

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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IMPORT RESTRICTIONS APPLIED BY SWITZERLAND

Fourteenth Annual Report by the Government of Switzerland under Paragraph 4 of the Protocol for the Accession of Switzerland (1978)

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 1979 to 31 December 1979.

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 1979, quantitative restrictions concerned the same products as in 1978.

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 1979 in the system of quantitative restrictions applied by Switzerland. Imports in general reached 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 was quantitatively the same but qualitatively better than that of the preceding year, with a resulting decline in imports.

Imports of feed grains and fodder remained at the level of previous years in spite of an improvement in the domestic harvest.

2. Livestock and meat

The number of head of dairy cattle and livestock for breeding imported in 1979 was slightly lower than in previous years.

The modest level of imports of livestock for slaughter, of meat and of meat preparations and preserved meat reflects the serious domestic-supply situation, which must be seen as related also to the measures taken in the dairy sector.

3. Dairy products

Quota measures for controlling domestic milk production were applied more strictly in 1979. This, however, did not yet prevent an increase that year in production, which was used for making butter. As a result, imports of butter declined.

4. Eggs in shell

Imports of fresh eggs remained at the level of 1978. Domestic production also remained stable.

5. Vegetables

After an exceptional year (1978), imports of fresh vegetables returned to the level of earlier years. The same applies to imports of potatoes.

6. Fruit

The domestic crop of apples and pears, and of stone fruit was larger than that of 1978. It set a record in the cider fruit sector, resulting in lower imports of these products.

7. Cut flowers

The volume of cut flowers imported increased once again, while domestic production had to contend with greatly increased costs owing to higher prices for heating oil.

8. Wine and grape juice

In 1979, imports of wine in casks were higher than in 1978. Imports of bottled white wine remained stable, while those of grape juice continued to rise.

9. Ethyl alcohol

After the record level reached the year before, imports of ethyl alcohol decreased in 1979.

ANNEX I

Trend of Swiss Imports of Agricultural Products
Subject to Quantitative Restrictions

	<u>1977</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1978</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1979</u> <u>Tons</u>
1. <u>Cereals and feeding stuffs</u>			
(a) <u>Bread wheat</u>	265,653	274,800	207,248
(b) <u>Flour</u> (including hard wheat meal)	223	63	80
(c) <u>Feedgrains and feeding stuffs</u>	1,030,227	1,106,186	1,025,983
(d) <u>Grain for sowing</u>	6,719	6,577	4,934
2. <u>Livestock and meat</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Head</u>
(a) <u>Dairy cattle and livestock for breeding</u>	2,284	2,189	1,961
(b) <u>Cattle for slaughter</u>	5,905	8,147	5,872
	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Tons</u>
(c) <u>Meat and animal fats</u>	17,767	24,189	19,818
(d) <u>Meat preparations and preserved meat</u>	6,365	6,811	6,863
3. <u>Dairy products</u>			
(a) <u>Fresh butter</u>	11,371	14,950	8,201
(b) <u>Whole milk powder</u>	1,794	1,617	1,642
(c) <u>Casein</u>	500	316	227
4. <u>Eggs in shell</u>	23,075	24,265	24,218

	<u>1977</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1978</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1979</u> <u>Tons</u>
5. <u>Vegetables</u>			
(a) <u>Fresh vegetables</u>	151,072	157,418	149,949
(b) <u>Food potatoes</u>	5,989	22,693	4,156
(c) <u>Potato products</u>	183	406	312
(d) <u>Seed potatoes</u>	11,582	5,933	2,529
(e) <u>Seedling onions for planting</u>	167	67	43
6. <u>Fruit and fruit preparations</u>			
(a) <u>Apples and pears</u>	28,380	18,818	12,682
(b) <u>Stone fruit (except peaches)</u>	10,546	15,964	13,926
(c) <u>Fresh berries</u>	15,369	17,098	16,872
(d) <u>Apples and pears for cider and perry</u>	178	2	26
(e) <u>Pectin</u>	155	157	166
(f) <u>Apple juice and pear juice</u>	51	18	7
7. <u>Cut flowers, 1 May to 25 October</u>	1,976	2,287	2,432
	<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>	1,634	1,577	1,656
(b) <u>White wine in bottles</u>	48	47	48
(c) <u>Grape juice</u>	78	136	153
9. <u>Ethyl alcohol</u>	170	269	96

