has been signed. Kazakhstan is also expected to sign this agreement. Launch of the simplified system by the Georgian party is scheduled for 1 January 2023.

[Day.Az](#)

EAEU STARTS BUILDING A SINGLE MARKET FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTS

EAEU member states have started working towards creation of a single market for organic products. Common standards for organic production will be developed using the International Trade Centre (ITC) platform.

[finport](#)

TRADE POLICY AND DOMESTIC SUPPORT MEASURES

IN APRIL – JUNE 2022

COUNTRY	MEASURE CATEGORY	PUBLICATION DATE	DESCRIPTION
Azerbaijan	Import restriction	18 May 2022	To protect against infection from the highly pathogenic avian influenza, temporary restrictions have been introduced on imports of live animals, animal products and raw materials. The restrictions cover imports of live poultry and incubator chicken eggs, poultry meat, poultry meat preparations, all types of poultry farming products, poultry feed and feed additives, and equipment used for poultry farms.
Armenia	Exemptions from payment of fees for customs operations	4 May 2022	The Government introduced an exemption from payment of fees for customs operations. Goods exported from one shipper to one recipient with one transport document, with a total customs value not exceeding one million drams, are exempt from paying the fee.
	Export ban	28 May 2022	The Government of Armenia has introduced a ban on exports of some agricultural goods from the country for six months to ensure food security. The export of wheat, meslin, barley, corn, sunflower seeds and buckwheat is prohibited.
Subsidies		9 June 2022	The Government of Armenia has made some amendments to the programme "Subsidization of interest rates on the loans granted to purchase [procure] agricultural raw materials" on 9 June 2022. The Government partially guarantees loans to food processors for the purchase of agricultural raw materials. This year the term of guarantees provided to purchase (procure) agricultural raw materials has been extended for three months. Now the term of guarantees is 2 years and 3 months for purchases of grapes, and 1 year and 3 months for fruit and vegetables.
Belarus	Import ban	29 June 2022	The Government of Belarus has decided to extend, until the end of 2022, the validity of the ban on imports of food products from some countries, imposed for six months since 1 January 2022. It concerns goods originating from the EU countries, as well as Albania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Iceland, Norway, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Switzerland, the USA, Serbia and Liechtenstein were added to the list later. The list of products banned for import and sale includes live swine, meat of bovine animals, pork, sausages, by-products, confectionery, milk, and nuts. Meanwhile, some fruits have been deleted from the list.
	Export ban	2 June 2022	The ban on exports has been lifted for feed additives, retail packaged dog and cat feed, pet feed, and dry and whole milk substitutes.
Georgia	Export ban	28 June 2022	The Government of Georgia has prohibited the exports of wheat and barley for one year from 4 July 2022 to 4 July 2023, with the objective of increasing supplies to the domestic market.

Kazakhstan	Export quota	12 April 2022	Since 22 January 2022, a ban on the export of potatoes has been in effect in Kazakhstan. On 22 February 2022 the ban was lifted. By order of the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan, a quota was set for export of potatoes until 20 April 2022.
	Import quota	18 April 2022	The Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) has approved the request of Kazakhstan for increasing the quota for duty-free imports of white and raw sugar to Kazakhstan by 100 000 tonnes. According to the EEC Council's decision, Kazakhstan will be able to import up to 350 000 tonnes of white and raw cane sugar at a zero-rate import duty until the end of August 2022.
	Export ban	13 May 2022	A ban on exports of sugar has been imposed by the Government of Kazakhstan. The measure has been introduced for six months (from 23 May to 23 November 2022), covering exports of white and raw cane sugar.
	Export quota	15 June 2022	On 15 June 2022, Kazakhstan extended the export quota for wheat and flour that was in place between 16 April and 15 June 2022. The recently announced extension includes unused between April-June 550,000 tonnes of the wheat grain from the original quota of 1 million tonnes and additional 370,000 tonnes of wheat flour to the original quota of 300,000 tonnes on exports from 15 June until 30 September 2022.
Republic of Moldova	Export quota	18 June 2022	The Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan has imposed a sunflower oil export quota. The measure will be in force from 18 June to 31 August 2022. Only 68 000 tonnes of raw and other sunflower oil may be exported during that period.
	Subsidies	5 April 2022	The Government of the Republic of Moldova expanded access to state budget subsidies for agricultural entities. The financial resources available in the Fund for Agriculture and Rural Environment Subsidies in 2022 amount to 1.75 billion lei, compared to 1.1 billion lei in 2021. The financial means will be distributed by producer category – micro-, small-, medium-sized, and large ones. The key measure of assistance taken by the Government to support agricultural producers consists of compensation for 30 percent of excise duties on the diesel fuel price, and full compensation will be achieved over time. Another measure of support for agricultural producers concerns compensation for loan interest rates, the highest amount being 400 000 lei.
	Certification for export	22 May 2022	The rules of exporting Moldavian agricultural products to Türkiye will change as of 1 June 2022. Economic operators intending to export plant-based agricultural products to Türkiye from 1 June 2022 onward must produce original phytosanitary certificates with their handwritten signature and a stamp, issued by the National Food Safety Agency (ANSA).
	Investment promotion	23 May 2022	The parliament of the Republic of Moldova has approved amendments to the Law on animal farming to bring it into conformity with the European Union legislation. The amendments intend to encourage investment in animal farming, particularly in the construction of animal farms and procurement of pedigree animals.
	Lifting export ban	25 June 2022	On 25 June 2022, the Commission on Emergencies of the Republic of Moldova decided to abolish the ban on exports of wheat and flour introduced on 24 February 2022.

