

Gastronomic Excellence of Reindeer Meat Draws Ah's from Japanese

Reindeer meat from Alaska received an enthusiastic response at a tasting party in Japan, according to an article from the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, translated for the Nome Nugget. The story reads:

A "Reindeer Eating Party" was held at 5:40 p.m. April 25 at the Hotel Japan Tokyo in Nagata-cho. The Alaska State Office sponsored the party to "sell" reindeer to meat deficient Japan. The guests numbered about 115 persons including the standing director of the Housewives' Federation, Mrs. Hyodo.

The tables were arranged with cooked reindeer meat in pieces ranging from large 20 centimeter ones (roasts) to small pieces of 5 centimeters

(hamburgers). The guests were subdued and hesitant at first, but soon delighted voices filled the room extolling the delicious taste of the meat. Immediate converts to reindeer "fans" were made of everyone present.

The price of the meat in Alaska is said to be about 50 cents per 500 grams which is cheaper than beef in Japan.

Reindeer meat at present is not allowed to be imported into Japan and the Alaska State Office states that it is difficult to understand why the Japanese Government does not permit the import of such delicious and cheap meat. The Agriculture and Welfare Ministries are to be approached for fuller understanding.