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POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 12/28/2011

GAIN Report Number:

Belarus

Post: Moscow

Customs Union Announces 2012 Meat and Poultry TRQs

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On December 15, 2011, the Russia-Belarus-Kazakhstan Customs Union published Decision 865, establishing meat and poultry TRQ quantities for 2012. Compared to 2011 market access, total volumes are lowered for Russia (pork and poultry), increased for Kazakhstan (pork and beef), and unchanged for Belarus. Notably, Russian pork market access is improved when compared to a July 2012 GOR Resolution, and all Russian TRQ volumes are subject to change in mid-2012, following Russian WTO Accession.

Summary

On December 15, 2011, the Russia-Belarus-Kazakhstan Customs Union published Decision 865, dated November 18, which establishes total meat and poultry TRQ quantities for 2012. CU member countries shall distribute, if necessary, the volume of tariff rate quotas between third countries and distribute 2012 TRQ volumes among the participants of foreign trade in accordance with member-state legislation as well as issue licenses for the importation of goods in respect of which tariff rate quotas are established.

Changes from CU TRQ total volumes in 2011 (See GAIN RS1072):

- Russia: less pork access (472,100 MT to 400,000 MT); more pork trimming access (27,900 MT to 30,000 MT); and less poultry access (350,000 MT to 330,000 MT).
- Kazakhstan: more frozen beef access (10,000 MT to 13,900 MT) and more pork access (7,400 MT to 9,400 MT)
- Belarus: no changes

Prospective TRQ Administration by each Party:

- Russia: A draft Ministry of Economic Development Resolution suggests Russia will break-out poultry into three separate quotas as defined in July 2011 (See GAIN RS1137). It also suggests country-specific allocations will be issued for chilled beef, frozen beef, and boneless chicken meat.
- Kazakhstan: no indications yet announced.
- Belarus: Deputy Minister of Agriculture Kotkovets stated Belarus will distribute quota among processors (not importers) with no country-specific allocations. Quota holders will decide themselves, based on a tender, where to source product.

Russia Notes:

- CU Decision 865 supersedes Russia's announced 2012 TRQ volumes from July. Specifically, the CU Decision increases pork access from 320,000 MT to 400,000 MT as well as breaks-out deboned chicken and turkey meat into two separate TRQs.
- Russia's TRQ tariffs, volumes, and definitions will change again to meet its WTO commitments as soon as it becomes a full-fledged member sometime in mid-2012.

DECISION

November 18, 2011 № 865, Moscow

On the list of goods in respect of which from 1 January 2012, tariff rate quotas, as well as volumes of tariff rate quotas are established for imports of these goods in the territory of the Customs Union member countries

The Customs Union Commission decided:

1. To approve the list of goods in respect of which from 1 January 2012, tariff rate quotas, as well as volumes of tariff rate quotas are established for imports of these goods in the territory of the Customs Union member- countries, according to the attachment [*see next page*];
2. To establish that the tariff rate quotas are applicable for imports of goods into the customs territory of the Customs Union that are placed under customs procedure of release for domestic consumption, except for goods originating in and imported from the CIS member countries.
3. To request the Parties:
 - to distribute, if necessary, the volume of tariff rate quotas between third countries;
 - to Implement distribution of the volumes of tariff rate quotas in 2012 among participants of foreign trade in accordance with member-state legislation;
 - to instruct the authorized bodies of member-country state power to issue licenses for the importation of goods in respect of which tariff rate quotas are established and provide information on the issued licenses to the Commission of the Customs Union.
4. This decision shall enter into force on the date of publication.

The Commissioners of Customs Union:

**From the Republic of
Belarus**

S. Rumas

**From the Republic of
Kazakhstan**

U. Shukeyev

**From the Russian
Federation**

Shuvalov

APPROVED
Commission Decision
Customs Union
on November 18, 2011 № 865

**List of Products in Respect to Which Tariff Quotas are Established as Well as the Amount of
Tariff Quotas Imposed on the Import of These Products to the Territory of Customs Union
Member Countries**

Description of Goods	Volume of Tariff Quotas for 2012, Thousand MT		
	Belarus	Kazakhstan	Russia
Cattle meat, fresh and chilled (CU HS 0201)	2.5	0.02	30.0
Cattle meat, frozen (CU HS 0202)	2.5	13.9	530.0
Pork, fresh, chilled and frozen (CU HS 0203)	60.0	9.4	400.0
Pork trimmings (CU HS 0203 29 550 2; 0203 29 900 2)*			30.0
Poultry meat and byproducts under position 0105, fresh, chilled and frozen (CU HS code 0207)	15.0	110	-
Frozen deboned chicken meat (CU HS 0207 14 100 1);			70.0
Frozen bone-in chicken halves or quarters (CU HS 0207 14 200 1); Frozen bone-in chicken legs and cuts from them (CU HS 0207 14 600 1);			250.0
Frozen deboned turkey meat (CU HS 0207 27 100 1)			10.0

*Pork trimmings can be imported both as part of the import quota established for pork trimmings and the tariff quota established for pork