



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

FACT SHEET

U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement

September 2008

The U.S.–Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement was signed on November 22, 2006, in Washington, D.C. This comprehensive trade agreement will eliminate tariffs and other barriers to goods and services, promote economic growth, and expand trade between the two countries.

- Colombia is already an important market for America’s farmers and ranchers. In 2007, the United States exported a record \$1.2 billion of agricultural products to Colombia. Our top exports to the market were coarse grains, soybeans, wheat, cotton, and fresh fruit.
- With the Agreement in place, agricultural trade between the United States and Colombia will change from a one-way street to a two-way street.
 - Currently, no U.S. agricultural exports enjoy duty-free access to the Colombian market; while under the Andean Trade Preference Act, over 99.9 percent of Colombia’s agricultural exports enter the U.S. market duty free.
- Many agricultural commodities will benefit from the agreement as more than half of current U.S. farm exports to Colombia will become duty-free immediately and the remaining tariffs will be eliminated within 15 years.
 - Upon implementation of the agreement, U.S. agricultural exports will receive duty-free treatment on nearly 52 percent of current trade and will see all tariffs phased out for the remaining products. Colombia’s preferential treatment will be made permanent.
 - Colombia will immediately eliminate duties on wheat, barley, soybeans, soybean meal and flour, high quality beef, bacon, almost all fruit and vegetable products, wheat, peanuts, whey, cotton and the vast majority of processed products.
 - The agreement also provides duty-free tariff rate quotas on standard beef, chicken leg quarters, dairy products, corn, sorghum, animal feeds, rice, and soybean oil.
- On the regulatory side, Colombia has put in place OIE-consistent import measures on meat and poultry and addressed other SPS and technical standards issues. Colombia has agreed to recognize the equivalence of the U.S. meat and poultry inspection systems.
- In addition, the Agreement commits the United States to prioritizing Colombia for trade capacity building programs to assist Colombia in fully benefiting from this new partnership.
- The American Farm Bureau Federation predicts that this agreement, once fully implemented, could provide \$910 million in gains each year for American agriculture. In addition, the free trade agreement with Colombia is supported by over 40 U.S. agricultural and food associations.

For questions about the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement and its impact on U.S. agriculture, please contact FAS Legislative and Public Affairs Office at (202)720-7115 or LPA@fas.usda.gov.