

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/4712

31 October 1978

Special Distribution

Original: French

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS APPLIED BY SWITZERLAND

Twelfth Annual Report by the Government of Switzerland under Paragraph 4 of the Protocol for the Accession of Switzerland (1977)

Paragraph 4 of the Protocol for the Accession of Switzerland to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade provides that Switzerland shall furnish annually to the CONTRACTING PARTIES a report on the measures maintained consistently with its reservation "with regard to the application of the provisions of Article XI of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to permit it to apply import restrictions pursuant to Title II of the Federal Law of 3 October 1951 as well as pursuant to Article 11 of the Federal Decree of 28 September 1956/ 28 September 1962 and to the Swiss legislation concerning alcohol and wheat based on Articles 32 bis and 23 bis of the Federal Constitution".

The present report covers the period from 1 January 1977 to 31 December 1977.

A. Legal basis of the Swiss restrictions

There was no amendment during the period under consideration to the provisions relating to the restrictions applied by Switzerland to agricultural products. These provisions are governed by the following laws:

- (1) Federal Law on the Improvement of Agriculture and the Maintenance of the Peasant Population (Agriculture Act), 3 October 1951;
- (2) Federal Law on Alcohol, 21 June 1932/25 October 1949;
- (3) Federal Decree on External Economic Measures of 28 June 1972;
- (4) Federal Law on National Wheat Supplies (Wheat Act), 20 March 1959.

B. Products subject to quantitative restrictions

In 1977, quantitative restrictions concerned the same products as in 1976.

C. Types of quantitative restrictions

There was no change either in the systems of restrictions or in the basis of their operation. Those systems were described in detail in document L/3250. They are also described in part in document MTN/3E/DOC/2/Add.22.

D. Application of restrictions during the period under consideration

There was no change in 1977 in the system of quantitative restrictions applied by Switzerland. Imports in general were maintained at very much the same level as the previous year, as may be seen from the tables in Annexes I and II.

The various individual sectors call for the following comments:

1. Cereals and feeding stuffs

The domestic harvest of bread wheat fell short of the estimates in regard to both quantity and quality. As a consequence, imports were above the level of the two preceding years.

As regards feed grains and fodder, imports declined slightly despite a smaller domestic harvest than in the preceding year.

2. Livestock and meat

On average, imports of livestock and meat reached the same level as in 1975 and 1976.

3. Dairy products

To check the increase in domestic production, a system of individual milk quotas was introduced on 1 May 1977. As a result, and for the first time, total production in the period covered by the present report did not exceed the level of the preceding year.

Imports of butter and lactic caseine increased substantially (· 16.2 per cent and 37.0 per cent respectively); imports of whole milk remained stable.

4. Eggs in shell

Egg imports continued to increase slightly.

5. Vegetables

After a slight decline in the preceding year, imports of fresh vegetables returned to the 1977 level. Whereas imports of food potatoes remained stable, those of seed potatoes reached a record level because of the need to replace plants affected by a virus. Imports of potato products and seedling onions for planting declined somewhat as compared to 1976.

6. Fruit and fruit preparations

Imports of apples and pears doubled as against 1976 and came close to the level reached in the two preceding years. The increase in imports of fresh berries continued in 1977, while stone fruit imports again declined.

7. Cut flowers

Continuing the trend recorded for several years past, imports of cut flowers again increased (+ 6.5 per cent) and reached a record level in 1977.

8. Wine and grape juice

Again in 1977, the harvest was larger than in the preceding year so that, despite a slight rise in consumption, stocks again increased. Imports of wine in cask nevertheless increased somewhat (+ 88,000 hl). The volume of imports of bottled white wine declined by only 4,000 hl.

9. Ethyl alcohol

Imports decreased substantially because of the high level of stocks at the beginning of the period under review.

ANNEX I

Trend of Swiss Imports of Agricultural Products
Subject to Quantitative Restrictions

	<u>1975</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1976</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1977</u> <u>Tons</u>
1. <u>Cereals and feeding stuffs</u>			
(a) <u>Bread wheat</u>	220,113	251,068	265,653
(b) <u>Flour (including hard wheat meal)</u>	1,688	53	223
(c) <u>Feedgrains and feeding stuffs</u>	1,263,952	1,183,280	1,030,227
(d) <u>Grain for sowing</u>	6,956	5,149	6,719
2. <u>Livestock and meat</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Head</u>
(a) <u>Dairy cattle and live-stock for breeding</u>	2,238	2,074	2,284
(b) <u>Cattle for slaughter</u>	6,622	5,966	5,905
	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Tons</u>
(c) <u>Meat and animal fats</u>	17,004	17,695	17,767
(d) <u>Meat preparations and preserved meat</u>	5,845	6,152	6,365
3. <u>Dairy products</u>			
(a) <u>Fresh butter</u>	10,358	9,785	11,371
(b) <u>Whole milk powder</u>	1,899	1,755	1,704
(c) <u>Casein</u>	352	365	500
4. <u>Eggs in shell</u>	22,535	22,607	23,075