Russian Federation	Export regulation 1 April 2022	The Government of the Russian Federation has approved a package of measures to protect the domestic food market. A temporary ban on exports of sunflower and rape seeds has been introduced for the period from 1 April to 31 August 2022. A quota on exports of sunflower oil, oilcake and other solid residues (code 2306) from sunflower seeds was introduced on 15 April 2022. An export volume limit of 1.5 million tonnes has been set for sunflower oil, and of 700 000 tonnes for oilcake. The quota will be in force through 31 August 2022. Another governmental resolution has removed wheat, meslin, rye, barley and corn from the formerly introduced temporary ban on exports of cereals (from 15 March to 30 June 2022). These products can now be exported to the EAEU countries subject to a permit issued by the Ministry of Agriculture.
		For the period from 1 April through 31 August 2022, soybeans may be exported by road, rail and water transport only through checkpoints in the Far Eastern Federal District. Another decision concerns export duties on sunflower oilcake and flaxseed oil. They are in force from 1 May to 31 August 2022 concerning the products exported from the Russian Federation outside the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).
Export duty	4 May 2022	The export duty rate for sunflower oil will increase as of 1 June 2022 from USD 72.2 per tonne to USD 525 per tonne. This adjustment is caused by an increase in the indicative price of this product from USD 1531.8 to USD 1750 per tonne.
Value-added tax	12 May 2022	The value-added tax (VAT) rate of for imported palm oil and its fractions increased from 10 to 20 percent. The decision has been taken to reduce the use of palm oil in food products.
Import restrictions	16 May 2022	Rosselkhoznadzor has imposed restrictions on poultry farming product deliveries from avian influenza-affected regions of the USA and Canada. Specifically, it has introduced temporary restrictions on deliveries of live poultry and poultry farming products from the USA state of Utah and the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Manitoba. Products that are not allowed to be imported include live poultry, incubator eggs, poultry meat, poultry meat preparations (except for products processed by a method ensuring elimination of avian influenza viruses, as per the provisions of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code), poultry feed and feed additives (except for plant-based feed and feed additives and those synthesized chemically and microbiologically), and second-hand equipment for poultry maintenance, slaughtering and cutting. In addition, live poultry transit throughout the territory of the Russian Federation is prohibited.
Export quota	18 May 2022	The Government of the Russian Federation has extended the validity of the export quotas for mineral fertilizers that were in place from 1 December 2021 to 31 May 2022. The quotas will remain in force until the end of 2022.
Import regulation	29 June 2022	Infant formula have been included in the list of imported products for procurement of which importers are entitled to a preferential loan. Apart from infant formula, the list includes other food products such as nuts, coffee, cacao beans, jams, fruit puree, canned fruit, medicines, and agricultural equipment.

