

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
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RESTRICTED

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CANADA - IMPORT QUOTA FOR CHICKEN

Notification under Article XI

The following communication, dated 29 October 1979, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Canada.

I have the honour to advise you that on 19 October the Canadian Government announced a global import quota for chicken, chicken capons and parts and products effective 22 October. This step is being taken in accordance with paragraph 2(c) of Article XI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to support the Canadian supply management programme operated by the Canadian Chicken Marketing Agency, which was established under the 1972 Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act.

The quota will cover imports of "chicken, chicken capons, live or eviscerated, parts and products manufactured wholly thereof" (ex BTN numbers 01.05, 02.02 and 16.02). Old roosters and "spent fowl" commonly called "stewing hens" are excluded from the quota coverage. Imports of the products covered by the quota will be subject to individual import licences. Young laying hens ranging from 10 to 20 weeks of age for table egg production or hatchery supplies will not be subject to the global quota but will be subject to individual import licensing for surveillance purposes. Imports of products under the global quota for non-commercial use, not to exceed 20 pounds (9.0 kilograms); baby chickens; and chickens contained in a jar or can will be subject to open general licence, not requiring prior application or quantitative limitation.

Quota amounts will be determined annually. For the period 22 October 1979 to 31 December 1979, the quota will amount, in terms of eviscerated weight equivalent, to 8,750,000 lbs. or 3,969 metric tons (equivalent to an annual quota level of 45,000,000 lbs.). For calendar years 1980 and 1981, which represent the remainder of the 1979-81 transition period, the quota will be 48,500,000 lbs. (or 21,999 metric tons) and 52,000,000 lbs. (or 23,587 metric tons) eviscerated weight equivalent respectively. Licences may be used for the importation of any

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product covered by the import quota. Product weights will be converted to eviscerated weight equivalent using the following factors:

live chicken	75 per cent
eviscerated chickens	100 per cent
boneless chicken	200 per cent

Imports within the quota may come from any country except Rhodesia.

To ensure orderly marketing, quota amounts will be apportioned in line with market requirements, commencing with the date of quota implementation. Import licences will be allocated to importers on the basis of their historical performance. Provision will be made to accommodate new entrants. Consideration will be given to licence applications for shipment in transit at the time of the quota implementation provided satisfactory documentation is presented.

After 1981, the quota will be set at a level equivalent to 6.3 per cent of the previous year's production. This proportion reflects the proportion of the annual average of import volumes to production in the 1975-78 period.

Public notice of future changes will be given in the Canadian Gazette.