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**CIAA Bulletin** 

An Exclusive CIAA Member Update

# FAS Announces 2018 Quantity-Based Safeguard Trigger Levels

The Foreign Agricultural Service has published <u>the 2018 WTO Agricultural Quantity-Based</u> Safeguard Trigger Levels in the Federal Register.

The table below compares the 2017 and 2018 Triggers. Given that several items have a lower trigger, the table also includes the 2016 trigger levels so that you will see some of these numbers returning to prior levels. As we have reported in the past, 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 2017. The butter trigger was hit in 2015.

	2016 Trigger Level (KG)	2017 Trigger Level (KG)	2018 Trigger Level (KG)	2018 compared with 2017(KG)	2018 % compared with 2017
Note 16 Other Cheese - NSPF	52,603,975	58,444,719	52,789,750	-5,654,969	-9.68%

Note 17 Blue					
Cheese	4,865,957	5,161,480	4,179,292	-982,188	-19.03%
Note 18 Cheddar Cheese	11,292,096	15,484,227	11,799,917	-3,684,310	-23.79%
Note 19 American-Type Including Colby	663,153	919,786	1,121,250	201,464	21.90%
Note 20 Edam/Gouda Cheese	8,161,533	8,779,770	8,804,167	24,397	0.28%
Note 21 Italian- Type Cheese	19,591,643	21,756,722	21,480,750	-275,972	-1.27%
Note 22 Gruyere Process Cheese	3,745,854	3,850,662	3,801,292	-49,370	-1.28%
Note 23 Other Cheese -NSPF - Lowfat	153,319	281,375	443,875	162,500	57.75%
Note 25 Swiss	28,790,738	30,109,746	29,604,667	-505,079	-1.68%
Note 06 Butter	13,656,765	22,242,567	29,959,300	7,716,733	34.69%
Note 08 Dried Whole Milk	3,406,679	4,493,172	12,116,875	7,623,703	169.67%
Note 14 Butter Oil and Butter Substitutes	6,076,713	9,693,967	8,183,833	-1,510,134	-15.58%

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 <a href="mailto:rszemraj@theciaa.org">rszemraj@theciaa.org</a> or (202) 789-1212.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

## August 31, 2018

Last day to enter dairy products into U.S. Customs territory that may be used to qualify and establish eligibility for a calendar year 2019 license.

## September 1, 2018

First day of 2018 license applications

Last day to request a globalization of a calendar year 2018 license

#### September 15, 2018

Last day of licensees applying for reallocated license amounts for 2018

#### October 1, 2018

Last day to surrender 2018 license amounts

### October 15, 2018

Last day of 2018 license applications

#### October 20-24, 2018

SIAL Trip to Paris, France

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\* 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.

## **Cheese Importers Association of America**

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