Uzbekistan	Import regulation	4 April 2022	The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan has adopted the Resolution No. 147 of 31.03.2022 "On additional measures to ensure food security and price stability in the domestic market". The document is published in the National Legislation Database and has taken effect since 1 April 2022. According to the Resolution, procurement of 100 000 tonnes of third-grade wheat (flour being some part of this amount) at reasonable prices from Kazakhstan is permitted; it has been decided to conclude an agreement with the Government of Kazakhstan and the Food Contract Corporation national company on imports of grain at reasonable prices; an agreement for supply of 100 000 tonnes of grain and flour in April-July will be concluded by Uzgoskomrezer, the Committee for State Reserve Management under the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan, with Kazakhstan's Food Contract Corporation; it has been decided to submit a substantiated proposal concerning the need to import an additional 500 000 tonnes of grain depending on the domestic and foreign market situation. The resolution also states that railroad transportation of imported wheat (flour) and vegetable oil will be undertaken at a 50 percent discount.
	VAT exemption	15 April 2022	The authorities of Uzbekistan have decided to support domestic vegetable oil production with preferences. It has been suggested to provide customs preferences and exemption from VAT for sunflower, soya and other oil crops imported from abroad in order to support domestic production of vegetable oil. Imports of vegetable oil, sunflower and flax seeds and soybeans as well as vegetable oil production have been exempted from VAT from 1 May 2021 until 31 December 2022.
			Moreover, the President of Uzbekistan has announced simplification of the tax administration and business inspection system from 1 June 2022 onward.
	Customs and tax exemptions	27 April 2022	The President of Uzbekistan signed a resolution on 26 April 2022, according to which customs and tax exemptions are extended to 1 January 2026 for persons engaged in Astrakhan production and processing as well as for the sericulture sector, particularly for enterprises engaged in silkworm raising, mulberry seedling growing, and raw silk production and processing.
	Export ban	8 June 2022	A temporary ban on exports of the following products from Uzbekistan was imposed beginning from 1 June 2022: vegetable oil including cotton and sunflower seed oils (contracts concluded before 1 June 2022 are exempted); sunflower seeds; and seeds and fruit of other oil crops.
	Subsidies	28 June 2022	On 15 June 2022, the President of Uzbekistan signed a resolution on further state support to poultry farming. The resolution envisages provision of subsidies to poultry farms that are members of the Parrandasnoat Association for imports of one-day-old pedigree chicken in the amount of 12 000 som per chicken. This support will be in place from 1 July 2022 to 1 January 2024.
	Lifting restrictions on import for governmental procurement	28 June 2022	Restrictions on participation of imported food products in public procurement are suspended until 1 January 2023. From now on, public sector entities will be able to procure imported food including meat, fish, dairy products, butter, cheese, eggs, tea, cereals, vegetable oil, margarine, sugar, chocolate, baby food, pasta, confectionery (wafers, cookies, etc.), canned vegetables, beverages, and other goods.
	Export ban	28 June 2022	Exports of sunflower and cotton oils, sunflower seeds and seeds of other oil crops from Uzbekistan are banned beginning from 1 June 2022 with the objective of boosting domestic supplies.

Ukraine	Import ban Export simplification	11 April 2022 12 May 2022	On 9 April 2022 the authorities of Ukraine have introduced a ban on imports of all goods from the Russian Federation. The Parliament of Ukraine has passed a law on 12 May 2022 simplifying exportation of agricultural products. The law envisages simplification of phytosanitary requirements in case of export, import and movement of plant-based products throughout Ukraine, paving the way for the use of digital phytosanitary certificates.
Lifting import duties		24 May 2022	On 24 May 2022 The Council of the European Union adopted a regulation allowing for temporary cancellation of all import duties on Ukrainian exports to the EU. Suspension of duties and other measures simplifying European Union imports from Ukraine will be in place for one year.
EAEU	Import duty	6 April 2022	The Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) has approved the parties' proposal on expanding the list of products temporarily imported to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) at a zero customs duty rate. The new list includes a wide spectrum of goods considered critically important, particularly food products and components for their production, packaging materials, chemical products, and parts for manufacture and repair of vehicles.

