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Report Highlights:

This report is an addendum to the GAIN report number E42020-0069, EU Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Report, dated October 14, 2020. It outlines Norway's import requirements for food and agricultural products. While not a member of the European Union (but associated with the EU through its membership in the European Economic Area), this report lists the Norwegian import regulations and standards that are not harmonized with the EU or where Norway varies from the EU. The report aims to assist U.S. exporters who wish to export to Norway by providing information on labeling, packaging, permitted ingredients, and other relevant regulations and standards. It also provides contact information of the Norwegian government authorities.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Summary

This Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Subject report has been prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs in The Hague (FAS/The Hague). While the EU FAIRS report provides an overview of food and feed legislation currently in force for the European Union (EU), this report lists the Norwegian import regulations and standards that are not harmonized within the EU or where Norway varies from the EU. The report should therefore be read in conjunction with the GAIN report number <u>E42020-0069</u>: <u>EU FAIRS Report, October 14, 2020</u>. The sections below are numbered to correspond to the numbers in the EU Report.

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DISCLAIMER:

While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, the information provided may not be completely accurate because policies may have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available at the time. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their Norwegian buyers, who are in the best position to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. Final approval of any product is subject to Norwegian regulations and standards as interpreted by border officials at the time of product entry.

Norway is not a member of the European Union (EU), but is linked to the EU through the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement (like Iceland and Liechtenstein). By virtue of the EEA, Norway is practically a part of the EU's single market. Most food laws therefore correspond with EU food law. More information about the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement can be found <u>here</u>.

This report was prepared by FAS/The Hague and lists import regulations and standards that are not harmonized within the EU or where Norway varies with the EU because the issue is not covered by the EEA. For example, national measures still exist for the choice of language, use of stickers, samples, packaging waste management, processing aids, product registration, and food contact materials.

Moreover, Norway has different tariffs for foodstuffs in place than the EU. Most commonly, import tariffs for commodities that are grown and/or produced in Norway are significantly higher than the EU tariffs.

Section I. General Food Laws

Norway

As a member of the EEA, Norway conforms with <u>EU Regulation 178/2002</u> (General Food Law), which is the harmonized regulation setting out the general principles and requirements of the EU's harmonized food law. The Norwegian Food Law is called "Matloven" (Food Act). The <u>Food Act</u> provides the Norwegian regulatory framework for food products and food safety issues, and applies to domestically produced and imported products. Revisions to the Norwegian Food Act and other Norwegian legislation are published on the website <u>https://lovdata.no/</u>. If you need further assistance, please contact FAS/The Hague via <u>AgTheHague@fas.usda.gov</u> or +31-70-312-2299.

Mattilsynet is the name of the Norwegian Food Safety Authority. It is an independent agency of the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Its main objective is to protect human, plant, and animal health. Mattilsynet's role is to draft legislation and provide guidance on existing legislation, perform risk-based inspections, monitor food safety as well as plant, fish and animal health, provide updates on developments in our field, and plan for emergencies. Mattilsynet's contact details can be found in Appendix I of this report while more detailed information is available online at <u>www.mattilsynet.no</u>.

Section II. Labelling Requirements

A. General Requirements

The EU's legislation on general labelling and nutritional labelling is applied in Norway (through EEA incorporation). EU requirements regarding food labelling are laid out in the <u>"Food Information to Consumers (FIC)" Regulation (EC) 1169/2011</u>. The legislation has been implemented in Norway via the following <u>Norwegian Food Information Regulation</u> (Matinformasjonsforskriften).

The FIC legislation has been enforced in Norway since November 2014 and is applicable for all prepackaged food and drink products marketed in the country, including those imported from non-EU countries. In addition, a mandatory nutrition declaration requirement which has been introduced by the FIC regulation went into effect on December 13, 2016. More information, as well as updates on EU labeling rules, can be found online at <u>https://www.usda-eu.org/trade-with-the-eu/eu-import-rules/eu-labeling-requirements/</u>

In addition to the general requirements laid out by the general FIC Regulation, Norway has incorporated three supplementary paragraphs outlining a number of national requirements (Chapter II), which pertain to language requirements (Section {§}2), labelling requirements on the origin of specific food categories (§3), and labeling requirements of genetically modified (GM) foods (§4).

