

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: China Eliminates Quality Inspection Requirement for Cotton Imports

Country: China - Peoples Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: Cotton and Products

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Report Highlights:

On March 26, 2020, China Customs (GACC) published Announcement No. 43 on Adjusting the Supervision of Imported Cotton, eliminating the requirement for quality inspection of all imported cotton consignments. As of April 5, 2020, GACC no longer requires quality inspections for cotton imports, but will continue to provide quality inspections at the request of importers, and will still carry out phytosanitary inspections as required by Chinese import regulations. Industry representatives report that the new measure will simplify the cotton import procedure and reduce GACC's involvement in commercial disputes. This report provides an unofficial translation of the Announcement.

Summary:

On March 26, 2020, the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) published Announcement No. 43 on Adjusting the Supervision of Imported Cotton (<http://www.customs.gov.cn/customs/302249/2480148/2928835/index.html>), eliminating the requirement for quality inspection of all imported cotton consignments. As of the entry into force of the new measure on April 5, 2020, GACC no longer requires quality inspections for cotton imports, but will continue to provide quality inspections at the request of importers, and will still carry out phytosanitary inspections as required by Chinese import regulations. In recent years, industry had advocated for the elimination of required quality inspections, arguing that the requirement led to delayed customs clearance and more frequent commercial disputes. Industry representatives report that the new measure will simplify the entry procedure and reduce GACC's involvement in commercial issues. This report provides an unofficial translation of the Announcement.

BEGIN TRANSLATION

General Administration of Customs Announcement No. 43 of 2020 (Announcement on Adjusting the Supervision of Imported Cotton)

In order to further promote the reform of "decentralization on management and optimizing services," further improve the business environment at the port, and enhance the level of trade facilitation, the General Administration of Customs has decided to optimize the quality inspection and supervision of imported cotton. The relevant matters are announced as follows:

- I. The current implementation of sampling inspection of imported cotton batch by batch by Customs shall be adjusted in accordance with the application of the enterprise; when necessary, the customs may implement supervision and inspection.
- II. If consignees or agents of imported cotton need a cotton quality certificate, the consignees or agents shall submit an application to Customs. Customs shall perform on-site sampling, laboratory testing, and issue a quality certificate after passing the on-site inspection and quarantine of imported cotton.
- III. If the consignee or agent of imported cotton does not need Customs to issue a cotton quality certificate, Customs will release the cotton directly after passing the on-site inspection and quarantine of the imported cotton.

This announcement comes into effect on April 5, 2020.

General Administration of Customs of China

March 26, 2020

END TRANSLATION

Attachments:

No Attachments.