



Voluntary Report - Voluntary - Public Distribution

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# **Report Name:** The Philippines Expands Premix Commodities List for SRA Inspection

**Country:** Philippines

Post: Manila

Report Category: Sugar

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### **Report Highlights:**

The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) released Sugar Order (SO) No. 10 or the Rules and Regulations on the Issuance of Premix Commodity Release Clearance (PCRC). SRA expanded the list of premix commodities subject to laboratory inspection upon import, which includes sugar syrups, including flavored or colored, chocolate confectionery, and gelatin. Excluded are food supplements, fortificant premixes and food supplements-based ginseng, which are deemed to have minimal sucrose levels. The SO applies to food preparation commodities listed in the new Tariff Administration and Policy including the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2022 to provide and easy reference to importers or consignees of premix commodities.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

## Background

The rules and regulations (<u>SO No.8</u>) on the issuance of Premix Commodity Release Clearance (PCRC) was first issued on June 2, 2015 covering importation of whey under Tariff Heading 04.04, sugar confectionery (17.04), and chocolates (18.06). SO No.8 was issued as whey powder preparation and sugar confectionery are basically and principally made of sugar.

### SRA Sugar Order No. 10

On September 5, 2023, the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) released <u>Sugar Order (SO) No. 10</u> or the Rules and Regulations on the Issuance of Premix Commodity Release Clearance (PCRC) amending <u>SO No. 8 series of 2017-2018</u> re: amendment to <u>SO NO. 9 series of 2007-2008</u>, and <u>SO No. 8</u>, <u>series of 2014-2015</u>. The SO applies to food preparations commodities listed in the new Tariff Administration and Policy including the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2022.

The issuance of the new Tariff Administration and Policy excluded the below AHTN Tariff Codes on PCRC, considering that most laboratory results for sucrose content were either very minimal or non-

Excluded	Sucrose is very minimal or non-traceable
2106.90.69	Other food supplements; fortificant premixes
2106.90.71	Food supplements based on ginseng
2106.90.72	Other food supplements
Included	Considerable amount of sucrose
2106.90.92	Flavored or colored syrup
2106.90.98	Other flavoring preparations
1702.90.91	Sugar syrups
1704.90.91	Soft containing gelatin
1806.20.90	Other
1806.90.10	Chocolate confectionery in tablets or pastilles

traceable. The issuance of PCRC, however, on syrups, gelatin and chocolate confectionery is a must because said commodities may contain considerable amounts of sucrose.

The SO mandates that the SRA will monitor all importation of premix commodities in terms of declared classification, quantities, arrival dates, country source, and names of importers. Such imports are subject to random or representative sampling for

laboratory analysis. The SRA Administrator may waive, upon request, the requirement of laboratory analysis if the imported premix commodities had already been subjected to SRA laboratory analysis of previous importation with established records. Additionally, such a waiver is given after the imported premix had been verified to be the same premix that was consistently classified by the SRA through previous laboratory analysis and samples submitted.

Importers are liable to pay the clearance fee and sugar liens of PhP37.75 (\$0.66) per 50 kilogram (over 65 percent dry weight of sugar) or PhP 11.90 (\$0.21) per 50 kilogram (65 percent or below dry weight sugar). Note: \$1 : PhP56.80

The SO 10 conforms to the new Tariff Administration and Policy issued by the Philippine Tariff Commission (PTC) including the AHTN 2022. The move is intended to furnish importers of premix commodities with an easy reference when applying for SRA clearance (PCRC)

## Attachments:

No Attachments.