

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

Inventory of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Regulations Notified

Addendum

PORTUGAL

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fixed vegetable oils, fluid or solid, crude, refined or purified (15.07)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Consumer demand in Portugal is mainly for olive oil and groundnut oil; consequently domestic demand for other vegetable oils and for oilseeds for manufacturing them is fairly small.

It is nevertheless true that under Portugal's legislation, for reasons of public health, oils intended for use as food must be approved by the authorities, which decide whether or not their characteristics meet the legal requirements. The measure is designed in particular to avoid mixtures and fraud with respect to olive oil, in order to maintain purity and high quality.

This health restriction has recently been relaxed to a great extent, and the long list of oils authorized for direct consumption now includes in particular oil of olives, groundnuts, olive residues, acorns, grape pips, cottonseed, safflower seed, tomato seed, sunflower seed, and maize. In addition to these oils, the use of coconut oil, palm oil, palm-kernel oil and soya oil is permitted in the manufacture of margarine.

The number of permitted oils has been increased in recent years to take account of the requirements of industry and trade. Authorization is granted on a case-by-case basis.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Vegetables and fruit, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid, with or without sugar, whether or not containing salt, spices or mustard (20.01)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

(Applies also to 20.02, 20.03, 20.04, 20.05, 20.06 and 20.07.)

The import prohibition on foodstuffs containing saccharine dates from a long-standing measure which was revised by Legislative Decree No. 47.531 of 9 February 1967; this Legislative Decree prohibits the inclusion of saccharine in foodstuffs. This prohibition is justified by the toxic effects which can result from continuing consumption of this product and is therefore consistent with the provisions of Article XX(b) of the General Agreement.

The fact that the Portuguese health authorities allow saccharine in powder or tablet form to be imported under licence does not appear contrary to the regulations concerning inclusion of this product in foodstuffs. The differentiation can be accounted for by the fact that pure saccharine, sold exclusively by dispensing chemists, is a product intended for therapeutic use and is sold under supervision. On the other hand, its inclusion in foodstuffs could adversely affect public health, because in this case it is difficult for the health authorities to exercise supervision.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Vegetables, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid (20.02)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit preserved by freezing, containing added sugar (20.03)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product:	Country or group	Countries indicating
(BTN)	maintaining measures:	an interest:
Fruit, fruit-peel and parts of plants, preserved by sugar (drained, glacé or crystallized) (20.04)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Jam, fruit jellies, marmalades, fruit purée and fruit pastes being cooked, preparations, whether or not containing added sugar (20.05)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit otherwise prepared or preserved, whether or not containing added sugar or spirit (20.06)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit juices (including grape must) and vegetable juices whether or not containing added sugar, but unfermented and not containing spirit (20.07)	Portugal	United States

(a) Description:

HS

Foodstuffs containing saccharine are prohibited.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 20.01.