

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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High Quality Beef Third Quarter Fills More Than Half Within One Week

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Livestock and Products

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

Approved By:

Lisa Allen

Prepared By:

Yvan Polet

Report Highlights:

On January 8, 2019, just over 6,220 MT of beef was waiting allocation to the third quarter of the 2018/19 High Quality Beef (HQB) quota. This represents 55.3 percent of the 11,250 MT available for this quarter through the end of March 2019. It demonstrates the ever-increasing competition for the HQB quota between eligible exporting countries. By February 1, quota availability was down to 662.5 MT.

General Information:

On January 8, 2019, the EU's online customs database TARIC registered 6,220.9 MT of beef awaiting allocation to the newly opened third quarter of the 2018/19 High Quality Beef (HQB) quota. This represents 55.3 percent of the 11,250 MT available for this quarter through the end of March 2019. By February 1, only 662.5 MT remained available for this quarter tier.

The first and second quarters of the 2018/19 HQB quota filled in just over three weeks and the current quarter may fill even faster, even as the third quarter has typically been the slowest quarter to fill in previous years since the opening of the HQB quota in 2009. The most likely reason for this continued evolution is the still increasing competition between suppliers as Argentina's market share continues to grow.