



**CHEESE IMPORTERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

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CIAA Bulletin

**An Exclusive CIAA Member
Update**

EU Officials Suggest Agreement in Principle on Importation of Certain US Beef

Agreement Could Alleviate Concerns about Higher US Duties on Roquefort

States have reached an “agreement in principle” regarding the importation to the EU of non-hormone treated beef. The US beef industry in December, 2016 had sought the reimposition of higher duties on a range of products because they argued that the EU had not adhered to a Memorandum of Understanding that provided for the EU to make phased increases in market access by adopting a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) for beef produced without growth-promoting hormones (termed HQB products), in return for the United States making phased reductions in additional duties the United States had imposed consistent with WTO authorization.

One of the potential consequences of not having reached an agreement could have been the reimposition of higher duties on Roquefort cheese in both original loaves and in other than original loaves, HTS 04064020 and 04064040. The Cheese Importers Association of America (CIAA) had opposed the imposition of higher duties in two comment letters to the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), as CIAA had done in 2009.

USTR has not issued any formal statement regarding the EU-claimed agreement. We understand that this beef deal still needs to be approved by EU countries and the U.S.. Before that happens it is also necessary for the EU to reach agreement with Australia and Uruguay who had benefited from accessing the beef quotas that could not be filled with US product.

CIAA will continue to provide additional information on this effort as it becomes available. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact Roger Szemraj at rszemraj@theciaa.org or (202) 789-1212.

Dates to Remember

May 3, 2019
Member Meeting
9:00 am - 11:00 am
Saddle Brook Marriott
Saddle Brook, NJ

May 3, 2019
Dinner Gala
6:30 pm - 10:30 pm
Chart House Restaurant
Weehawken, NJ

July 2, 2019
Last day for an exporting country that is not designating importers for calendar year 2019 to notify FAS

August 31, 2019
Last day to enter dairy products into U.S. Customs territory that may be used to qualify and establish eligibility for a calendar year 2020 license.

* If a deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the deadline will be the next business day (Section 6.36(a) of the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation). This does not apply to dates of entry for eligibility.

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