4. Language Requirements

Norwegian is the official language of Norway. Therefore, labels must be in Norwegian or a language that resembles Norwegian (in general, Swedish or Danish), while additional languages are permissible. For additional information, see (§2) of the <u>Norwegian Food Information Regulation</u>.

7. Minimum Durability

Annex X to <u>FIC regulation 1169/2011</u> sets out rules for the indication of the date of minimum durability, use-by date, and date of freezing. The use-by date must be indicated on pre-packed individual portions.

The durability date AND the date of (first) freezing preceded by the words "frozen on" is required on labels of frozen meat, frozen meat preparations, and frozen unprocessed seafood products.

In English: The date of 'minimum durability' shall be preceded by the words:	In Norwegian:
-'Best before'	-'Best før'
-'Best before end'	-'Best før utgangen av'
The 'use by' date shall be preceded by the words:	
-'Use by'	-'Siste forbruksdag'
The date of 'freezing' or the date of 'first freezing' shall be preceded by the words:	
-'Frozen on'	-'Innfrysingsdato'

The Norwegian Government and the food industry have signed <u>an agreement</u> to reduce food waste in Norway by 50 percent by 2030. The Food Waste Program is a joint effort between five Ministries that will cooperate together with the food industry to reach the 2030 target. The reduction target is in line with UN sustainability goal 12.3.

12. Nutrition Declaration

Article 35 of <u>FIC Regulation 1169/2011</u> allows countries to recommend the use of additional forms of expression or presentation on the nutrition declaration. Norway has joined the keyhole labeling scheme. The Keyhole label (Nøkkelhullet) is a voluntary Nordic label for food which is been used in all Nordic countries. In Norway, the Directorate of Health and the Norwegian Food Safety Authority are responsible for this labeling scheme. The Keyhole label has been incorporated in Norwegian law via the <u>Regulation on the voluntary labelling of foodstuffs with the Keyhole label</u> (in Norwegian: Forskrift om frivillig merking med Nøkkelhullet).

Food products that carry the Keyhole label comply with at least one of the following requirements: more whole grain, less saturated fat, less salt, and/or less sugar. Using the Keyhole symbol is voluntary, and it is the manufacturers' responsibility to follow the set of criteria set by the authorities. Mattilsynet is responsible for monitoring compliance with the regulations with respect to the use of the label.



14. Trans Fats

Norway has adopted <u>EU Regulation 2019/649</u> on trans fats, repealing national legislation covering trans fatty acids (in Norwegian: transfettsyrer) in October 2019. The accompanying legislation in Norwegian can be found <u>here</u>.

15. Use of Stickers

Standard U.S. labels do not meet the Norwegian labeling requirements. Packaged food products from the United States are predominantly imported with a standard U.S. label. Products therefore need to be relabeled in Norway, prior to retail sale. Stick-on labels are accepted in Norway.

16. Samples

Norway has no specific legislation concerning importing samples. However, U.S. products that are not approved for export to Norway and are used for research and diagnosis, trade events, and demonstration purposes can, in some cases, be granted an import exemption. More information about shipping these samples to Norway can be found on the website of <u>Mattilsynet</u>. U.S. companies interested in sending samples to Norway should consider contacting USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service office in the Netherlands for guidance by sending an email to <u>agthehague@usda.gov</u>.

B. Other Specific Labeling Requirements

3. Labeling of Genetically Modified Foods

In principle, Norway applies EU rules on Novel Foods and genetically modified organisms (GMOs). It should be highlighted though, that the primary Norwegian legislation - <u>The Gene Technology Act</u> - is more restrictive in the sense that it lays down three additional requirements. GMO products should be ethically justified, provide societal benefits, and be in line with sustainable development. Applications for GMO approval must always be sent to Mattilsynet, which evaluates the application and assesses conformity with the implementing legislation – <u>Naeringsmiddelloven</u>. This requirement also includes products already approved for free release on the EU's internal market.

4. Organic Food Labeling

In Norway, organic food production is regulated by the Organic Regulation which has been drafted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and is based on the EU standard for organic production. The new EU Organic Regulation came into effect on January 1, 2021, and is expected to be adopted later this year by the Norwegian authorities.