	<u>1975</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1976</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1977</u> <u>Tons</u>
5. <u>Vegetables</u>			
(a) <u>Fresh vegetables</u>	151,363	147,978	151,072
(b) <u>Food potatoes</u>	4,459	5,998	5,989
(c) <u>Potato products</u>	301	215	183
(d) <u>Seed potatoes</u>	1,240	1,392	11,582
(e) <u>Seedling onions for planting</u>	119	187	167
6. <u>Fruit and fruit preparations</u>			
(a) <u>Apples and pears</u>	31,154	13,392	28,380
(b) <u>Stone fruit (except peaches)</u>	14,748	11,709	10,546
(c) <u>Fresh berries</u>	12,329	14,335	15,369
(d) <u>Apples and pears for cider and perry</u>	52	-	178
(e) <u>Pectin</u>	171	164	155
(f) <u>Apple juice and pear juice</u>	48	27	51
7. <u>Cut flowers, 1 May to 25 October</u>	1,370	1,564	1,665
	<u>'000 hl.</u>	<u>'000 hl.</u>	<u>'000 hl.</u>
8. <u>Wine and grape juice</u>			
(a) <u>Wine in casks</u>	1,617	1,546	1,634
(b) <u>White wine in bottle</u>	88	52	48
(c) <u>Grape juice</u>	86	81	78
9. <u>Ethyl alcohol</u>	211	231	170

ANNEX II

Provenance of Imports of Certain Products Subject to
Quota Restriction

1. Cut flowers imported between 1 May and 25 October

	<u>1975</u> kgs.	<u>1976</u> kgs.	<u>1977</u> kgs.
Federal Republic of Germany	7,304	5,240	5,589
France	18,124	14,463	23,705
Italy	512,074	546,413	544,233
Netherlands	592,441	724,626	778,534
Denmark	6,473	6,271	3,957
Portugal	5,514	5,929	9,946
Spain	74,077	63,971	62,383
Romania	1,548	-	-
Bulgaria	5,479	1,962	4,321
Israel	13,012	14,771	39,256
Thailand	41,455	43,616	38,548
Singapore	16,218	17,117	17,295
United States	-	3,760	5,721
Brazil	4,460	1,587	1,610
Colombia	53,411	85,300	88,660
Australia	3,584	4,716	4,942
Ivory Coast	941	2,107	3,191
Republic of South Africa	11,321	17,222	21,181
Miscellaneous	2,776	4,207	12,297
Total:	1,370,212	1,563,278	1,665,369

2. Salami and the like

Federal Republic of Germany	89,489	76,642	76,371
France	131,487	129,234	133,932
Italy	2,841,883	2,927,266	2,979,958
Belgium-Luxembourg	2,748	20	-
Austria	826	215	-
United Kingdom	-	1,195	-

	<u>1975</u> kgs.	<u>1976</u> kgs.	<u>1977</u> kgs.
Spain	6,209	2,180	6,929
Hungary	60,476	61,180	60,135
Romania	4,503	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,863	1,616	425
Total:	3,139,507	3,199,548	3,257,750
3. <u>Tinned ham</u>			
Netherlands	25,812	24,911	22,359
Denmark	67,181	63,443	59,610
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,743	-	3,865
Spain	7,486	7,445	3,622
Czechoslovakia	10,660	11,000	11,000
Romania	9,655	15,120	14,761
Miscellaneous	454	784	24
Total:	122,991	122,703	115,241
	<u>hl.</u>	<u>hl.</u>	<u>hl.</u>
4. <u>Wine in casks</u>			
(a) <u>Red wine</u>			
France	316,948	245,900	257,559
Italy	469,600	504,819	503,267
Austria	1,534	1,303	1,256
Portugal	140,632	58,944	126,643
Spain	413,322	435,450	445,482
Greece	20,897	25,866	15,697
Turkey	11,851	10,127	24,547
Hungary	12,249	17,740	18,456
Bulgaria	1,570	462	312
Yugoslavia	10,352	16,458	18,983
Cyprus	6,671	13,678	13,452

	<u>1975</u> hl.	<u>1976</u> hl.	<u>1977</u> hl.
Tunisia	5,166	8,763	3,188
Algeria	79,716	79,678	83,198
Morocco	12,035	5,280	3,212
Republic of South Africa	4,370	1,609	2,950
Egypt	-	204	-
Argentina	14,374	10,866	12,654
Chile	4,491	2,582	1,355
Miscellaneous	163	738	97
Total:	1,525,941	1,440,467	1,532,308

(b) White wine

Federal Republic of Germany	1,996	1,967	1,777
France	9,283	10,603	12,938
Italy	10,568	17,592	9,865
Austria	143	221	341
Spain	52,365	55,692	49,337
Hungary	-	46	-
Egypt	-	-	-
Greece	-	3,105	4,424
Miscellaneous	50	37	2,855
Total:	74,406	89,263	81,527

	<u>1975</u> Tons	<u>1976</u> Tons	<u>1977</u> Tons
5. <u>Eggs in shell</u>			
Federal Republic of Germany	561	1,322	1,038
France	2,108	1,927	1,673
Netherlands	9	235	94
Belgium-Luxembourg	912	850	384
United Kingdom	65	500	121
Sweden	72	-	-
Finland	3,909	3,205	3,182
Spain	567	2,933	3,372
East Germany	1,703	-	-
Poland	4,934	2,197	3,813
Czechoslovakia	2,758	1,609	1,568
Hungary	3,179	4,492	5,963
Romania	1,035	802	736
Republic of South Africa	698	1,108	943
Israel	-	1,419	187
Miscellaneous	25	8	1
Total:	22,535	22,607	23,075