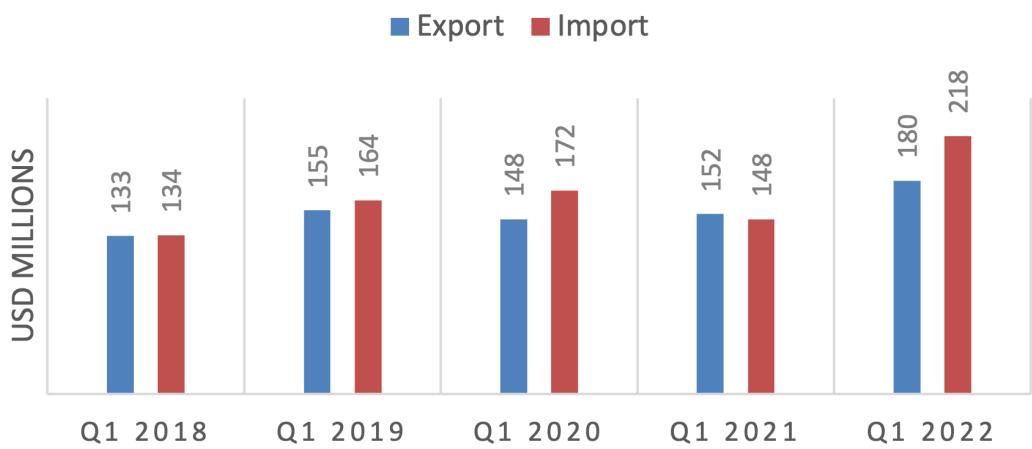
AGRIFOOD TRADE IN EECCA - FIRST QUARTER (JANUARY-MARCH), 2018-2022

Amid the growing uncertainty in agricultural markets in light of the war in Ukraine, in particular rapidly rising prices of [food commodities](#), a growth in exports and imports of agrifood products¹ in value terms was registered in most EECCA countries in the first quarter of 2022. Moreover, higher trade flows in the first quarter of 2022 reflect the gradual lifting of export and import restrictions by countries amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The following analysis provides a snapshot of the agrifood trade flows in each of the EECCA countries in the first quarter of 2022, compared to the same period in the previous years.²

ARMENIA

Armenia's exports of agrifood products reached **USD 180 million** in the first quarter of 2022, which is 19 percent higher compared to the same period a year earlier, registering the highest level since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Similarly, in the first quarter of 2022, imports of agrifood products were 47 percent higher year-on-year, amounting to **USD 349 million**. Specifically, Armenia's wheat imports from the Russian Federation were three times higher in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the same quarter in 2021. In March 2022, in response to the Russian Federation's ban on grain exports to the countries of EAEU, a [preliminary agreement between Armenia and Russian Federation was reached](#), according to which Armenia will be able to import the required volumes of grain from the Russian Federation.



Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions	Change, %		
Export	180	↑19	↑19
Import	218	↑47	↑35

Source: based on the TDM data

¹ The list of agricultural products as defined in the WTO Agreement on Agriculture and Fish (HS03) is used in this analysis

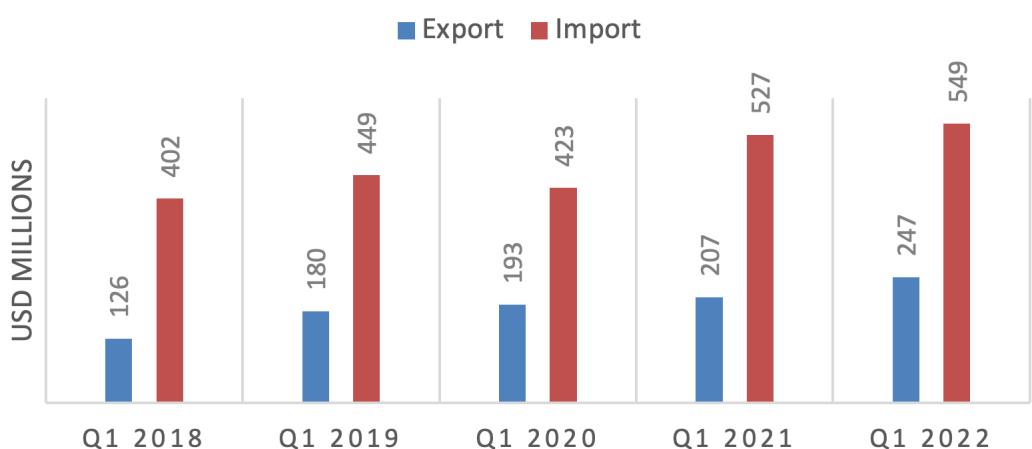
² The Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan are not included in this analysis, because as of July 2022, the latest trade data reported by the Russian Federation in TDM is for January 2022. Using the data provided by trading partners ('mirror' data) accounts for only approximately 60-70 percent of Russia's trade since major trading partners (e.g. Egypt) have not yet reported their trade data for 2022 or have never provided data to TDM.

TDM does not publish trade data for Tajikistan or Turkmenistan, and 'mirror' data for the first Quarter of 2022 does not reflect these countries' total trade flows since trade with the Russian Federation is missing for this period in TDM. The Russian Federation accounted for 33 percent of Tajikistan's total agrifood imports in the past three years and 20 percent of imports in Turkmenistan.

AZERBAIJAN

In **Azerbaijan**, agrifood exports in the first quarter of 2022 were 19 percent higher year-on-year and 28 percent above the previous 3-year average for the same period. The total value of agrifood exports was **USD 247 million** in the first quarter of 2022. In March 2022, amid the ongoing war in Ukraine and increasing market uncertainty, Azerbaijan temporarily limited grain exports until 31 December 2022.

