

STUDY REGARDING PORK IMPORTS IN CHINA DEPENDING ON QUALITY

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Abstract: *In this research is presented that in the current economic environment, China has become one of the most important actors on the international market pork. Now, in the pork domain, no country can draw an agricultural strategy without considering the impact of the Chinese market. In recent years, China has increased considerably pork imports, including those from the European Union, which has made China become an important partner for all pork producers. The superior quality of pork in the EU has made China to opt for imports from the EU in preference to the USA and Canada.*

Key words: *pork, quality, imports, China, EU and non-EU countries*

INTRODUCTION

In recent years China has become one of the largest importers of pork in the world. The fact that Russia imposed the embargo in the pork sector, has made China become more important for pork producers in the EU and worldwide.

However, China prefers pork EU origin, and every year those imports have increased at the expense of those from non-EU origin. This is mainly due to the quality of pork, which is superior in comparison with other EU pork producing countries such as USA and Canada. Increasing imports is explained, also, by the fact that the number of pigs in China is in continuous decline.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the research we followed the evolution of imports of pork in China, highlighting their dynamics in the past three years. Thus we developed two parallel analyzes.

The first analysis consisted targeting imports from EU countries in the period 2013-2015, both in large countries producing pork, such as Germany, Denmark, Spain, France and others, as well as their overall dynamics of EU countries.

Similarly, we analyzed the dynamics of non-EU countries in the period 2013-2015, the most important being the US and Canada, as well as the overall dynamics of all imports of pork in China from non-EU.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Imports of pork in China increased by 38% in 2015 compared to 2014, reaching a total of nearly 778,000 tons.

In this respect, imports of pork from countries members of the EU have substantially increased over 2015 by 57% compared to 2014. (Fig.1)

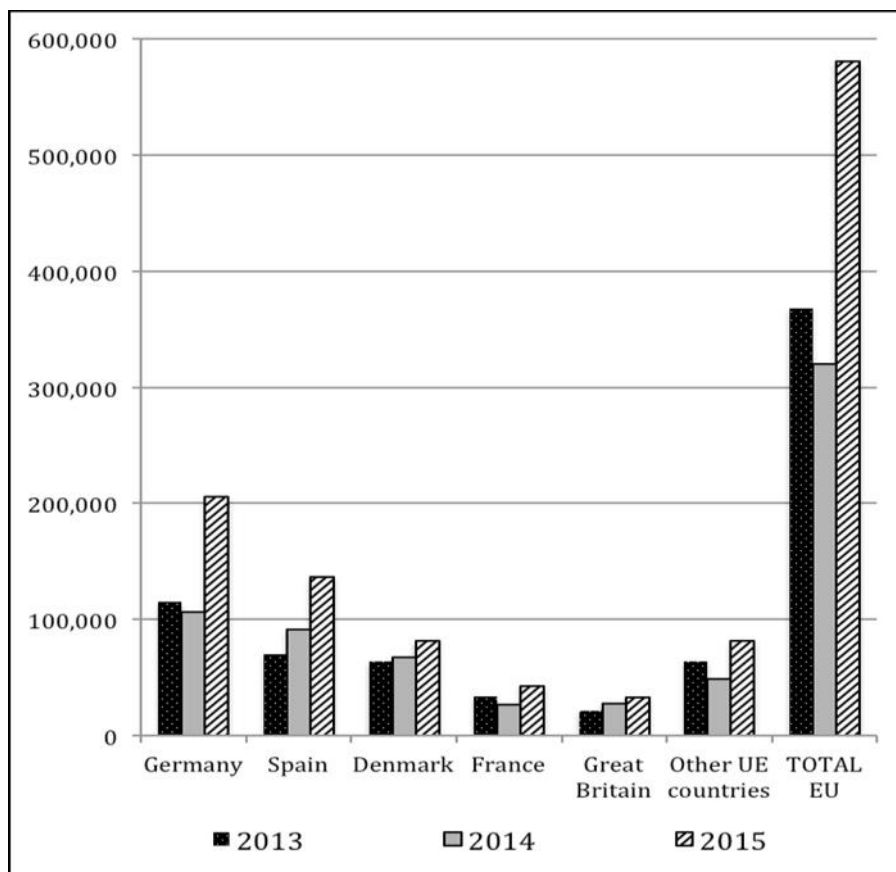


Figure 1. Pork imported by China from EU (to)

Table 1

Distribution of pork imported by China from EU

Pork imported by China (to)	2013	2014	2015
Germany	114.900	106.700	205.300
Spain	70.400	91.500	136.600
Denmark	63.800	67.700	81.300
France	33.900	26.500	42.600
Great Britain	21.300	27.500	32.800
Other EU countries	64.000	48.800	81.500
TOTAL EU	368.300	319.900	580.100

Source: www.industriacarnii.ro

Imports from non EU states remained relatively stable, being in a slight decrease. The volume of pork exported from USA to China fell 13% in 2015 over the previous year. (Fig. 2)

