

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## EU-28

**Post:** Brussels USEU

### **New 2018-19 HQB Quota Fill Hits New Record**

**Report Categories:**

Livestock and Products

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#### **Report Highlights:**

On July 2, 2018, 4,718 MT of beef was imported into the fresh 2018/19 High Quality Beef (HQB) quota. That is 42 percent of the 11,250 MT available total for this first HQB quarter, a new record. On July 9, the EU online TARIC customs database showed HQB allocations already amounted to 6,298 MT. With another 399 MT of beef imported through July 5 awaiting allocation, barely 40 percent of the first HQB quota tier remains available through September 30.

**General Information:**

On July 2, 2018, which was the opening day of the new 2018/19 quota year for the High Quality Beef (HQB) quota, 4,718 MT of beef was imported into the EU into this duty-free quota. That is 42 percent of the 11,250 MT available total for this first HQB quarter, a new record.

On July 9, the EU online TARIC customs database showed HQB allocations amounting to 6,298 MT or 56 percent of the available total for the quarter, which ends on September 30. Another 399 MT of beef imported through July 5 was awaiting allocation. This means that barely 40 percent of the first HQB quota tier remains unused at the end of the first week of imports.

The HQB quota is the result of a U.S. - EU Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from 2009 to end the WTO beef hormone case. The available quota amount decreased to 45,000 MT from 48,200 MT in September 2017 when the Canadian part was removed as part of the provisional implementation of the EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada.