Pork Import Tariff System in Japan

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The pork import tariff (hereafter referred to as the Tariff) was instituted in 1971 when the import quota on pork import was abolished. The following is a diagram to show how the Tariff operates.

- Gate price = 393 yen/kg
- If import price is from 0 to 48.9 yen/kg, specific tariff of 361 yen is imposed.
- If import price is between 48.9 yen/kg and the gate price (393 yen/kg), the difference between the import price and the gate price is imposed as the Tariff (difference tariff). Therefore, if import price is between 48.9 yen/kg and the gate price, the price at which imported port is sold in domestic market cannot be below the gate price. It has to be the gate price plus expenses, margin etc.
- If import price is above the gate price, 4.3 % ad valorem tariff is imposed.
- There is no import at any price above the gate price nor is there any import price which is lower than 48.9 yen. So always the difference tariff is imposed.
- The Tariff amounts to a variable tariff system and the minimum import price system. Article 4.2 of the Agriculture Agreement prohibits the imposition of variable levy and the minimum import price system and, therefore, the Tariff (difference tariff system) is contrary to Article 4.2 of the Agriculture Agreement.