

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Office of the Secretary****Determination of Total Amounts of Fiscal Year 2016 WTO Tariff-Rate Quotas for Raw Cane Sugar and Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses****AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (the Secretary) announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 (October 1, 2015–September 30, 2016) in-quota aggregate quantity of raw cane sugar at 1,117,195 metric tons raw value (MTRV). The Secretary also announces the establishment of the FY 2016 in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 132,000 MTRV.

DATES: *Effective Date:* June 15, 2015.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., AgStop 1021, Washington, DC 20250–1021; by telephone (202) 720–2916; by fax (202) 720–0876; or by email souleymane.diaby@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota tariff-rate quota (TRQ) amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of up to 1,117,195 MTRV of raw cane sugar may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for

consumption during FY 2016. This is the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements. I have further determined that an aggregate quantity of 132,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2016. This quantity includes the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements, 22,000 MTRV, of which 20,344 MTRV is established for any sugars, syrups and molasses, and 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. An additional amount of 110,000 MTRV is added to the specialty sugar TRQ for a total of 111,656 MTRV.

Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year. The FY 2016 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 9, 2015. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche will open on October 23, 2015, and be equal to 27,500 MTRV. The remaining tranches will each be equal to 27,500 MTRV, with the third opening on January 8, 2016; the fourth, on April 8, 2016; and the fifth, on July 8, 2016. The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

* Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.

Dated: June 11, 2015.

Michael T. Scuse,

Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

[FR Doc. 2015–14544 Filed 6–12–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–10–P**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Office of the Secretary****Increase in Fiscal Year 2015 Refined Sugar Tariff-Rate Quota****AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture is providing notice of an increase in the fiscal year (FY) 2015 refined sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ) of 20,000 metric tons raw value (MTRV), all of which will be reserved for specialty sugars.

DATES: *Effective:* June 15, 2015.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., AgStop 1021, Washington, DC 20250–1021; by telephone (202) 720–2916; by fax (202) 720–0876.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture is providing notice of an increase in the FY 2015 (October 1, 2014–September 30, 2015) refined sugar TRQ with all 20,000 MTRV reserved for specialty sugar. Imports of all specialty sugar will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis. This additional tranche is reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources. The sucrose content, by weight in the dry state, of such sugar must have a polarimeter reading of 99.5 degrees or more. Entries of specialty sugar under this additional tranche will be permitted beginning July 10, 2015. The previously announced tranche of 22,050 MTRV opening on July 10, 2015, will remain unchanged.

On September 4, 2014, the Office of the Secretary announced the establishment of the in-quota quantity of the FY 2015 refined sugar TRQ at 127,000 MTRV. (79 FR 52625) This amount included the minimum level to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements (22,000 MTRV of which 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugars) and an additional 105,000 MTRV for specialty sugars. Pursuant to Additional U.S. Note 5 to Chapter 17 of the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) and Section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, I hereby give notice of an increase in the refined sugar TRQ of 20,000 MTRV. With this increase, the overall FY 2015 refined sugar TRQ will be 147,000 MTRV, of which 126,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugars.

Dated: May 29, 2015.

Alexis M. Taylor,

Acting Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

[FR Doc. 2015–14543 Filed 6–12–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–10–P**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Rural Business-Cooperative Service****Inviting Applications for Rural Cooperative Development Grants****AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.