

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Belgium EU-28

Post: Brussels USEU

Commission publishes updated import duties for corn sorghum and rye

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

Updated import duties of Euro 5.16 per metric ton are applied on corn, sorghum and rye from August 8, 2017.

General Information:

On August 8, 2017, the European Commission published updated import duties for corn, sorghum and rye in [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1434](#).

An expected record global corn harvest in 2016/17 resulting in ample supply and low prices for corn led to the automatic mechanism calculating import duties to be triggered, setting the import duties on those crops at Euro 5.16 per metric ton with effect from yesterday, August 8, 2017. These import duties should apply until new import duties are fixed and enter into force. The individual tariff quotas are not affected by this measure. From November 8, 2014 until yesterday, the import duties for corn, sorghum and rye were set at Euro 0 per metric ton.

As a reminder, the EU has bound duties for all grains set under the GATT agreement. However, for some grains the applied rates are different from the bound one. The system originates in the Blair House Agreement between the United States and the EU and involves setting tariffs on the basis of individual world reference prices for specific grain types. The mechanism is triggered automatically. The duty is fixed on the basis of the difference between the effective EU intervention price for grains multiplied by 1.55 and a representative CIF (cost, insurance and freight) import price for those grains at the port of Rotterdam.