Agrifood imports were 4 percent higher year-on-year, amounting to **USD 549 million** in the first quarter of 2022. The higher imports and exports in the first quarter of 2022 reflect the gradual lifting of export and import restrictions in the country and its partners amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

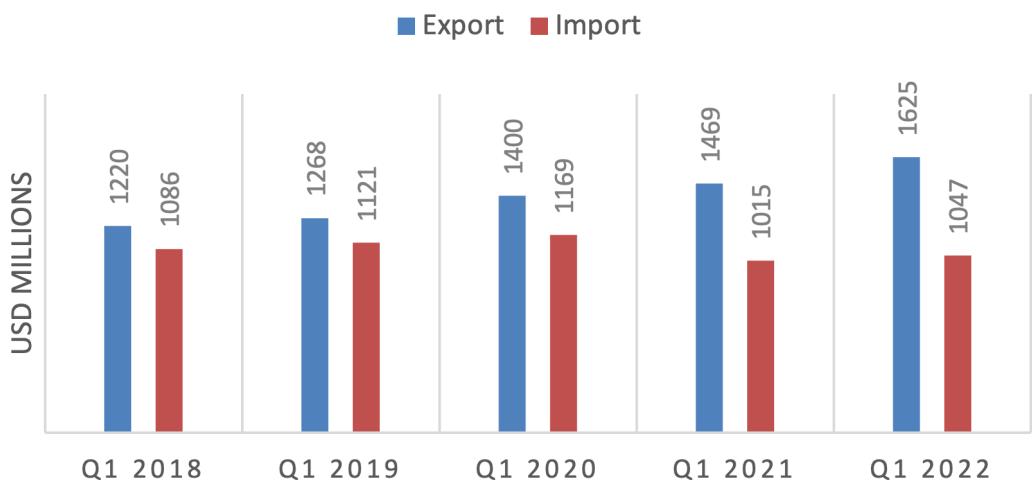


Source: based on the TDM data

BELARUS

Despite introducing an [export ban on grains](#) and [flour](#) and [licensing of the sugar exports](#), Belarus increased the value of its agrifood exports in the first quarter of 2022, which reached **USD 1.6 billion**, up 11 percent year-on-year and 18 percent above the previous three-year average.

Agrifood imports were only 3 percent higher year-on-year and 5 percent down from the previous three-year average, reaching **USD 1.04 billion** in the first quarter of 2022. The lower agrifood imports reflect the effects of [the import ban](#) on a range of agrifood products originating in the European Union, United States and Canada. The ban was first introduced in December 2021 and was extended in June 2022. Moreover, an [import ban on poultry and products from Poland](#) was also introduced in January 2022 due to avian influenza (a sanitary and phytosanitary measure (SPS)).



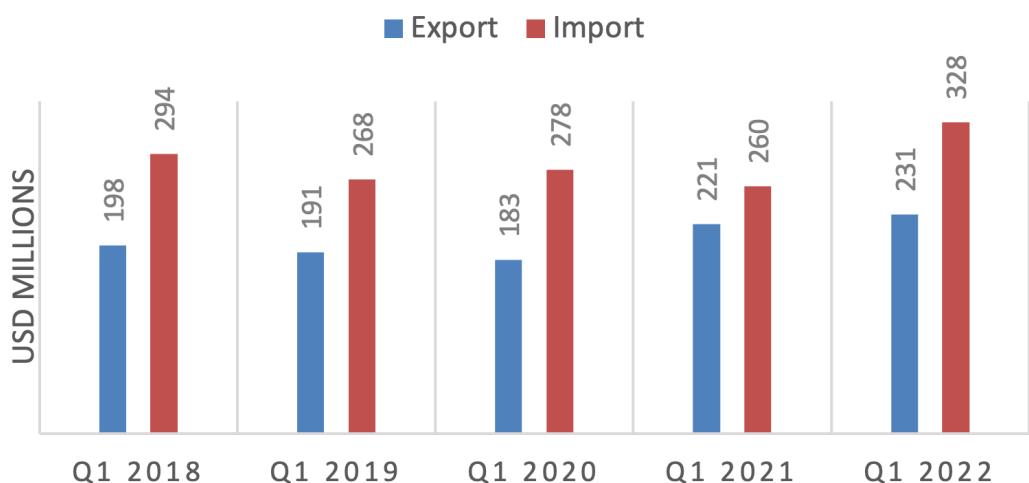
Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions	Change, %		
Export	1625	↑11	↑18
Import	1047	↑3	↓5

Source: based on the TDM data

GEORGIA

In Georgia, in the first quarter of 2022, agrifood exports were 5 percent higher than a year earlier and 17 percent above from the 3-year average, amounting to **USD 231 million**. Specifically, the country increased its supply of fruits and vegetables and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and some European Union countries.

Similarly, in the first quarter of 2022, agrifood imports were 26 percent higher compared to 2021, reaching **USD 328 million**. Specifically, the country increased its import of wheat flour from the Russian Federation (8 times higher in Q1 of 2022 as compared to a year earlier). Georgia had to shift from importing wheat grain to wheat flour due to [the export duty](#) imposed by the Russian Federation on exports of wheat grain, which substantially increased the cost of imports.



