USMEF Factsheet
Market Access Provisions of Russia's WTO Accession Agreement

Unless otherwise specified, the following changes in Russia's tariff rate quotas (TRQs) and tariffs will go into effect on the formal date of Russia's accession to the WTO, which will be 30 days after Russia notifies the WTO that the terms of accession have been ratified by the Russian legislature. According to the agreed schedule, this should occur by early September of 2012.

Pork

- 400,000 MT global TRQ on chilled/frozen pork at zero tariff in quota and 65% out-of-quota that will be in effect though December 31, 2019.
- 30,000 MT TRQ on trimmings, also at zero tariff in quota and 65% outside the quota.
- Starting on January 1, 2020, the TRQ will be eliminated and Russia will apply a MFN duty of 25% on all pork imports.
- The duty on live hogs will be reduced from the current level of 40% to 5%.

Beef

- 60,000 MT country-specific TRQs on frozen beef from the U.S. and the EU and a 3,000 MT country-specific TRQ on frozen beef from Costa Rica.
- 407,000 MT TRQ on frozen beef from all other supplying countries.
- 29,000 MT country-specific TRQ on fresh/chilled beef from the EU and 11,000 MT TRQ on fresh/chilled beef from all other supplying countries.
- The tariffs on all fresh, chilled, and frozen beef imports will be 15% inside the quota and 55% outside the quota.

Pork and Beef Offals

- Chilled pork and beef offal tariffs are 20% but not less than 0.2 euro per kg upon accession and will be reduced to 15% but not less than 0.15 euro per kg within two years.
- Frozen pork and beef offal tariffs range from a maximum of 20% but not less than 0.8 euro per kg to 15% but not less than 0.15 euro per kg upon accession and will be reduced to a maximum of 15% but not less than 0.15 euro per kg to 12.5% but not less than 0.6 euro per kg within a year.

High Quality Beef

- The United States, Argentina, and Canada will have access to the market at a 15% duty for unlimited quantities of beef meeting the quality definitions that they negotiated with Russia in 2005.
- In the case of the United States, the definition is: "Carcasses or any cuts obtained from bovine animals of less than 30 months of age which have been fed for at least 100 days on nutritionally balanced, high-energy-content rations containing not less than 70 per cent grain and comprising at least 20 pounds total feed per day. Beef graded 'choice' or 'prime' according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture standards automatically meets this definition."
- Russia will develop a definition of high quality beef (HQB) that it will apply domestically, and once this definition is agreed it will consider requests from supplying countries that Russia deem their HQB definitions as equivalent for purposes of access at the 15% duty. The first phase of this process will take 18 months and the second phase will last six months.
- As of the date of accession, the base price threshold for HQB of 8.0 euros/kg will be subject to a review mechanism. The review will be conducted 12 months after the date of accession and again 24 months after the date of accession. The revised threshold will be calculated as the trade weighted average price for HQB originating from the U.S., Canada, and Argentina under tariff lines 0201100003, 0201202003, 0201203003, 0201205003, 0201209003, 0201300006, 0202100003, 0202201003, 0202293003, 0202205003, 0202209003, 0202301006,

0202305006, and 0202309006 during the previous 12 months. This review mechanism will operate from the date of accession for a period of 24 months.

- Once Russia has developed its national HQB definition, the price threshold will be calculated as three times the trade weighted average price for beef imported under the quota regime. The revised price threshold will only be applied when the trade weighted average price increases or decreases by more than 20%.

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