DEBIO controls organic products on the market, both domestically produced and imported, on behalf of the Norwegian Food Safety Authority. DEBIO is a member of IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movement) and is well known to Norwegian consumers. Currently, DEBIO's label, the Ø-label, is used for all approved organic foodstuffs. More information is available on the website of DEBIO.



5. Wine, Beer, and Other Alcoholic Beverages

EU article 16 of <u>FIC Regulation 1169/2011</u> states that the declaration of the list of ingredients is not mandatory for beverages containing more than 1.2 percent of alcohol by volume. In practice, however, most Norwegian beer brewers declare the list of ingredients on their labels.

Retail sales of wine and liquor in Norway are restricted to a government controlled agency, Vinmonopolet. Vinmonopolet has exclusive rights to sell beer (with an alcohol content of 4.7 percent or higher), wine, and spirits to the Norwegian consumer. The monopoly is subject to the oversight of the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. For more information about Vinmonopolet, see GAIN report number: <u>NO2021-0002</u> Overview of Wine and Beer Sales by Vinmonopolet. Imports of alcoholic beverages require registration with the Norwegian Customs Authority and are subject to special legislation. It is prohibited to import alcoholic beverages containing more than 60 percent alcohol by volume without special permission into Norway. More information about the import of alcohol beverages can be found on the <u>website of the Norwegian customs</u>.

Section III. Packaging and Container Requirements

B. Packaging Waste Management

Norway has implemented the EU-directive for packaging and packaging waste (<u>Council Directive</u> <u>94/62/EEC</u>) through a covenant between Norwegian Trade and Industry associations and the Ministry of Environment. There are separate agreements for each type of packaging material. These agreements cover packaging such as plastics, beverage cartons and cardboard, corrugated cardboard, glass, and metal. For each of these materials separate recycling and recovery targets have been established.

The central packaging organization in Norway is Grønt Punkt Norge AS (Green Dot Norway), which is a privately owned non-profit company responsible for financing the recovery and recycling of used packaging on behalf of the industry. Importers of foreign packaged goods must pay a license fee for the relevant packaging material to Grønt Punkt Norge. The importer is furthermore responsible for the recycling of the packaging material. More information can be found on their website http://www.grontpunkt.no/.

C. Material in Contact with Food Stuffs

Norway applies the European Food Contact Material (FCM) legislation. An introduction to the EU FCM legislation can be found on the website of the European Commission at: http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/chemicalsafety/foodcontact/documents_en.htm. Norway has adopted the EU's FCM Regulation, and hence is allowed to provisionally authorize the use of certain substances not listed in one of the specific EU directives as described in the GAIN report number E42020-0069: EU FAIRS Report, October 14, 2020.

In addition, countries may also restrict or temporarily prohibit the use of certain materials authorized by the specific directives for reasons of public health. This, however, is a practice that is rarely used. When there is no specific EU legislation in place, countries may furthermore establish national measures to regulate the use of FCMs. Norway has implemented national rules regarding the use of metals in ceramics, among others (see below).

All rules that apply in Norway concerning the use of FCM have been transposed into a national legislation; <u>Matkontaktforskriften</u>. In addition to the general EU FCM requirements, the following FCM limits are specific to Norway (with reference to the corresponding paragraphs):

- Lower limits for cadmium and lead and an additional limit for barium in ceramics (see §§23-26)
- Limits for cadmium and lead articles made of glass, metal and non-ceramic materials without enamel coating (see §26a)

In addition, Norwegian business operators who import or produce FCM are expected to notify the competent authority, Mattilsynet (see §4c). More information about this can be found on <u>the website of Mattilsynet</u>. Furthermore, Norway requires all types of FCM intended for sale to be accompanied by a Declaration of Compliance (see §4a). More information is available online at the following <u>link</u>.

Section IV. Food Additive Regulations

Norway has the same legislation as the EU with respect to food additives, enzymes, and flavorings. <u>EC</u> <u>Regulation 1333/2008</u> harmonizes the use of food additives in the EU and EEA countries, like Norway. The competent authority in Norway for food additives is the Ministry of Health and Care Services.

