

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Belarus

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Union State Increases Meat and Dairy Quotas in 2012

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

Dairy and Products

Sugar

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

Russia and Belarus agreed to the 2012 supply and demand forecast of the Union State for some agricultural products, including import quotas for dairy, meat and poultry products, and refined sugar.

General Information:

Russia and Belarus are close allies with several interstate institutions, including the Union State, which provides each other with many trade preferences; however, the most politically sensitive of which are still managed. They have a long-standing history of managing trade of dairy and sugar, and 2012 will be the second year of planned exports of meat and poultry products. Yelena Skrynnik, the Russian Agriculture Minister, noted “Forecast balances were agreed with industry associations and professional associations of the two countries and meet the interests of the national economies.” Mikhail Rusiy, the Belarus Agriculture Minister said, “The goal of the agreement is to develop the Single Economic Space and the Customs Union in order to evenly distribute exported resources, determining how much we can send to Russia and how much we may sell to third countries.” While limiting trade between Parties seems counter-intuitive to a “Single Economic Space,” the trade preferences remain significant.

Meat and Poultry Quotas (in meat equivalent)

Belarus’ quota to export meat and poultry products in 2012 is 270,000 MT, a significant increase over the 2011 quota of 210,000 MT. According to Respublika, the official newspaper of the Belarus Council of Ministers, 135,000 MT is beef (5,000 MT more than 2011), 20,000 MT is pork (same as 2011), 15,000 MT is poultry meat (same as 2011), and 100,000 MT is various types of delicatessen (55,000 MT more than 2011). [Note: As an example of Russian preferences provided to Belarus, Russia reduced poultry and pork tariff-rate quota import quantities from the world in 2012 and held beef quantities constant.] Russia will export 1,200 MT of meat and poultry products to Belarus in 2012, down from the 2011 quota of 1,200 MT.

Table 2. Russia Imports of Beef from Belarus

	Jan-Oct 2010	Jan-Oct 2011	2011/10
--1,000 MT	105.7	82.5	78.1
--USD, million	380.6	412.7	108.4
--Share in total imports, %	4.8	3.6	75.0

Source: Rosstat <http://www.gks.ru/bgd/regl/b11_01/IssWWW.exe/Stg/d11/2-2-5-4.htm>

Dairy Quotas (milk-equivalent)

In 2012, Belarus receives a quota to export 3.7 million MT of dairy products to Russia, compared to 3.6 million MT. According to official’s estimates, in 2011, Belarus is on part to export 3.55 to 3.6 million MT. Belarus also agreed to plan shipments accordingly in order to maintain stable Russian prices during the summer. Russia receives a quota to export 41,000 MT of dairy products to Belarus in 2012, a small but marked increase over 40,000 MT for 2011.

Table 1. Russia Imports of Dairy Products, including from Belarus

	Jan-Nov 2010	Jan-Nov 2011	2011/10
Dairy Butter (0405.10)	89.2	86.4	96.9
--Including from Belarus	37.3	35.6	95.4
Cheese and cottage cheese (0406)	350.3	355.6	101.5
--Including from Belarus	106.1	112.0	105.6
Dry and conc. milk (0402)	198.5	155.4	78.3
--Including from Belarus	135.3	128.2	94.8
Whole milk (0401)	154.3	165.6	107.3
--Including from Belarus	134.4	144.7	107.7

Source: Russian Union of Milk Producers <http://souzmoloko.ru/rinok/rinok_936.html>

Sugar Quotas

In 2012, Belarus and Russia will hold constant their refined sugar export quotas at 200,000 MT and 100 MT, respectively.

Table 3. Russia Imports of Refined Sugar from Belarus

	Jan-Oct 2010	Jan-Oct 2011	2011/10
--1,000 MT	164.4	170.4	103.6
--USD, million	120.4	144.5	120.0
--Share in total imports, %	1.5	1.3	86.7

Source: Rosstat <http://www.gks.ru/bgd/regl/b11_01/IssWWW.exe/Stg/d11/2-2-5-4.htm>

Press-release of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus

<http://www.mshp.minsk.by/news/d385219333068d0e.html>

A joint meeting of the collegiums of the Russian Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture and Foodstuffs of Belarus in the form of videoconference was held on November 30, 2011. Michael Rusiy, Minister of Agriculture and Food, headed the Belarus delegation and Yelena Skrynnik, Minister of Agriculture headed the Russian delegation.

Supply and demand forecasts of the Union State for milk and dairy products, meat, poultry and refined sugar for 2012 were approved at the joint meeting. By December 15 of this year, it was agreed forecasts will be submitted for consideration and approval by the Council of Ministers of the Union State.

In accordance with the established balance sheets for 2011, reciprocal deliveries are planned in the following amounts in 2012:

1. Milk and dairy products (milk equivalent):

From the Russian Federation to the Republic of Belarus – 41,000 MT;
from the Republic of Belarus to the Russian Federation – 3.7 MMT. In addition, a provision was made for the distribution of the agreed volumes of dairy products by quarter during 2012, taking into account seasonal (summer) growth of milk production in order to prevent a significant reduction in the price of dairy products delivered during this period;

2. Meat and Meat Products Exports (meat equivalent);

-from Russian Federation to the Republic of Belarus - 1,200 MT
-from the Republic of Belarus to the Russian Federation – 270,000 MT.

3. Sugar

-From the Russian Federation to the Republic of Belarus – 100 MT;
-From the Republic of Belarus to the Russian Federation – 200,000 MT. A uniform distribution of supply of sugar is envisaged on a quarterly basis, by 50,000 MT, during 2011.

The volume of mutual shipments of agricultural products in 2012 will not change significantly compared with the 2011.

The parties also agreed to hold meeting in the Republic of Belarus in December 2012 of Agro-Industrial Association of the Customs Union, which was established in October 2012.

End of the Press-release

Sources in Russian:

web-site of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus;
<http://www.mshp.minsk.by/news/d385219333068d0e.html>

web-site of the Russian Ministry of Agriculture;
<http://www.mcx.ru/news/news/show/5116.78.htm>

An article on quotas published in the official newspaper of the Belarus Council of Ministers December 08, 2011, № 235 (5398): <http://www.respublika.info/5398/selhoz/article51502/textmodestart/>

Other Relevant Reports:

RS 1081 [Union State Agrees to Common Agricultural Policy](#)