



U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement

May 2012

The United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA) entered into force on May 15, 2012. This comprehensive agreement eliminates tariffs and other barriers to goods and services, promotes economic growth, and significantly expands trade between the two countries.

This is a major milestone for U.S. farmers and ranchers, for whom Colombia is already an important market. In 2011, the United States exported almost \$1.3 billion of agricultural, fish and forest products to Colombia. Top exports included wheat, cotton, corn and soybean oil.

When the agreement is fully implemented, USDA estimates that it will boost sales of U.S. farm products by an additional \$370 million annually, generating an additional \$500 million in economic activity.

Upon implementation of the Colombia TPA, almost 70 percent of current U.S. farm exports to Colombia will immediately become duty-free, and remaining tariffs will be eliminated within 15 years. This means U.S.-Colombia trade will finally be a two-way street. Virtually all food and farm products from Colombia already enter the United States duty free but, until now, no U.S. agricultural exports have enjoyed duty-free access to Colombia.

Under the agreement, Colombia will immediately eliminate duties on wheat, barley, soybeans, soybean meal and flour, high-quality beef, bacon, almost all fruit and vegetable products, wheat, peanuts, whey, cotton and the vast majority of processed products.

The Colombia TPA also provides duty-free tariff rate quotas on standard beef, chicken leg quarters, dairy products, corn, sorghum, animal feeds, rice and soybean oil.

The implementation of this agreement will help the United States regain a competitive advantage in Colombia, where U.S. agriculture's market share has fallen in recent years as Colombia has implemented free trade agreements with Canada, the European Union and other partners.

For more information about the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement and its impact on U.S. agriculture, please contact FAS Public Affairs at (202) 720-7115 or LPA@fas.usda.gov.