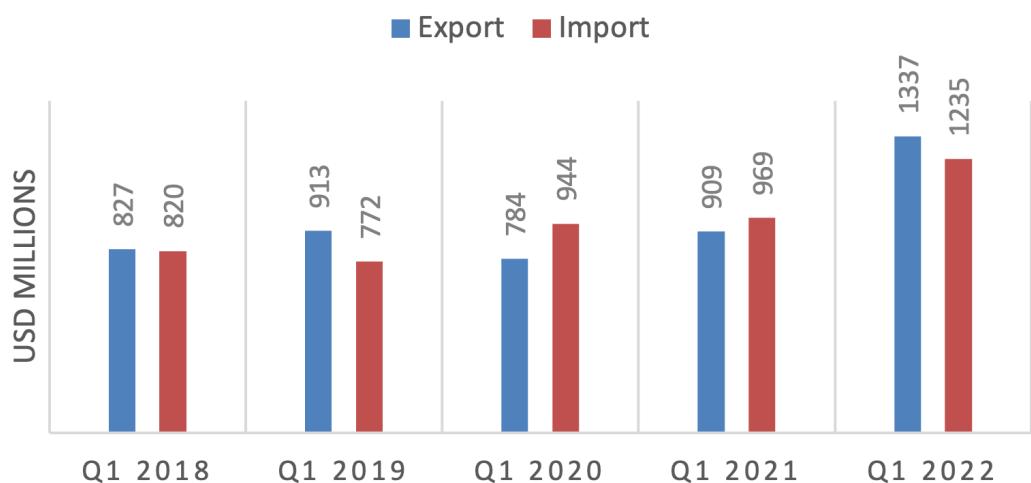
Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions		Change, %	
Export	231	▲5	▲17
Import	328	▲26	▲22

Source: based on the TDM data

KAZAKHSTAN

In **Kazakhstan**, agrifood trade flows (exports and imports) have recorded a substantial increase in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the first quarter a year earlier. Driven by high agricultural commodity prices, exports of agrifood products were 47 percent higher in the first quarter of 2022 than in 2021 and 54 percent above the previous 3-year average. The total value of agrifood exports reached **USD 1.3 billion** in the first quarter of 2022. The growth of exports mainly reflects increased value of exports of wheat and flour due to the rising prices and growing demand in global markets for main staples. However, to address potential shortages of grains in the domestic market, Kazakhstan has [introduced temporary quotas](#) for wheat and flour exports in April, [extending](#) it until September 2022.

Imports of agrifood products in the first quarter of 2022 increased by 27 percent compared to a year earlier, amounting to **USD 1.2 billion**.



Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions	Change, %		
Export	1337	▲47	▲54
Import	1235	▲27	▲38

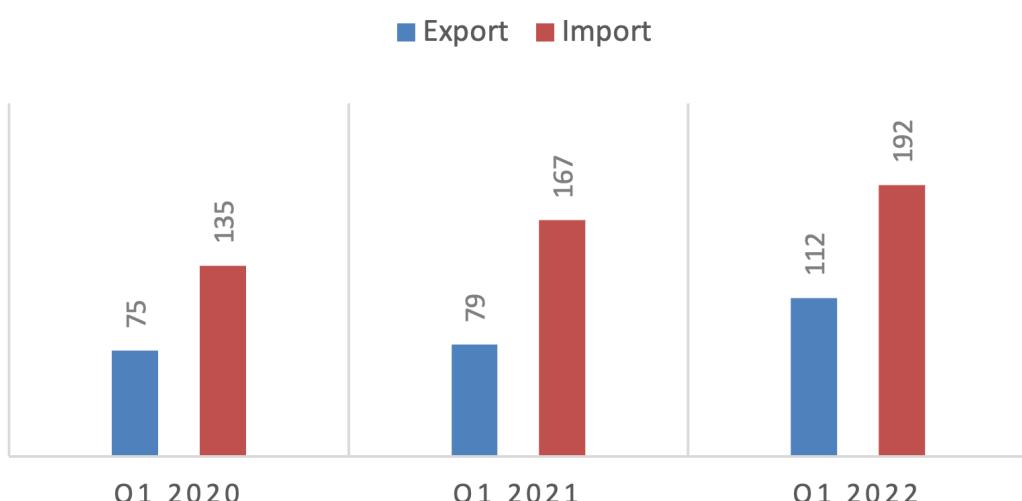
Source: based on the TDM data

KYRGYZSTAN

In Kyrgyzstan, agrifood exports reached **USD 112 million** in the first quarter of 2022, up 42 percent from the same period in 2021.

