



Foreign Agricultural Service

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## Romania

### Trade Policy Monitoring

# Duty Reductions in the Romanian Import Schedule 2003

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Reduced applied tariff rates for selected products, following a successful round of bilateral negotiations initiated by the United States, are expected to result in higher U.S. exports to Romania. This report summarizes the outcome of the first round of these negotiations and provides an official list of the tariff reductions in Romania's 2003 schedule. The reductions are offered on an Most-Favored-Nation basis, i.e., to all WTO members.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Sofia [BU1], RO

As a result of successful trade negotiations initiated by the U.S. in October 2002 with GOR officials, new opportunities for U.S. exporters have arisen. According to GOR Decision no. 1493/2002, the following positions in the Romanian import schedule have been modified:

HS	Description	MFN rate in 2002 (%)	MFN rate in 2003 (%)
0201*	Bovine meat, fresh or chilled	20	20
0202*	Bovine meat, frozen	20	20
0203*	Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen	20	20
	-Fresh or chilled		
	--Carcasses and half carcasses:		
0203.11.90	---Other	20	0
	Hams, shoulders, and cuts thereof, with bone in:		
0203.12.90	---Other	20	0
0203.19.90	---Other	20	0
	-Frozen		
	--Carcasses and half carcasses:		
0203.21.90	---Other	20	0
0206*	Bovine, swine, sheep offalls, fresh, chilled or frozen	20	20
0206.22.00	Bovine liver	40	25
0504.00	Animal casings and tripe, whether or not cut, fresh, chilled or frozen, salted, in salted water, dried or smoked (casings)	10	0
0802.90.20	Betel nuts, cola nuts and pecans	25	0
0802.90.50	Sweet pine seeds (Pinus pinea)	25	3.2
0802.90.60	Macadamia nuts	25	2
0802.90.85	Other	25	3.2
0806.20	Raisins	25	2.4
1206.00	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken	30	20
1206.00.91**	Other than for sowing	30	20
2204.21	Wine	90	70
2208.30	Whiskey	90	70

\*Between January 1- June 30.

\*\*Exempted between January 1-August 31.

Albeit temporary (that is, for the first half of 2003) reductions in customs duties for swine and bovine meat are expected to be extended for the entire year, as it has been with no interruption since September 2001. This is because domestic supply, though slightly increasing, is not able to cover consumption in the short run. In the case of poultry meat, the duty rate is currently maintained at 45 percent.

This measure is foreseen to contribute to U.S. exports increase, especially for pork cuts for processing and beef tripe, and open up new opportunities for U.S. almonds, nuts, oilseeds, wines and whiskey.