

Issued: May 29, 1998.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-343]

Annual Statistical Report on U.S. Imports of Textiles and Apparel

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Discontinuation of reports and termination of investigation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 26, 1998.

SUMMARY: In June 1993, the Commission initiated investigation No. 332-343 for the purpose of compiling and publishing three annual statistical reports on U.S. imports of textiles and apparel covered by the Multifiber Arrangement (MFA). Pursuant to this investigation, the notice of which was published in the **Federal Register** of June 23, 1993 (58 F.R. 34064), the Commission published annual reports on U.S. imports of textiles and apparel for the years 1992, 1993, and 1994. In July 1996, after receiving numerous requests from the public for the report, the Commission decided to continue publishing the reports for three additional years, the notice of which was published in the **Federal Register** of July 24, 1996 (61 F.R. 38472), after which it would review the question of whether to continue issuing such reports. The Commission published the last of these reports in April 1998.

The Commission has decided to discontinue this series of reports and to terminate the investigation. The import data published by the Commission in these reports are now readily available on the Internet server of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA), at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>. OTEXA also provides the data on CD-ROMs, which are prepared on a monthly basis. For information on subscribing to the CD-ROM service, please call OTEXA at 202-482-3400 or write the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Textiles and Apparel, Room 3100, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Information on the Commission's most recent report may be obtained from Robert W. Wallace, Office of Industries (202-205-3458). The media should contact

Margaret O'Laughlin, Public Affairs Officer, Office of External Relations (202-205-1819). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on 202-205-1810.

The Commission's report, Annual Statistical Report on U.S. Imports of Textiles and Apparel: 1997 (USITC publication 3102, April 1998), is available on the Commission's Internet server at <http://www.usitc.gov>. A printed copy may be requested by writing the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC, 20436, calling them at 202-205-1809, or sending them a fax at 202-205-2104.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 332-350 and 332-351]

Monitoring of U.S. Imports of Tomatoes; Monitoring of U.S. Imports of Peppers

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Publication of monitoring reports in 1998.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 22, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, Timothy McCarty (202-205-3324) or Lowell Grant (202-205-3312), Agricultural and Forest Products Division, Office of Industries, or for information on legal aspects, William Gearhart (202-205-3091), Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission. Hearing impaired persons can obtain information on these studies by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

Background

Section 316 of the North American Free-Trade Agreement Implementation Act (NAFTA Implementation Act), 19 U.S.C. 3381, directs the Commission to monitor imports of fresh or chilled tomatoes (HTS heading 0702.00) and fresh or chilled peppers, other than chili peppers (HTS subheading 0709.60.00), until January 1, 2009, as if a request for such monitoring had been made under section 202(d) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2252(d)), for purposes of

expediting an investigation concerning provisional relief under section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974. In response, the Commission instituted investigation No. 332-350, Monitoring of U.S. Imports of Tomatoes (59 F.R. 1763) and investigation No. 332-351, Monitoring of U.S. Imports of Peppers (59 F.R. 1762).

Although section 316 of the NAFTA Implementation Act does not require the Commission to publish reports on the results of its monitoring activities, the Commission has endeavored to do so in those years in which it was not conducting an investigation under other statutory authority with respect to such products. Thus, no monitoring reports were published in 1996 when the Commission conducted investigation No. TA-201-66, Fresh Tomatoes and Bell Peppers (61 F.R. 13875), under section 202(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2252(b)); and antidumping investigation No. 731-TA-747 (preliminary), Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico (61 F.R. 15968), under section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)). The Commission made a negative injury determination in the section 201 investigation on July 2, 1996; the Commission's antidumping investigation was suspended, effective November 1, 1996, following the signing of a suspension agreement.

The Commission plans to publish both monitoring reports in September 1998.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. H-372]

RIN 1218-AB58

Metalworking Fluids Standards Advisory Committee: Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Metalworking Fluids Standards Advisory Committee: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Metalworking Fluids Standards Advisory Committee (MWFSAC), established under section 7 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to advise the Secretary of Labor on appropriate actions to protect