

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Uruguay next country to secure access to the new EU beef quota

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

On August 23, 2011, Uruguay became the fifth country to gain access to the EU's 20,000 MT duty-free high quality beef quota. This comes only one month after the authorization of New Zealand, after the United States, Australia and Canada had secured access in 2009 and 2010 respectively.

General Information:

On August 23, 2011, the European Commission published [Communication 2011/C 244/01](#) in its Official Journal, granting Uruguay's Dirección General de Servicios Ganaderos the right to sign Certificates of Origin for beef exports into the EU's 20,000 MT duty-free high quality beef quota. This comes on the heels of the authorization for New Zealand, which was published on July 22, 2011.

Since 2008, when Brazil's beef exports to the EU were severely curtailed by the European Commission, Uruguay had become the second largest beef exporter to the EU, closely following Argentina. Uruguay also has a 6,300 MT part in the 20 percent duty Hilton beef quota. However, just like New Zealand, Uruguay's definition for its beef exports into the Hilton beef quota is strictly for grass-fed beef. It is unclear how rapidly Uruguay will be able to set up a grain feeding production as required for the new quota. License applications for 16 MT of New Zealand beef were already filed in the month following New Zealand's authorization.

EU27 (External Trade) Import Statistics					
UDG: Fresh and frozen beef,					
Year Ending: June					
Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Change
		2009	2010	2011	2011/2010
World	T	201751	214704	192897	- 10.16
Argentina	T	69513	62441	46158	- 26.08
Brazil	T	25848	43037	43003	- 0.08
Uruguay	T	54223	52753	42889	- 18.70
United States	T	6374	9308	14370	54.38
Australia	T	10329	9412	10969	16.54
New Zealand	T	10750	9648	10542	9.27
Canada	T	607	564	603	6.93

Source: Global Trade Atlas