Section V. Pesticides and Contaminants

A. Pesticides

<u>EU Regulation 1107/2009</u> sets out rules for the authorization of plant protection products and has been incorporated into the EEA agreement. Mattilsynet has overall responsibility for the authorization and regulations concerning plant protection products. Annex I of Regulation 1107/2009 divides Europe into zones, and Norway is part of the northern zone. More information can be found on <u>the website of Mattilsynet</u>.

Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures

A. Certification and Document Requirements

Composite Products

U.S. exports of composite products are continuing to be restricted due to burdensome certification requirements. <u>EC Decision 2007/275</u> defines composite products as foodstuffs intended for human consumption that contain processed products of animal origin and ingredients of plant origin. Composite products include a wide variety of products, including cheesecakes, high protein food supplements, pizza, lasagnas, and more. While the United States is eligible to ship hormone-free meat, dairy products, egg products, and fishery products separately, it is often not possible to ship the composite products that combine these eligible ingredients. The current EU certification requirements for composite products have been implemented by Norway and can be found in <u>E42020-0069</u>: <u>EU FAIRS Report, October 14</u>, 2020. The Norwegian regulation can be found at <u>Forskrift 2008-06-26-726</u> and on the <u>website of Mattilsynet</u>.

U.S. exporters of composite products face, as of April 21, 2021, new documentary requirements for shipment to the European Union. Detailed information about the changing requirements can be found via the following <u>link</u> (i.e., Changing EU Import Conditions for Composite Products). EU Member States will continue accepting the old certificates until October 20, 2021, provided these certificates were signed before August 21, 2021. Norway will follow the new EU requirements but no implementation date has been set as of this report's publication.

B. Inspections

In Norway, Mattilsynet is responsible for inspections. Criteria for laboratories conducting food controls have been harmonized in the EU and EEA, but it is the individual countries' responsibility to designate laboratories that are allowed to perform analyses. A list of European reference laboratories is available via the following <u>link</u>. More information about laboratory checks for food and feed can be found on <u>the website of Mattilsynet</u>.

All consignments to be presented at Norway's border control posts have to undergo documentary checks. Identity and physical checks are carried out at a frequency depending on the risk linked to the specific animals or goods. The criteria to determine and modify the frequency rates are established by the

European Commission. The list of products subject to official controls at border posts was updated with effect from December 14, 2019, in <u>Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2007</u>.

D. Product Registration

Norway has adopted the EU's Regulation on <u>Foods for Specific Groups Regulation 609/2013</u>. The regulation covers certain foods, such as food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacements for weight control.

Exporters of vitamin-enriched foods or nutritional supplements are advised to check for the existence of specific Norwegian registration or notification requirements. The competent authority in Norway is the Ministry of Health and Care Services.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards

A. Novel Foods

Novel foods are regulated in Norway by <u>Regulation 25 July 2017 No. 1215</u>, which implements <u>Regulation (EU) 2015/2283</u> and other EU regulations on novel foods. Novel foods are those foods which have not been consumed in Norway or any of the other EEA countries (including the EU) before May 1997. Food business operators are responsible for verifying whether the food or ingredient they intend to market in the EU is novel or not. Novel Food regulation 2015/2283 provides for a consultation process when the status of a food or food ingredient is unclear. <u>Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/456</u> lists the procedural steps that food business operators must follow to consult with the competent authority of country where they first intend to market their product. The competent authority in Norway is the Norwegian Food Safety Authority (Mattilsynet).

All applications for approval of new food must be sent to the EU Commission. They must be sent electronically via the <u>European Commission's website</u> ("e-submission").

D. Fortified Foods

<u>EU Regulation 1925/2006</u> sets out harmonized rules on the addition of vitamins and minerals to food. However, maximum permitted levels of vitamins and minerals are not yet harmonized and are still subject to national rules. Norway enforces the EU Regulation but has adopted additional national legislation indicating which vitamins or minerals can be added to a particular food category and has established maximum levels applicable for these categories.