Agrifood imports in the first quarter of 2022 were 15 percent higher year-on-year, amounting to **USD 192 million**.

Despite higher agrifood imports and exports in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the same period in 2021, there could be a decline in trade flows in the following months of this year due to export restrictions imposed by Kyrgyzstan, but also export restrictions imposed by its major trading partners, [Kazakhstan](#) and the Russian Federation.



Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions	Change, %		
Export	112	▲42	▲45
Import	192	▲15	▲27

Source: based on the TDM data

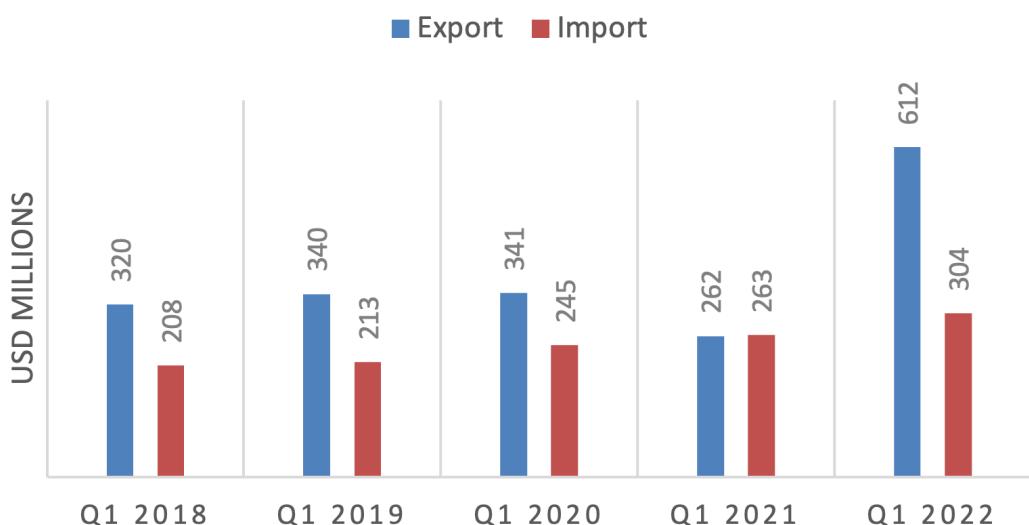
Note: the data for Kyrgyzstan is available from 2020.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The **Republic of Moldova** experienced a sharp decline in agrifood exports in the first quarter of 2021 compared to the first quarter of 2020 due to reduced harvests impacted by a drought a year earlier and trade disruptions because of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in the first quarter of 2022 agrifood exports were 134 percent higher than in the first quarter of 2021 and two times larger than in the first quarter of the pre-pandemic year, 2018. The total value of agrifood exports was **USD 612 million** in the first quarter of 2022.

Higher exports were underpinned by the [record-high cereal production](#) obtained in 2021 and higher prices. The government has introduced a ban on wheat, maize and sugar exports from 1 March to 30 April 2022. However, the maize exports ban was cancelled on 10 March 2022.

Agrifood imports were 15 percent up in the first quarter of 2022 compared to a year earlier and 27 percent above the previous three-year average, reaching **USD 304 million**.

