Canada
4/15: In the Dominican Republic, a large part of the population does not have access to a lot of resources, but the Government has come up with a decent plan to take care of people during April and May. Confirmed coronavirus cases are around 3,000 people and over 100 deaths.

Caribbean
Feb: COVID-19 has kept consumers and workers at home. This has delayed purchases in stores and at restaurants, it has also slowed the unloading of products at ports. In addition to the COVID-19 outbreak, there is also an outbreak of African swine flu - this affects only pigs and has pushed Chinese pork prices to a record high. In regard to the dual disease outbreak, the problems facing import-dependent China in its efforts to feed its population is highlighted. March: Due to a triple threat of COVID, ASF and Avian flu, consumers are looking at plant-based foods as an option for protein rich food products. Coronavirus is also a good opportunity for meat exporters to enter China as the demand for imported meats rises. According to a lobster company, retail and e-commerce sales are up but not enough to offset the loss in the foodservice industry.

Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama
4/7: It is estimated that the Food Preparation and Packaging sector is among the activities that would suffer the greatest impact in the coming months. Another sector that is in the group of those that will be impacted, but in lesser magnitude, is the production of soft drinks and other non-alcoholic beverages. According to projections from the interactive information system, Food and Beverage sales will be among the least impacted in this context.

France/ Spain Seafood
4/9: Ontario is only allowing essential businesses to be open. The retail list includes: grocery stores, liquor stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, mass merchandisers, pet food stores, gas stations, and hardware stores. In foodservice, restaurants can only offer take out. Stores have reduced hours to daytime only and are limited to allowing 50 people in at a time. Stores are having difficulty keeping certain products on the shelves: toilet paper, pasta, canned goods, and flour. Major retailers are allowing only one customer shopping for the first hour of store opening and each customer buying a set of pet food stores will only allow a couple of people into the store entrance and will pick up the products for you to eliminate you walking into the store.

Italy
Feb: COVID-19 has kept consumers and workers at home. This has delayed purchases in stores and at restaurants, it has also slowed the unloading of products at ports. In addition to the COVID-19 outbreak, there is also an outbreak of African swine flu - this affects only pigs and has pushed Chinese pork prices to a record high. In regard to the dual disease outbreak, the problems facing import-dependent China in its efforts to feed its population is highlighted. March: Due to a triple threat of COVID, ASF and Avian flu, consumers are looking at plant-based foods as an option for protein rich food products. Coronavirus is also a good opportunity for meat exporters to enter China as the demand for imported meats rises. According to a lobster company, retail and e-commerce sales are up but not enough to offset the loss in the foodservice industry.

Japan
3/25: There is no lockdown in place at this time for the Middle East however, authorities are encouraging people to refrain from going out except for essential needs. Action was taken early in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Airports in this region are currently closed, there is no regional trade servicing travel to neighboring GCC countries. Local visiting for trade servicing is now replaced with video conferencing, in order to avoid close contact.
4/14: All non essential business closed including bars, restaurants and cafes having a immediate impact to the food service industry. International and domestic travel has been limited. Essential services including supermarkets remain open and retail sales spiked with panic buying and have plateaued since. Panic buying has been a major issue, consumer perception of shortages has fueled hoarding of essential items including toilet paper, pasta and rice. Farming and retail authorities have reassured that Australia is in no danger of running out of food. Australia produces three times as much as it consumes with two- thirds exported. By mid February one in six Australian businesses (15%) had already been impacted by CV-19. This new threat comes after over a quarter of businesses (28%) staying they have been affected by the bushfires in the months prior according to a Roy Morgan survey of 1,170 businesses. 4/14: Fishers along the Victorian coast have been left holding up to 30,000 lobsters in seawater storage tanks on boats and in processing facilities after China shut down its live animal trade over coronavirus fears. Australia’s seafood industry has been thrown into crisis by the ban, with local fishers considering a plan to return thousands of lobsters to the open waters. Prices have already dropped by up to 20 per cent from $130 to $140 a kilogram in Victoria to $110 as fishers and wholesalers begin trying to offload the premium product in local retail markets. The last air cargo shipment of fresh seafood was accepted into China on January 26, shortly before demand collapsed after international transport restrictions and public health fears saw the mass cancellation of Chinese New Year celebrations.

Oceania

4/8: The tourism and hospitality industry has been seeing a significant decline since the start of a social distancing campaign as an act to halt the coronavirus. There has been 130 cancellations and or postponements of food related exhibitions - it is said that some will be replaced with AR technologies. Food purchases have increased during COVID-19: grocery food purchases increased 23.6% during January and February, while non-food purchases declined 4.9%. The purchase spending amount for groceries increased by 23.5% while the purchase frequency declined 1.2% as consumers tried to reduce shopping and stock up on non-perishable foods. Due to this, online grocery shopping has increased the most at 75.7% while hypermarkets and supermarkets are growing 22.5% and 13%. The top 5 products that are most popular online include: health related products including masks, snacks, delivery food, consumer goods, and frozen foods. Supply chains are affected globally and it may take months to completely recover.

South America

4/9: Singapore is trying to curb the spread of covid-19 an effective April 7th, except for key economic sectors and essential services, all work premises will close for a month until further notice. All schools will also be closed and although food establishments will remain open they are for take-aways only 4/15: most of SE Asia is in lockdown mode until the end of April. Malaysia as extended its lockdown twice and Singapore just imposed tighter movement control

South Korea

4/9: In the UK, the government has ordered a total lockdown. Citizens have been instructed that they must stay in their homes except for shopping for necessary food supplies, a visit to a doctor or to obtain medicine, and one daily outing for exercise comprising either a walk, a run, or a bicycle ride. Supermarkets are now trying to police queues to ensure safe distances are adhered to, both outside and inside stores, using floor signage. Certain food items are in short supply (primarily thought to be due to panic buying) and these are canned goods, milk, butter, eggs, fruit, vegetables, and household goods. All major supermarkets offer home delivery but the businesses are being swamped. Sites crash and now the supermarkets are limiting the slots available, releasing new slots as and when.

Vietnam, Cambodia

3/25: The Vietnam government has put a stop to all foreigners arriving from affected areas, such as Europe and North America. Those who have permission to enter must go into a 14-day quarantine, including those from Southeast Asia returning to Vietnam. In addition, all facilities that hold more than 30 people are closed until the end of the month. As all restaurants are closed, supermarket sales are increasing. 4/10: The new cases in Vietnam are mainly from those who have returned from traveling from Europe and North America. All those returning must quarantine for 14 days. All gyms, hair salons and restaurants need to be closed until 4/15. Restaurants that serve take-away and online business are still able to be open but due to the number of folks eating at home, the sales in supermarkets have increased.