

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** September 15, 2021

**Report Number:** IN2021-0110

## **Report Name:** India Clarifies and Extends its Import Date for Soybean Meal and Soy Cake Derived from Genetically Engineered Soybeans

**Country:** India

**Post:** New Delhi

**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the Economy, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the News, Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security, Export Accomplishments - Market Access, Export Accomplishments - Border Facilitation, FAIRS Subject Report, Oilseeds and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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### **Report Highlights:**

On September 13, 2021, India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry/Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), published Notification No. 25/2015-2020, clarifying that it is authorizing the import of consignments of soybean meal and soy cake derived from genetically engineered (GE) soybeans with a bill of lading or lorry (truck) receipt date issued on or before October 31, 2021. In addition to the bill of lading requirement, all GE-soybean meal consignments must arrive to India prior to January 31, 2022. The current notification is in continuation of the previous DGFT notification No. 20/2015-20 dated August 24, 2021.

**DISCLAIMER:** The notification information contained in this report was retrieved from the Government of India website <https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/?opt=notification>. The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links if they do not open in Internet Explorer].

## GENERAL INFORMATION

On September 13, 2021, India’s Ministry of Commerce and Industry/Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), published Notification No. 25/2015-2020, clarifying that it is authorizing the import of consignments of soybean meal and soy cake derived from genetically engineered (GE) soybeans with a bill of lading or lorry (truck) receipt date issued on or before October 31, 2021 (see, Appendix I). In addition to the bill of lading requirement, all GE-soybean meal consignments must arrive to India prior to January 31, 2022. The current notification is in continuation of the previous DGFT notification No. 20/2015-20 dated August 24, 2021.

The notification is accessible on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry/Directorate General of Foreign Trade’s website located at: <https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/?opt=notification>.

## WHAT HAPPENED?

India’s domestic soybean production this season is expected to be negatively impacted by the 2021 southwest monsoon’s erratic rainfall distribution. FAS New Delhi (Post) estimates that India’s soybean production for market year (MY) 2021/2022 at 10.8 million metric tons (MMT), four percent below its earlier assessment (see, [GAIN-INDIA - IN2021-0103 – Oilseeds and Products Update](#)).

Domestic soymeal prices are trading at \$1,139 to 1,145 per metric ton (MT) (prices ex-Indore market). With the August 24, 2021, announcement allowing for GE-soybean meal imports, prices briefly fell to \$1,139/MT, but have since strengthened to \$1,141/MT, now highlighting lower India soybean meal exports. Indian soymeal continues to be outpriced in the global market (see, [GAIN-INDIA-IN2021-0102 – India Officially Permits Limited Soybean Meal Imports](#), and [GAIN-INDIA-IN2021-0096 – India – A Thumbs Up for Soybean Meal Imports Possibly](#), as well as [pending release] [GAIN-INDIA-IN2021-0106 – India Approves Additional Ports for Bulk Soybean Meal Imports](#)).

The poultry, livestock, dairy, and aquaculture sectors are requiring imported GE-soybean meal to ensure adequate feed supplies. Imports could come from regional suppliers, including Bangladesh (with limitations), as well as from the American producers. Argentina holds nearly 3.8 MMT of soybean meal stocks as of August 2021. Brazil is reportedly maintaining 1.4 MMT of soybean meal stocks for the same period. While the United States by some counts has around 450,000 metric tons.

**APPENDIX I - MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY/DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF FOREIGN TRADE, NOTIFICATION NO. 25/2015-2020**

To be published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section-3, Sub-Section (II)

Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
Department of Commerce  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade

**Notification No. 25 /2015-2020**  
New Delhi, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

**Subject: Clarification on last date of import in continuation of Notification No. 20/2015-20 dated 24.08.2021.**

**S.O. (E):** In exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 read with Section 5 of FT (D&R) Act, 1992 and paragraph 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-2020, as amended from time to time, the Central Government hereby amends the provision in Para 3 of Notification No. 20/2015-20 dated 24.08.2021 as under:-

The last date of import, 31.10.2021, as mentioned in Para 3 of Notification number 20 dated 24.8.2021, is amended to read as " Last date of shipment or Bill of Lading date ( in case of permitted seaports) or Lorry Receipt date ( in case of LCS Petrapole)" shall be 31.10.2021 or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Further, import consignments of these items with Bill of Lading/Lorry Receipt issued on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 shall not be allowed by Customs beyond 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

**Effect of the Notification:** For imports under Notification 20/2015-20 dated 24.08.2021, the last date of shipment or date of issuance of the Bill of Lading or Lorry Receipt date is 31.10.2021. Import consignments of these items with Bill of Lading/Lorry Receipt issued on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 shall not be allowed by Customs beyond 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

This issues with the approval of Minister of Commerce & Industry.

  
13.09/2021  
(Amit Yadav)

Director General of Foreign Trade &  
Ex- officio Addl. Secretary to the Government of India

(F.No.M-5012/300/2002/PC-2[A]/Part-VIII/E-29098)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.