

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-21927 Filed 8-13-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-560-803]

Notice of Postponement of Time Limit for Antidumping Duty Investigation: Extruded Rubber Thread from Indonesia

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Import Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 14, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Russell Morris, Eric Greynolds, or Stephanie Moore at (202) 482-2876, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Postponement

On April 20, 1998, the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated an antidumping duty investigation of extruded rubber thread from Indonesia. On August 3, 1998, in accordance with section 351.205(e) of the Department's regulations (62 FR 27295, May 19, 1997), the petitioner made a timely request that the Department postpone its preliminary determination. As we find no compelling reasons to deny this request, we are postponing the preliminary determination in this investigation to no later than October 27, 1998, pursuant to section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

This notice is published pursuant to section 733(c)(2) of the Act, and 351.205(f).

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-201-820]

Amendment to the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Amendment to the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce and producers/exporters of fresh tomatoes from Mexico signed an amendment to the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico. The amendment establishes new reference prices and provides for enhanced enforcement of the Suspension Agreement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 21, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Taverman at (202) 482-0161 or Judith Wey Rudman at (202) 482-0192; Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 28, 1996, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") and the producers/exporters of fresh tomatoes from Mexico signed the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico ("the Agreement") and, on November 1, 1996, the Agreement was published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 56618). Following consultations with producers/exporters of fresh tomatoes from Mexico and with members of the domestic industry, on August 6, 1998, the Department accepted an amendment to the Agreement. The amendment establishes a second reference price and the time periods during which each reference price is applicable. In addition, the amendment establishes documentation requirements as a condition of release of subject tomatoes beyond the Customs port of entry and provides that the Department may notify producer/exporter trade organizations composed of signatory parties of any sales that may have been made at prices inconsistent with the Agreement. Finally, the amendment makes other minor changes to the Agreement to facilitate the Department's administration of the Agreement. The text of the amendment is attached to this notice.

Additional producers/exporters have signed the Agreement as amended. The additional signatories and the revisions provided for in the amendment ensure that the Agreement continues to eliminate completely the injurious effect of imports of tomatoes from Mexico, and that the Agreement continues to be in the public interest.

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Amendment to the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes From Mexico

Consistent with the requirements of section 734(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, to eliminate completely the injurious effect of exports to the United States and to prevent the suppression or undercutting of price levels of domestic tomatoes, the Department of Commerce (the Department) and signatory producers/exporters of subject merchandise agree to amend the Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes From Mexico (the Agreement) as indicated below. All other provisions of the Agreement remain in force and apply to this Amendment.

1. In order to establish a second reference price which would be applicable during the July 1 to October 22 time period and to revise the reference price applicable at all other times of the year, the parties amend the Agreement to add the following after the third paragraph of Appendix A:

The Department and the signatory producers/exporters agree to adjust the reference price applicable to imports into the United States between July 1 and October 22 of any given year. The Department has calculated a reference price for this period by calculating a ratio of Mexican tomato import prices to domestic tomato prices. The ratio consists of weighted-average prices for the United States and Mexico based on data reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service. As calculated pursuant to this methodology, the reference price for the July 1 through October 22 period will be \$0.172 per pound (equivalent to \$4.30 for a 25-pound box).

Effective October 23, 1998, the Department and the signatory producers/exporters have agreed to adjust the reference price applicable to imports into the United States between October 23 and June 30 of any given year. The Department has calculated a reference price for this period by calculating a ratio of Mexican tomato import prices to domestic tomato prices.