

INDUSTRY FACT SHEET – THE FIFTH QUARTER 2024/25

RED MEAT SECTOR TRADE SUMMARY

The fifth quarter refers to all of the other parts of an animal that are not meat. These products range from bulk rendered products, such as tallow and meat and bone meal, through to edible offals and high-value ingredients such as blood products and glands for pharmaceutical use.



Fifth quarter products make an important contribution to the industry's exports and generated

\$1.9 billion in 2024/25



This accounted for

18 percent of total industry exports



Fifth quarter products were sent to

103 markets in 2024/25





Variety of uses

What is the fifth quarter?

The name has links to Italian tradition where even during the early twentieth century, Rome still operated a system whereby meat was distributed among citizens depending on their social status. Animals that came into the slaughterhouse would be broken down into quarters – or quartos in Italian – depending on quality. The primo quarto consisted of the very best cuts and would go to the nobility, and the rest of the animal would be allocated accordingly – the secondo quarto would go to the clergy, the terzo quarto to the bourgeoisie and the quarto quarto to members of the army.

As for the rest of Rome's inhabitants, they were left with the quinto quarto, or 'fifth quarter'.

Fifth quarter products are sent all around the world for a variety of uses. For example:

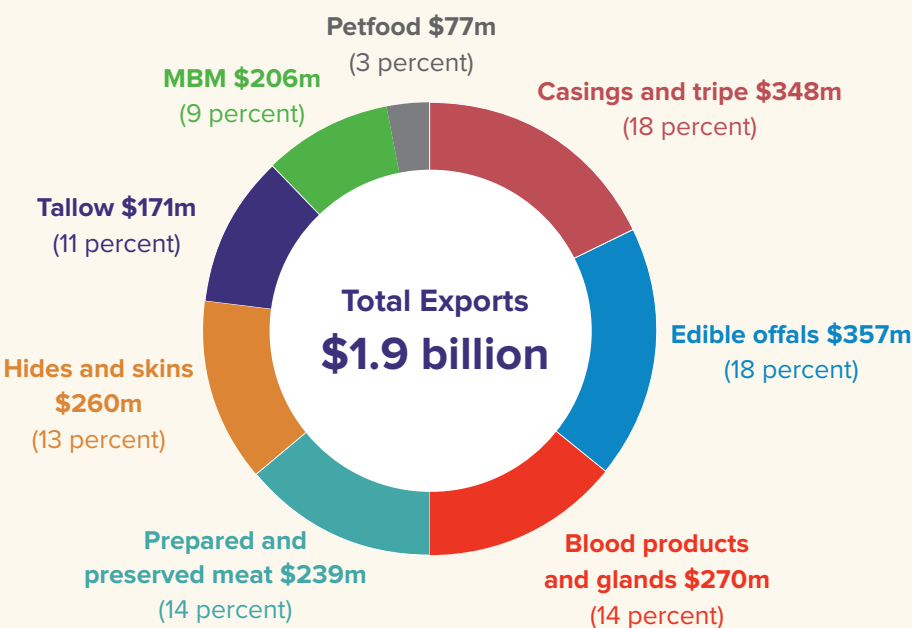
- Beef hides are sent to Italy for use in the fashion industry.
- Tallow goes to the United States and Singapore to be manufactured into biodiesel.
- Bovine and mixed ruminant meat and bone meal (MBM) goes to Indonesia where it is used as an ingredient in fish feed.
- Ovine MBM goes to the United States and Europe for use as an ingredient in pet food.
- Blood products (mostly from cattle) and glands go to the United States, China, Australia and Denmark for pharmaceutical use for a variety of uses including in vaccines, diagnostic kits, and laboratory media.
- Offals (such as kidneys and hearts) and tripe are sent to markets such as China and Indonesia.

Export product mix and destinations

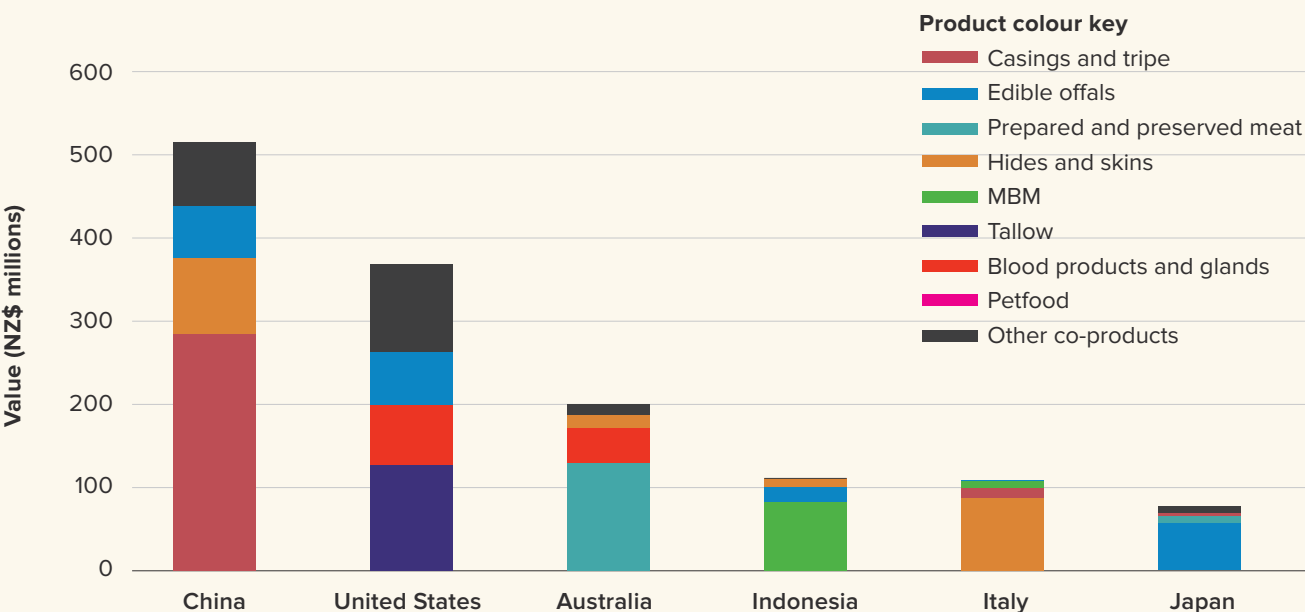
Major co-product markets

New Zealand exported fifth quarter products to 103 markets in 2024/25. China was the largest market, taking \$513 million worth of exports for the year. It was followed by the United States (\$367 million), Australia (\$198 million), Indonesia (\$110m), Italy (\$107m) and Japan (\$76 million).

Fifth quarter export product mix, 2024/25



Major fifth quarter export destinations, 2024/25





Regional export destinations

