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## **EU-27**

**Post:** Brussels USEU

### **Temporarily duty suspension for cranberry juice concentrate**

**Report Categories:**

Fresh Fruit

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**Report Highlights:**

Regulation (EC) 1255/96 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain industrial, agricultural and fishery products has been last amended by [COUNCIL REGULATION \(EU\) 12/2010](#) which entered into force on January 1, 2010 and was published in the Official Journal on January 8, 2010.

An new Commodity Number (CN) 2009807989 or CN code for 'Cranberry juice concentrate' has been introduced into this new Regulation suspending the import duty for 'cranberry juice concentrate with a Brix value of 40 or more but not exceeding 66' until the end of 2014. This product was previously subject to an import duty of 16.8 percent.

**General Information:**

**Procedure for temporary duty suspensions**

When the production of certain products in the EU is inadequate or non-existent, import duties can be partially or totally suspended. [Council Regulation 1255/96](#) provides for the temporary suspension of duties on certain industrial, agricultural and fishery products and is amended twice a year.

Member States must submit their requests for tariff suspensions to the Commission before March 15 for implementation on January 1 of the following year and before September 15 for implementation on July 1 of the following year.

The Commission, with the aid of the "Economic Tariff Questions Group" (ETQG), examines the suspension requests. It then presents a formal proposal based on the opinion of the ETQG reflecting the duty suspensions on which the Member States have reached a consensus.

The Commission proposal has to be filed with the Council for formal adoption by qualified majority. Industrial products are usually adopted in June, agricultural products in December.

Tariffs are suspended only for raw materials, semi-finished products or components not available in the EU. As a general rule, suspensions are not granted to finished products intended for sale to end-consumers without further substantial processing.

### **Cranberry juice concentrate**

Germany was the requesting Member State behind the duty suspension for cranberry products in the EU. The proposal was adopted at the Environmental Council at the end of December 2009. [COUNCIL REGULATION \(EU\) 12/2010](#) entered into force on January 1, 2010 and was published in the Official Journal on January 8, 2010.

The suspension is valid for 'cranberry juice concentrate with a Brix value of 40 or more but not exceeding 66'. A new tariff code is introduced into the EU tariff schedule specifically covering concentrate. The new CN code is 2009 80 79 82 and the duty exemption shall be in place from January 1, 2010 until December 31, 2014.

This type of 'Cranberry juice concentrate' previously belonged to the category of products with a CN code of 2009 80 79 which was subject to an import duty of 16.8 percent.

Note: NFC juice will be listed under a different CN, CN2009809590 is a sub-category of CN20098095 ("Juice of fruit of the species *Vaccinium macrocarpon*") and there is not actually any specified brix content. Thus NFC cranberry will remain subject to an import duty.