In June 2019, the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services adopted a regulation amending the supplementary national provisions on the addition of vitamins, minerals and certain "other substances" in the regulations on adding vitamins, etc. to foods. They are incorporated in the Norwegian Regulation on the Addition of Vitamins and Minerals to Foods (Forskrift om tilsetning av vitaminer, mineraler og visse andre stoffer til næringsmidler). The amendments entered into force on January 1, 2020. This implies that food business operators may add the vitamins and minerals that appear in the positive list to the relevant food categories. However, any addition is required to be done in accordance with the terms and conditions stated in the positive list. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

F. Food supplements

Food supplements are regulated in Norway by Regulation of May 20, 2004 No. 755 on food supplements (Forskrift om kosttilskudd), which implements provisions of Directive (EC) 2002/46 on food

supplements (i.e., definition, requirements for labelling, presentation and advertising, nutrient declaration, lists of permitted vitamins, minerals and forms of them, purity criteria, etc.).

Similar to EU Member States, U.S. manufacturers of gelatin capsules containing fish oil that wish to export to Norway need, in addition to a fishery certificate issued by U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a TSE attestation per Annex V to <u>Regulation</u> (EC) No 999/2001, which must be presented to Norwegian border control officials.

G. Irradiated foodstuffs

Norway has adopted a <u>national law</u> prescribing the treatment of foodstuffs with ionizing radiation. The law first became effective in 2001 and was last updated in 2018. The regulation applies to the production, sales, and imports, etc. of foodstuffs and food ingredients, hereinafter referred to as foodstuffs, treated with ionizing radiation. The competent authority in Norway is the <u>Norwegian</u> <u>Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority</u>.

In English:

If products treated with ionizing radiation, are sold, the words 'irradiated' or 'treated with ionizing radiation' shall appear on the label. In Norwegian:

In Norway the label should mention 'bestrålt' or 'behandlet med ioniserende stråling'.

H. Seafood

The import of animals and animal products, including seafood, is covered by the EEA agreement, and hence Norway is fully harmonized with the EU. Detailed information on shipping seafood and fish products to the EU is provided online at: <u>https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/seafood-commerce-certification/export-certification-european-union</u>.

Section VIII. Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights

A. Trademarks

The Norwegian Industrial Property Office (NIPO) is the official government body responsible for granting patents, designs, trademarks, and copyright. NIPO is a government authority organized under the Ministry of Trade and industry. Exporters wanting to register trademarks/brand names are advised to contact:

The Norwegian Industrial Property Office Sandakerveien 64, 0484 Oslo, Norway Phone: + +47 22 38 73 00 Website: <u>http://www.patentstyret.no/en/</u> Email: <u>post@patentstyret.no</u>

More detailed information on trademarks can be found here.

Section IX. Import Procedures

Information on Tariff Rates and Related Levies

The Customs tariff schedule provides specific information regarding costs of importing particular commodities. The schedule can be viewed on the following website: <u>https://tolltariffen.toll.no/tolltariff</u>.

Additional information is available from the Norwegian Customs Information Centre. More information can also be found in Annex III.

Imports of Animal and Plant Products

All animal and animal-based products (such as meat, milk, fish, eggs, honey, gelatin, and collagen) imported from countries outside the EU/EEA must be approved at one of the Norwegian Food Safety Authority's border control stations before they can enter the market. This also applies to some composite products that consist of both vegetable and animal constituents. A full list of Norway's official border control stations is available via the following <u>link</u>.

The EEA agreement obliges Norway to have the same regulations for controlling the import of these products as the EU. Goods that are approved for import into Norway are thus also approved for the entire EEA area. The veterinary border control is intended to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases from other countries to Norway and the EU / EEA.

More information about imports of products subject to border control can be found on <u>the website of</u> <u>Mattilsynet.</u>

Furthermore, anyone who wishes to import food for resale must be registered with the Norwegian Food Safety Authority. Whereas animal food must be reported in TRACES (TRAde Control an Expert System) before the consignment arrives at a border inspection post approved for this type of item. The notification is made by creating a CHED (Common Health Entry Document) for each consignment. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

Section X. Trade Facilitation

A. Advance Ruling

In Norway, it is possible to obtain Binding Tariff Information (BTI) by contacting the Tax Office and completing the <u>application form</u>. This service is advisable for more complex food products, as it involves closer consideration of the product's composite ingredients and is legally binding. The BTI is valid for six years. With a BTI, both the U.S. exporter and the Norwegian importer know how the goods are classified and what documentation is required. As of October 1, 2019, business operators are required to submit all new applications electronically. More information is available online on the <u>website of the Norwegian customs</u>.

