

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 7/3/2018

GAIN Report Number: NL8029

Netherlands

Post: The Hague

Dutch Customs and EU Retaliatory Tariffs

Report Categories:

Export Accomplishments - Border Facilitation

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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Report Highlights:

FAS The Hague was able to intervene with Dutch customs to ensure that products shipped prior to the June 22, 2018 date will not be needed to pay the 25 percent ad valorem duties.

The European Union placed retaliatory tariffs on several agricultural products starting on June 22, 2018. On June 27, the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels informed Post that a shipment of U.S. products was being charged 25 percent additional import duties even though the products had been shipped before June 22, 2018.

Annex I of Regulation 2018/724 lists an overview of products from the United States that are subject to 25 percent ad valorem duties arriving at the European Union (EU) after June 22, 2018. Products listed in the Annexes of this Regulation for which EU importers can prove that they have been exported from the United States prior to June 22, 2018 are not subject to the additional duty.

On June 27, 2018 Post contacted Customs who confirmed that the procedure indeed was first to pay 25 percent ad valorem duties on these products. After paying the duties, the customs agent was given the possibility to object and submit a request to refund the duties.

Post discussed with Customs that this procedure was causing unnecessary paperwork for the customs agent. Also the procedure would take about six weeks without a guarantee that the duties would be refunded. Post asked Customs to change their system so that these products would not be subject to the additional duty.

On June 29, 2018 Dutch Customs informed FAS The Hague that they had adjusted the system. As of June 29, 2018, customs agents will need to mention the special code 610 on the declaration form when declaring goods that fall under EU Regulation 2018/724. Also, the agents need to produce the documents which show that these goods indeed left before June 22, 2018. With this procedure, no 25 percent ad valorem duties should be charged.