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Romania

Trade Policy Monitoring

Duty Reductions in the Romanian Import Schedule 2004

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Report Highlights:

The recently adopted GOR Decision 1521/2003 effective from January 1, 2004 sets out the new applied import schedule of Romania for 2004. A number of tariff reductions, offered on an Most-Favored-Nation basis (i.e., to all WTO members) were initiated by USTR/USDA in the process of reviewing Romania's status as a Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) recipient and are expected to result in higher U.S. exports to Romania.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Sofia [BU1]
[RO]

According to GOR Decision no. 1521 adopted in December 2003, a number of positions in the Romanian import schedule were modified. AgBucharest expects the tariff reductions to create new export opportunities (specifically for pork cuts for processing, pork and beef liver, turkey meat, beef tripe, soybeans, almonds, nuts, wines and whiskey) as well as preserve existing market access for US products.

In October 2003, the United States initiated a new round of negotiations with the Romanian authorities for improving access to the Romanian market for selected products from January 1, 2004. This commitment would also call for further tariff reductions as Romania gets closer to EU accession and has to gradually adopt the CXT. An important step towards eventual EU accession, the tariff preferences for EU products versus U.S. products are partly addressed by the tariff reductions for 2004 on a number of positions in the import schedule. The measure was needed as Romania is a Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) recipient. All reductions are offered on an Most-Favored-Nation basis, i.e., to all WTO members.

HS	Description	MFN rate in 2003 (%)	MFN rate in 2004 (%)
0201	Bovine meat, fresh or chilled	20	20
0202	Bovine meat, frozen	20	20
0203	Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen	20	20
	-Fresh or chilled		
	--Carcasses and half carcasses:		
0203.11.90	---Other	0	0
	Hams, shoulders, and cuts thereof, bone in:		
0203.12.90	---Other	0	0
0203.19.90	---Other	0	0
	-Frozen		
	--Carcasses and half carcasses:		
0203.21.10*	---From farm swine animals	20	45
0203.21.90	---Other	0	0
0203.22.11	----Hams and cuts thereof	20	20
0203.22.11*	----Hams and cuts thereof (between 01/01 and 06/30)	20	0
0203.22.19	----Picnics/Shoulders and cuts thereof	20	20
0203.22.19*	----Picnics/Shoulders and cuts thereof (between 01/01 and 06/30)	20	0
0203.22.90	----Other	0	0
0203.29.15	----Belly bone in and cuts thereof	20	20
0203.29.15*	----Belly bone in and cuts thereof (between 01/01 and 06/30)	20	0
0203.29.55	----Boneless	20	20
0203.29.55*	-----Boneless (trimmings, collars,	20	0

	loins)		
0206	Bovine, swine, sheep offalls, fresh, chilled or frozen		
0206.22.00	---Bovine liver	25 (20 between 01/01 and 06/30)	20
0206.22.00	----Bovine liver for pharmaceutical use	0	0
0206.49.20	---Swine liver	45 (20 between 01/01 and 06/30)	20
0206.49.20	----Swine liver for pharmaceutical use	0	0
0207.14**	Chicken cuts and edible offal, frozen	45	35 45
0207.27	Turkey cuts and edible offal (including liver) frozen	45	35
0504.00	Animal casings and tripe, whether or not cut, fresh, chilled or frozen, salted, in salted water, dried or smoked (casings)	10	0
0802.90.20	Betel nuts, cola nuts and pecans	0	0
0802.90.50	Sweet pine seeds (Pinus pinea)	3.2	3.2
0802.90.60	Macadamia nuts	2	2
0802.90.85	Other	3.2	3.2
0806.20	Raisins	2.4	2.4
1005.10	Corn seed, certified, excluding sweet corn	3	3
1005.90.00	----Other	30	30
1005.90.00	----Other (corn for animal feed, for flour and for starch) between 01/01 and 06/30	30	0 40
1105.20	Flakes, granules, and pellets of potatoes	40	40
1201.00	Soybeans, whether or not broken	0	0
1202.20	Peanuts, raw, shelled, whether or not broken	0	0
1206.00	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken	20/0	20
1211.90.30	----Tonka seed	25	3
1211.90.97	----Other	25	0
1302.39	Mucilages and thickeners, whether or not modified, derived from vegetable products, nesoi	5	5
1507.90	Soybean oil and its fractions, refined	25	25

	but not chemically modified		
1602.31	Meat and meat offal of turkeys, prepared or preserved nesoi	45	45
1602.32	Meat and meat offal of chicken, prepared or preserved nesoi	45	45
2103.90	Sauces and preparations therefore, nesoi, mixed condiments and seasonings	22	22
2204.21	Wine	70	60
2208.30	Whiskey	35	35
2304	Soybean meal	5	5
4101.20.10	Whole bovine hides, fresh	25	25
4101.20.10	Whole bovine hides, salted	25	25

*Duty exemptions for pork cuts were introduced in October 2003 and will continue through June 30, 2004. This is because domestic supply, though slightly increasing, is not able to balance consumption in the short run. Pork carcass duty rate was increased to 45 percent (from 20 percent), basically to protect the domestic market from cheap Polish sales of swine meat.

**In the case of poultry meat, the duty rate is currently maintained at 45 percent.