Norwegian customs PO Box 2103 Vika, 0125 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 915 04812 Website: https://www.toll.no/en/

E. Average Release Time for Products - Common Delays

An overview of checks that can be performed at the Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) in Norway concerns the following:

Documentary Check: This is an examination of the original required documents that accompany the consignment based on model certificates according to EU legislation.

Identity Check: This is to ascertain that the products correspond to the information given in the accompanying certificates or documents. All veterinary goods undergo an identity check which is conducted by comparing the seal number of the container with the seal number mentioned on the Health Certificate. If no seal number is mentioned on the Health Certificate, the veterinary authorities will need to open the shipment to conduct the identity check.

Physical Check: This is a check on the product itself, to verify compliance with the food or feed law.

Appendix I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts

Ministry of Agriculture and Food PO Box 8007, 0180 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 22 24 90 90 Email: <u>postmottak@lmd.dep.no</u> Website: <u>https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/lmd/id627/</u>

Norwegian Directorate of Agriculture (Landbruksdirektorat) PO Box 1450 Vika, 0116 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 78 60 60 00 Email: <u>postmottak@landbruksdirektoratet.no</u> Website: <u>https://www.landbruksdirektoratet.no/nb</u>

Ministry of Health and Care Services PO box 8011, 0030 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 22 24 90 90 E-mail: <u>postmottak@hod.dep.no</u> Website: <u>https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/hod/id421/</u>

Food Safety Authority (Mattilsynet) PO Box 383, 2381 Brumunddal, Norway Phone: +47 22 40 00 00 Email: <u>postmottak@mattilsynet.no</u> Website: <u>https://www.mattilsynet.no/</u>

Norwegian Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority P. O. Box 329 Skøyen NO-0213 Oslo Phone: +47 67 16 25 00 Email: <u>dsa@dsa.no</u> Website: <u>https://dsa.no/en</u>

Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts

The Norwegian Industrial Property Office Sandakerveien 64, 0484 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 22 38 73 00 Website: <u>http://www.patentstyret.no/en/</u>

Email: post@patentstyret.no

Norwegian Customs PO Box 2103 Vika, 0125 Oslo, Norway Phone: +47 915 04812 Website: <u>https://www.toll.no/en/</u>

Appendix III. – Import Tariffs for Agricultural Products

One of the most important instruments of agricultural policy for protecting Norwegian food production are import tariffs. Most agricultural commodities produced in Norway are tariff protected. For products such as sugar, rice, tropical fruit, and vegetables outside the Norwegian season, there is no tariff. All developing countries have reduced tariffs on exports of agricultural products to Norway. The 59 least developed countries in the world have duty free access.

Norway imports roughly \$50 billion (NOK 60 billion) in agricultural goods annually. Imports of agricultural goods have tripled between 2000 and 2020. The EU is responsible for almost two-thirds of Norway's imports, 24 percent come from developing countries and 10 percent from other countries.¹

Slightly simplified, the Norwegian import protection for agricultural commodities may be divided into three groups of products with high, medium and low tariff protection:

High Tariff	Medium Tariff	Low/No Tariff
Meat	Chocolate	Beer/soda
Milk	Confectionery	Sugar, coffee, tea
Cheese	Pizza	Rice, corn
Cereals	Potatoes	Bananas
	Tomatoes	Oranges
	Cucumbers	Dog and cat food
	Apples	Various plants and plant products

Imports of goods with high tariffs are limited. However, import quotas with low or zero tariffs on such products are granted through trade agreements (e.g., the WTO, EEA and EFTA trade agreements).

The group with moderate tariffs includes processed agricultural products, among others.

The group with low or no tariffs mainly includes products that are not produced in Norway.

<u>The Agriculture Directorate</u> is responsible for managing the import protection. By administrative decision Norway can lower the tariffs to increase imports in response to market demand, as necessary.²

¹ Norwegian Farmers' Association: <u>https://www.bondelaget.no/importvern/</u>

² Information from: <u>https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/food-fisheries-and-agriculture/jordbruk/innsikt/handel-med-jordbruksprodukt/importvernet-for-jordbruksvarer/id2364459/</u>

Attachments:

No Attachments.