



**FAS/Seoul Monitoring of Media Reporting on Agricultural Issues**

**Today's Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

**For Coverage: September 06 – 13, 2017**

***ROKG Strengthens Traceability Labeling on Eggs ... Date of Laying and Breeding Environment Added***

<http://news.donga.com/Main/3/all/20170913/86297827/1>

Summary: Korea Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) announced on September 12 that the traceability labeling required on shell eggs will be strengthened by additionally showing the date of laying and breeding environment. Breeding environment labeling offers four categories - 1 (organic); 2(cage free); 3(no cage but kept in closed space); 4(cage). MFDS pointed out that the revision of mandatory traceability labeling will help consumers make safe choices.



***Spam Marks Sales of 1 Billion Cans since Launching in Korea in 1987 ... Korean's Love for This Canned Ham Continues***

<http://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/1OKZZDIMA7>

Summary: CJ reported that it has sold a total of 1 billion cans of Spam since it started local processing of the product under partnership license with Hormel USA in 1987. CJ's sales of Spam in 2017 would amount to 330 billion won in 2017, up 9 percent from 2016, CJ added. Spam's share in canned ham market in Korea is 52 percent.

### ***The Legendary Japanese Jockey, Take Yutaka, Wins Korea Sprint 2017***

<http://news.heraldcorp.com/view.php?ud=20170911000008>

Summary: The living legend of Japanese horse racing industry, Take Yutaka who has accumulated over 4,000 wins since his debut in 1987, won the most prestigious short distance (1,200 meter) horse racing in Korea, 'Korea Sprint 2017' held at Gwacheon racetrack on September 10. Fifteen high profile racehorses from 5 different countries, Hong Kong, U.S.A, Japan, Singapore, and Korea, participated in the race and competed for 700 million won (about \$650,000) of purse money. Korean racehorses marked the second and third finish in the race. From USA, The Truth or Else ran the race. Graceful Leap, a seven year old stallion from Japan that Yutaka rode in the race was not the most betted horse in the race so Yutaka's win was a surprise to many spectators. The betting money revenue of the race was 4.4 billion (about \$4 million). Yutaka finished second in the following 'Korea Cup' race, 1,800 meter. Purse money of the Korea Cup race was 1 billion won (about \$900,000).



Photo: Take Yutaka (middle), KRA Chairman Lee, Yang Ho (right)

### ***Japan Sweeps Korea Cup Race ... Korea Realizes Big Gap to Japan***

[http://www.horsebiz.co.kr/hbns/new\\_hbns/index.phtml?mode=view&vcode=601002&view\\_id=20170002448](http://www.horsebiz.co.kr/hbns/new_hbns/index.phtml?mode=view&vcode=601002&view_id=20170002448)

Summary: Japanese horses won both 'Korea Sprint' and 'Korea Cup' race held in Gwacheon racetrack on Sunday, September 10. Graceful Leap rode by Take Yutaka won 'Korea Sprint' (1,200 meter, 700 million won of purse money). London Town rode by Yasunari Iwata and Chrysolite rode by Take Yutaka came in first and second in 'Korea Cup' (1,800 meter, 1 billion won of purse money). The outcome for Korean racehorses in the Korea Cup was disappointing. Triple Nine, one of the best racehorses in Korea, came in fourth in the race but was over 21 horse length behind London Town. The Korean horse industry took a very expensive lesson in the race and realized that it has a far way to go to join the top class countries in the world, including Japan.



Photo: London Town rode by Yasunari Iwata

***One Restaurant Per Every 78 People in Korea ... Koreans Expand Dining Out***

<http://news.donga.com/3/all/20170911/86260165/1>

Summary: According to the foodservice industry statistics released by the Korea Agro-Fishery Marketing Corporation (aT) on September 10, the foodservice industry in Korea generated 108 trillion won of sales in 2015. aT pointed out that the industry sales more than doubled between 2005 and 2015. The number of restaurants in Korea totaled 660,000 which was one restaurant per every 78 people in the country. The outstanding growth of the foodservice industry was due to local consumers' increased demand for dining out.

***Beer Leads Korea's Alcohol Beverage Imports This Year***

<http://news.hankyung.com/article/2017090606501>

Summary: Beer was the most imported alcohol beverage into Korea this year through July. Korea's beer imports amounted to \$114 million through July, up 51 percent from the same period of last year, and exceeded wine imports (\$111 million) and whiskey imports (\$80 million). Japan remained the leading exporter of beer to Korea, followed by China and Germany.

*The information in this report was compiled by the [Agricultural Trade Office \(ATO\)](#) at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, South Korea. The press summaries contained herein do NOT reflect USDA, the U.S. Embassy, or other U.S. government agency official policy or view point. U.S. food exporters can learn more about market opportunities in South Korea by reviewing ATO Seoul's [Exporter Guide](#) and other reports available at [www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov) by clicking on "attaché reports.*