ANNEX II

Provenance of Imports of Certain Products Subject to
Quota Restriction

1. Cut flowers imported between 1 May and 25 October

	<u>1977</u> kgs.	<u>1978</u> kgs.	<u>1979</u> kgs.
Federal Republic of Germany	6,778	7,399	10,774
France	57,109	38,707	42,810
Italy	567,306	649,632	631,184
Netherlands	942,167	1,055,280	1,071,738
Denmark	3,957	4,600	4,065
Portugal	9,946	4,799	7,069
Spain	127,173	180,804	181,469
Bulgaria	4,321	2,955	3,699
Israel	62,085	90,261	84,455
Thailand	38,548	50,593	53,504
Malaysia	451	837	-
Singapore	17,295	20,909	24,532
United States	5,721	11,911	10,327
Brazil	1,610	-	6,311
Colombia	88,660	92,963	119,313
Australia	4,942	4,820	11,439
New Zealand	883	1,614	2,586
Ivory Coast	3,191	2,886	-
Kenya	12,098	33,600	41,300
Republic of South Africa	21,181	31,324	42,564
Miscellaneous	1,067	1,354	2,438
<u>Total</u>	1,976,489	2,287,248	2,351,577

2. Salami and the like

Federal Republic of Germany	76,371	84,496	98,886
France	133,932	146,905	158,640
Italy	2,979,958	3,031,883	3,113,185

	<u>1977</u> kgs.	<u>1978</u> kgs.	<u>1979</u> kgs.
Belgium-Luxembourg	-	2,880	8,744
United Kingdom	-	-	-
Spain	6,929	-	5,175
Hungary	60,135	55,942	55,385
Romania	-	-	5,204
Miscellaneous	425	107	1,641
<u>Total</u>	3,257,750	3,324,061	3,446,860
3. <u>Tinned ham</u>			
Netherlands	22,359	26,581	24,594
Denmark	59,610	52,034	48,726
Belgium-Luxembourg	3,865	2,424	3,065
Spain	3,622	1,980	-
Czechoslovakia	11,000	-	-
Romania	14,761	22,653	28,560
Miscellaneous	24	19	138
<u>Total</u>	115,241	105,691	105,083
	<u>hl.</u>	<u>hl.</u>	<u>hl.</u>
4. <u>Wine in casks</u>			
(a) <u>Red wine</u>			
France	257,559	281,502	290,987
Italy	503,267	504,313	494,148
Austria	1,256	2,005	2,970
Portugal	126,643	87,411	84,741
Spain	445,482	380,040	407,206
Greece	15,697	21,385	20,046
Turkey	24,547	11,239	15,147
Hungary	18,456	23,214	20,405
Bulgaria	312	5,114	10,272
Yugoslavia	18,983	23,237	26,904
Cyprus	13,452	13,261	12,632

	<u>1977</u> hl.	<u>1978</u> hl.	<u>1979</u> hl.
Malta	-	823	975
Tunisia	3,188	5,266	5,727
Algeria	83,198	96,050	89,201
Morocco	3,212	3,424	5,035
Republic of South Africa	2,950	2,821	3,131
Israel	99	-	-
Argentina	12,654	21,106	6,032
Chile	1,355	3,611	4,020
Miscellaneous	97	63	78
<u>Total</u>	1,532,308	1,485,884	1,499,656
(b) <u>White wine</u>			
Federal Republic of Germany	1,777	1,554	1,659
France	12,938	13,714	23,430
Italy	9,865	10,748	23,143
Austria	341	275	20,008
Spain	49,327	27,166	35,365
Malta	2,834	3,196	5,523
Greece	4,424	19,949	24,415
Hungary	-	-	5,813
Miscellaneous	21	46	-
<u>Total</u>	81,527	76,646	139,355

	<u>1977</u> Tons	<u>1978</u> Tons	<u>1979</u> Tons
5. <u>Eggs in shell</u>			
Federal Republic of Germany	1,038	2,757	4,853
France	1,673	1,801	1,940
Netherlands	94	225	304
Belgium-Luxembourg	384	617	309
United Kingdom	121	338	614
Sweden	-	221	256
Finland	3,182	1,877	2,122
Spain	3,372	105	4,972
East Germany	-	1,248	-
Poland	3,813	4,594	2,580
Czechoslovakia	1,568	237	374
Hungary	5,963	8,892	5,844
Romania	736	278	-
Republic of South Africa	943	914	39
Israel	187	158	11
Miscellaneous	1	-	1
<u>Total</u>	23,075	24,265	24,218