

TABLE 6.—HAWAII'S PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF BEEF BY ORIGIN¹

Year	Total per capita	Hawaii	Mainland	New Zealand-Australia
1957.....	78.3	42.3	27.3	8.7
1958.....	75.2	42.8	18.7	13.7
1959.....	80.4	42.7	18.6	19.1
1960.....	81.9	42.0	19.2	20.7
1961.....	85.1	41.9	20.0	23.2
1962.....	77.1	38.3	16.5	22.3
1963.....	77.9	40.0	19.5	18.4
1964.....	85.4	38.9	29.6	25.9
1965.....	86.2	37.0	23.1	26.1
1966.....	84.9	40.9	22.4	21.6

¹ Derived from data in table 2 and population estimates.

STATEMENT OF HAWAII CATTLEMEN'S COUNCIL, INC., TO COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 1968

My name is Robert L. Hind, Jr., a rancher from Kona, Hawaii. I am president of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii and representing since 1902, beef cattle producers in the fiftieth state.

We thank the Committee for the opportunity to discuss the problem of excessive shipments of Australian and New Zealand beef to Hawaii.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The State of Hawaii is made up of a group of nine islands centered about 157 W and 21 N at the edge of the tropics. The total land area within these islands is 4,105,000 acres. Approximately 1/12, or 350,000 acres of the total area is considered arable land suitable for crop production. Approximately 1/4, or 1,085,000 acres is utilized for grazing production. At last report, there was 422 "commercial" ranching enterprises in the State.

There have been substantial increases in market requirements for beef and veal within the State during the past ten years. These increased demands are created both by a rapidly increasing population (55,537 civilian population in 1957 to 759,582 civilians in 1967) and also by substantial increases in the per capita consumption of beef and veal (from 78.2 pounds per capita in 1957 to well over 85 pounds in 1967).

Hawaiian production of beef has steadily increased during this period, reaching a peak of more than 30 million pounds in 1966. Hawaii has also turned increasingly to pen feeding of cattle to improve and increase production. In 1959, 4,103 cattle were processed through feedlots and in 1965, 16,000 head of cattle were fed. In 1967 approximately 30,000 head of cattle were processed and finished in feedlots in Hawaii.

Federal grading of beef has also expanded as a means of quality improvement. In 1960 when federal grading first came to the islands, 12,317 head were offered for grading. In the fiscal year, 1966-67, 31,297 head were federally graded.

These facts evidence a sincere effort on behalf of Hawaii's ranchers over the past ten years, to produce a quality beef product.

BEEF IMPORTS (FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC) AND THEIR EFFECT

Imports of feed beef from the U.S. Mainland decreased from 1954 to 1959, and thereafter increased; but has declined again to 15,287,000 pounds or 24% of the State market supply of beef and veal in 1967.

Meanwhile, the most significant changes in the Hawaiian market have been shown by imports of low-cost foreign beef. These imports have increased by more than 1,000% in the past fourteen years, from a total of 938,000 pounds carcass equivalent in 1954 to 18,304 million pounds carcass equivalent in 1965 and has maintained a steady high level ever since. These imports now represents about 26% of the total State supply of beef and more than 31% of the Honolulu supply, which is the major market in the State.