

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Israel Voluntary Quota Updates May 2020

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Post: Tel Aviv

Report Category: Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the Economy, Agricultural Situation, Tomatoes and Products, Agriculture in the News

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Report Highlights:

Updates to Israel's quota allocation policy and new voluntary quotas announced in May 2020.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOAG) and the Ministry of Economy (MOE) are the two ministries within the Israeli government that administer food and agricultural import quotas.

Some products imported to Israel face tariffs if they are not imported under a quota. Israel has trade agreements with 13 countries, including the United States. Under these agreements, Israel is obligated to issue mandatory import quotas for certain agreed upon items. In addition, Israel also issues voluntary ad hoc import quotas for items that are in immediate shortage in the local market. Voluntary quotas are open for imports from all World Trade Organization member countries.

Occasionally, Israel announces changes in its quota allocation policy as well as the new voluntary quotas. Below are three updates published earlier this month:

1. MOE opened a voluntary import quota for processed tomatoes:

HS 20.02.9014 quantity of 600MT

HS 20.02.1010 quantity of 100MT

Applications for this quota were opened for Israeli importers between May 7 and 13. The imports under this voluntary quota are to be made no later than May 31. (This short import period essentially excludes the United States from taking advantage of this quota due to the long shipment time to Israel).

2. MOAG came to an agreement with local fish growers to reduce import customs for all frozen fish by a total of 6 ILS (USD 1.70), this will be executed in two installments (the timeframe for these installments was not published).

3. MOAG announced that all mandatory import licenses ending May 31 can be extended until June 30 subject to a "good justification" provided by the local importer.

Attachments:

No Attachments.