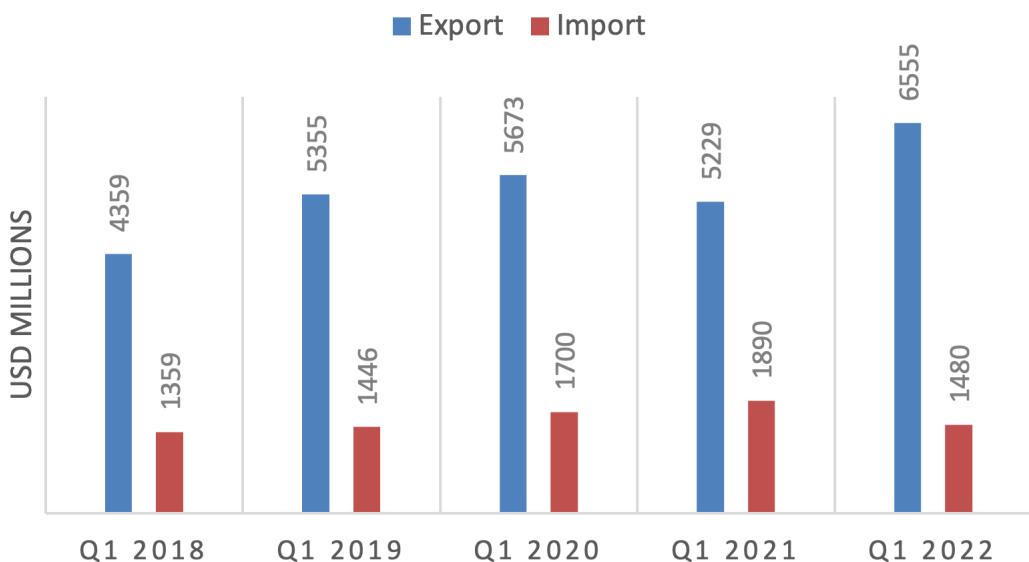


Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions		Change, %	
Export	612	▲134	▲95
Import	304	▲15	▲27

Source: based on the TDM data

UKRAINE

In **Ukraine**, despite the unfolding war since February 2022, agrifood exports were 25 percent higher in the first quarter of 2022 than the year earlier, reflecting the high food prices. Agrifood exports were also 21 percent above the previous 3-year average, amounting to **USD 6.6 billion**. Nevertheless, agrifood exports are expected to decline in 2022 due to production shortfalls (FAO [estimated](#) wheat production would drop by 38 percent in 2022 year-on-year), [export bans](#) and restrictions on a range of staples. In addition, driven by low demand due to economic recession due to the war and amid destroyed transport infrastructure and seaport closures, agrifood imports declined by 22 percent year-on-year in the first quarter of 2022, falling 12 percent below the 3-year average, amounting to **USD 1.5 billion**.



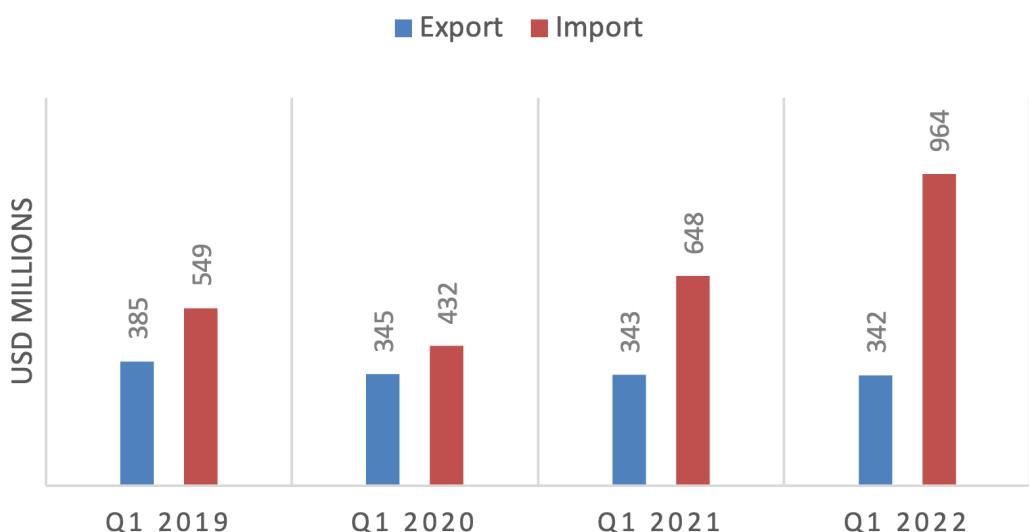
Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions		Change, %	
Export	6555	↑25	↑21
Import	1480	-22	-12

Source: based on the TDM data

UZBEKISTAN

In the first quarter of 2022, **Uzbekistan** exports of agrifood products were at the same level compared to the first quarter of 2021 but 4 percent below the previous 3-year average, amounting to **USD 342 million**.

On the contrary, there was a sharp increase in agrifood imports in the first quarter of 2021, after a substantial decline in 2020, and another 49 percent increase year-on-year in 2022. The total value of agrifood imports was **USD 964 million**. The higher agrifood imports in the first quarter of 2022 reflect the increased purchases of cereals and fats and oils from Kazakhstan, sugar from Brazil, fats and oils from the Russian Federation, and meat from Belarus in January - March 2022. To support imports of essential staples, the government lifted import duties on wheat flour, vegetable oils and other products as of January 2022, and introduced VAT exemption for meat and butter imports.



Quarter I	Q I-2022	2022/2021 (Q I)	2022/3-years avg. (Q I)
USD millions	Change, %		
Export	342	➡0	⬇-4
Import	964	⬆49	⬆78

Source: based on the TDM data

Additional information

<https://www.fao.org/europe/regional-initiatives/iatmi>

<https://www.fao.org/markets-and-trade/areas-of-work/trade-policy-and-partnerships/europe-and-central-asia/en/>

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Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

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