



**CHEESE IMPORTERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

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CIAA Bulletin

**An Exclusive CIAA Member
Update**

FAS Announces 2017 Quantity-Based Safeguard Trigger Levels

The Foreign Agricultural Service has published the [2017 WTO Agricultural Quantity-Based Safeguard Trigger Levels](#) in the Federal Register. All trigger levels have increased, some substantially.

The table below compares the 2016 and 2017 Triggers. Imports are not included in the calculation of the Trigger, nor in the imports that accumulate and count against the Trigger, for all countries with which the United States has a Free Trade Agreement.

It is important to remember that when trigger levels are exceeded, the Secretary of Agriculture may impose additional duties pursuant to the WTO agreement "...if the price of an individual shipment of imported products falls below the average price for similar goods imported during the years 1986-88 by a specified percentage. It also permits additional duties to be imposed if the volume of imports of an article exceeds the average of the most recent 3 years for which data are available by 5, 10, or 25 percent, depending on the article. These additional duties may not be imposed on quantities for which minimum or current access commitments were made during the Uruguay Round negotiations, and only one type of safeguard, price or quantity, may be applied at any given time to an article."

Please keep in mind that should these triggers be hit, there is no advance notice that is required before the additional duties are imposed. No triggers were hit in 2016. The butter trigger was hit in 2015.

	2016 Trigger Level (KG)	2017 Trigger Level (KG)	2017 over 2016 (KG)	2017 % over 2016
Note 16 Other Cheese - NSPF	52,603,975	58,444,719	5,840,744	11.10%
Note 17 Blue Cheese	4,865,957	5,161,480	295,523	6.07%
Note 18 Cheddar Cheese	11,292,096	15,484,227	4,192,131	37.12%

Note 19 American-Type Including Colby	663,153	919,786	256,633	38.70%
Note 20 Edam/Gouda Cheese	8,161,533	8,779,770	618,237	7.58%
Note 21 Italian-Type Cheese	19,591,643	21,756,722	2,165,079	11.05%
Note 22 Gruyere Process Cheese	3,745,854	3,850,662	104,808	2.80%
Note 23 Other Cheese - NSPF - Lowfat	153,319	281,375	128,056	83.52%
Note 25 Swiss	28,790,738	30,109,746	1,319,008	4.58%
Note 06 Butter	13,656,765	22,242,567	8,585,802	62.87%
Note 08 Dried Whole Milk	3,406,679	4,493,172	1,086,493	31.89%
Note 14 Butter Oil and Butter Substitutes	6,076,713	9,693,967	3,617,254	59.53%

We will continue to monitor and report on imports relative to these trigger levels as additional data becomes available.

If you have any questions, please contact Roger Szemraj at rszemraj@theciaa.org or (202) 789-1212.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 1, 2017

Last day for an exporting country that is not designating importers for calendar year 2017 to notify FAS.

August 31, 2017

Last day to Enter dairy products into U.S. Customs territory that may be used to qualify and establish eligibility for a calendar year 2017 license.

September 1, 2017

First day of 2018 license applications

September 15, 2017

Last day of licensees applying for reallocated license amounts for 2017

October 2, 2017

Last day to surrender 2017 license amounts

October 16, 2017

Last day of 2018 license applications

October 27, 2017

Member Meeting

9:30 am - 11:30 am

Saddle Brook Marriott, Saddle Brook, NJ

December 22, 2017 (approximately)

FAS issues first notice of calendar year 2018 licenses to licensees.

December 31, 2017

Last day for licensees to make entries to fulfill the requirement to use 85% of their calendar year 2017 license amount. Last day for which calendar year 2017 licenses are valid.

January 21, 2018

CIAA Fancy Food Show Reception

5:00 pm- 7:30 pm

Thirsty Bear Brewery

San Francisco, CA

* If a deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the deadline will be the next business day (Section 6.36(a) of the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation). This does not apply to dates of entry for eligibility.

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