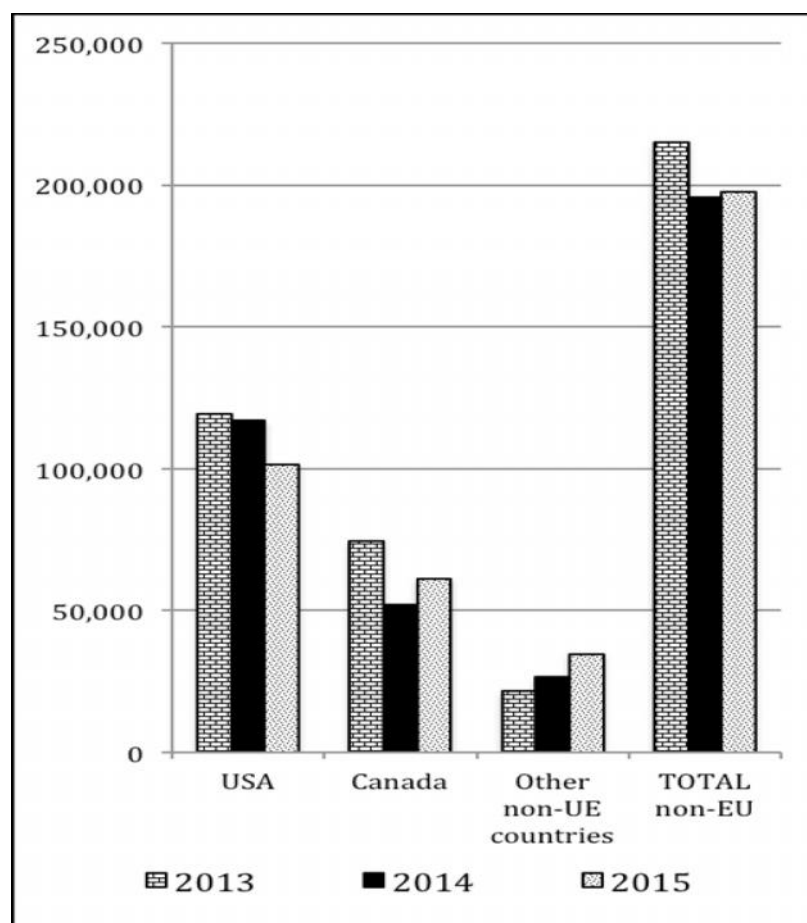


Figure 2. Pork imported by China from non-EU (to)

Table 2

Distribution of pork imported by China from non-EU

Pork imported by China (to)	2013	2014	2015
USA	119.200	117.100	101.500
Canada	74.300	52.100	61.300
Other non-EU countries	21.500	26.500	34.600
TOTAL non-EU	215.000	195.700	197.400

Source: www.industriacarnii.ro

Analyzing the overall imports of pork in China rose substantially year on year in 2013, 2014 and 2015, the upward trend is observed only by EU member countries. Imports from non-EU countries did not meet this trend. (Fig. 3)

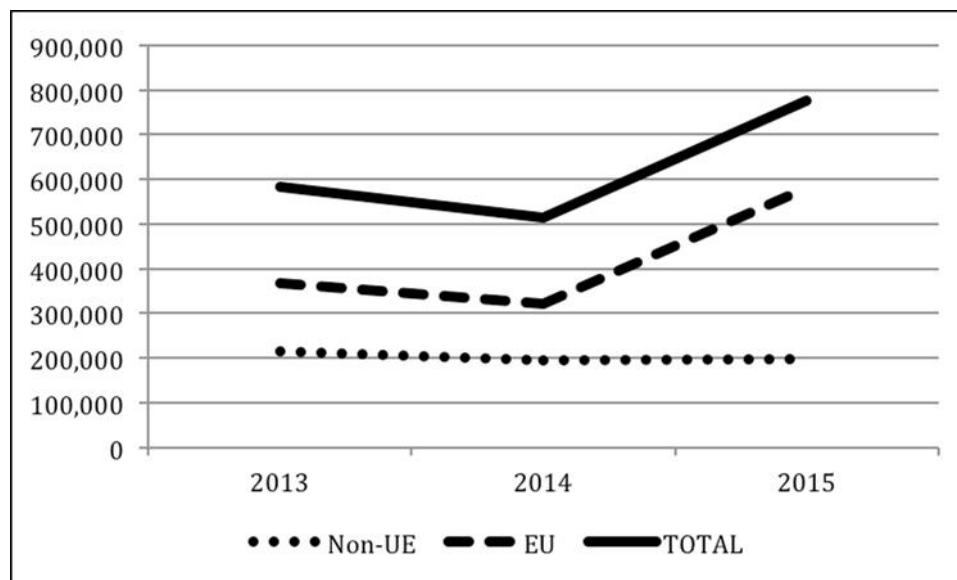


Figure 3. Total imports of pork by China (to)

Table 3

Total distribution of pork imported by China

Pork imported by China (to)	2013	2014	2015
Non-UE	215.000	195.700	197.400
EU	368.300	319.900	580.100
TOTAL	583.300	515.600	777.500

Source: www.industriacarnii.ro

CONCLUSIONS

EU pork origin is much appreciated in China than the non-EU origin primarily due to the difference of quality that is clearly in favor of Europe. However, we believe the pork from EU started to be even more appreciated in the Chinese market after the euro fell against the dollar.

However, forecasts for 2016 have a different orientation. Chinese swine population will increase, according to estimates, which mean that imports will no longer be reported rates in 2015 even below those in 2014 and 2013.

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