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# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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**Date:** 4/30/2012

**GAIN Report Number:** CI1216

## Chile

**Post:** Santiago

### **Chile imposes an import tariff surcharge on Argentine cracked corn imports**

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

Chile imposed a temporary import tariff surcharge of 10.8 percent for Argentine cracked corn starting Friday, April 27, 2012.

**General Information:**

Ten days after the Ministry of Agriculture requested specific measures to protect domestic producers of corn affected by excessive entry of this product from Argentina; the National Commission for Price Distortions (CNDP) supported the safeguard request by setting a provisional rate of 10.8% on cracked Argentine corn imports. This provisional surcharge will be in effect until a final decision is made after the investigation is completed. If the local producers can prove price distortion and damages, then the surcharge could be implemented for as long as 4 years.

In the letter sent to the CNDP Minister of Agriculture, Luis Mayol, warned that this situation is adversely affecting the domestic maize industry, with low prices and lack of demand for locally produced corn in the midst of the harvesting season. Among the arguments used by the Ministry to impose the tariff measure is the fact that cracked corn imports from Argentina increased by 111% in the period January-March 2011 compared with same period in 2012. See FAS Voluntary GAIN Report CI1213. Corn is Chile's second most important crop; it is planted from Rancagua through to Los Angeles and is the is an important feed source for the Chilean poultry industry.