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## **Panama**

**Post:** Panama

### **U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement-Results of the Auctions**

**Report Categories:**

Trade Policy Monitoring

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**Report Highlights:**

This Report reflects the Tariff Rate Quotas for the U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA), for the products: dairy, rice and corn for calendar years 2012 and 2013 and under the auction system administration mechanism. The auctions were held on November 15 and December 3 of 2012 and functioned flawlessly.

**General Information:**

Overall, the initial auctions for the new TPA Tariff Rate Quotas proceeded smoothly. Below are the detailed results of these auctions, which were held on November 15 and December 3, 2012.

**I. Tariff Rate Quotas for Calendar Year 2012, under the AUCTION system:**

The Commission for Tariff Quota Licenses announced the Tariff Rate Quota for the TPA between USA and Panama, for the products: dairy, rice and corn for calendar year 2012, and under the auction system administration mechanism. The bidding was held on November 15 of 2012, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The tenders negotiated were:

**DAIRY PRODUCTS:**

H.T.S. Code	Product	Volume sold	Price (U.S.\$)	Seller
0402.10.93	Non-Fat Dry Milk	270 M.T.	3,880.00 HH 3,670.00 LH	Olam International PS International
0402.29.92	Whole Milk Powder	53 M.T.	4,850.00	PS International

The buyers were Nestlé Panamá, S.A., Industrias Lacteas, S.A. and Sociedad de Alimentos de Primera, S.A.

**RICE:**

H.T.S. Code	Product	Volume sold	Price (U.S.\$)	Seller
1006.10.90	Rough Rice	175,266 QQ or 7,950 M.T.	18.40	Bunge Central America, LTD.
1006.30.90	Milled Rice	92,125 QQ or 4,178.76 M.T.	44.00	The Rice Company Trading Corporation

QQ = Quintales equals a Hundredweight

The rice milling industry and supermarkets in the country purchased the rice. First, the auction of sellers was held, and then the auction of buyers was done lot by lot.

Note that these volumes have until December 31, 2012 to enter the country at zero percent (0%) tariff and are for product of U.S. origin only.

**CORN:**

The auction for corn buyers was declared unfilled. The only seller who participated was Bunge Central America, LTD. Therefore, the TRQ for corn for year 2012 was not awarded.

## II. Tariff Rate Quotas for Calendar Year 2013, under the AUCTION system:

The Commission for Tariff Quota Licenses announced the Tariff Rate Quota for the TPA between USA and Panama, for the products: dairy, rice and corn for calendar year 2013, and under the auction system administration mechanism. The bidding was held December 3, 2012, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The tenders negotiated were:

### DAIRY PRODUCTS:

H.T.S. Code	Product	Volume sold	Price (U.S.\$)	Seller
0402.10.93	Non-Fat Dry Milk	555 M.T.	3,770.00 - L.H.	PS International
			3,720.00 - M.H.	Olam International
			3,898.00 - H.H.	
0402.29.92	Whole Milk Powder	55 M.T.	4,250.00 - N.I.	Ecoval Dairy Trade

2,201 M.T. of Non-Fat Dry Milk were not negotiated. Therefore, another auction must be convened within 45 days.

The buyers were Refrescos Nacionales, S.A.; Franquicias Panamenas, S.A.; Panamena de Helados, S.A.; Nestle Panama, S.A.; Industrias Lacteas, S.A.; and Sociedad de Alimentos de Primera, S.A.

### RICE:

H.T.S. Code	Product	Volume sold	Price (U.S.\$)	Seller
1006.10.90	Rough Rice	185,782 QQ or 8,427 M.T.	17.70	Bunge Central America, LTD.
1006.30.90	Milled Rice	99,074.72 QQ or 4,494 M.T.	32.75	The Rice Company Trading Corporation

The rice milling industry and national supermarkets purchased the rice.

### CORN:

Eighty percent of the volume of corn was assigned to historical importers (246,129 M.T.) and 20 percent to new importers of corn (61,532 M.T). Negotiations for auctioning the purchase of corn were opened since December 3, 2012 and importers can request a bid until November 29, 2013.

Note that these volumes of dairy, rice and corn have from January 1, 2013 until December 31, 2013 to enter the country, at zero percent (0%) tariff and are for product of U.S. origin only.

**Source: Department of Operations, BAISA.**