



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of the Secretary

### **Determination of Total Amount of Fiscal Year 2023 WTO Tariff-Rate Quota for Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses.**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023) in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 222,000 metric tons raw value (MTRV).

**DATES:** This notice is applicable on [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Souleymane Diaby, Multilateral Affairs Division, Trade Policy and Geographic Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1070, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1070; by telephone (202) 720–2916; or by email [Souleymane.Diaby@usda.gov](mailto:Souleymane.Diaby@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota tariff-rate quota (TRQ) amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

The Secretary's authority under paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, has been delegated to the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (TFAA) (7 CFR 2.15). That authority, in turn, has been delegated to the Deputy Under Secretary for TFAA under certain circumstances (7 CFR 2.600).

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of 222,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses (refined sugar) may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2023. This quantity includes the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements, 22,000 MTRV, of which 20,344 MTRV is established for any sugars, syrups and molasses, and 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. An additional amount of 200,000 MTRV is added to the specialty sugar TRQ for a total of 201,656 MTRV. The conversion factor is 1 metric ton raw value equals 1.10231125 short tons raw value.

Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year. The FY 2023 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 3, 2022. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche of 60,000 MTRV will open on October 10, 2022. The third tranche of 60,000 MTRV will open on January 20, 2023. The fourth tranche of 40,000 MTRV will open on April 14, 2023. The fifth tranche of 40,000 MTRV will open on July 14, 2023.

The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

**Jason Hafemeister,**

*Acting Deputy Under Secretary,*

*Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.*

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