

June 01, 2009

### Ukraine



#### **The Public Agrarian Organizations of Ukraine proposed to reintroduce a 13% extra charge to the current import duties**

The Public Organizations of the Agrarian Industry Complex called the Government of Ukraine to reintroduce a 13% additional import duty to the current tariffs on meat imports for the defense of the domestic market.

“If we charge an additional 13% import duty over 6 months – that will be normal, honest, and the main thing – it will be within the bounds of the WTO,” Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Poultry Producers Union Association, Alexander Bakumenko said at press conference in Kiev on May, 29th.

According to him, active imports of low-quality meat will destabilize the domestic cattle-breeding industry.

A. Bakumenko also offered to introduce urgently the minimal quality requirements for the raw meats as a non-tariff defense of the domestic market. He also called the Government to assess the actions of the Ministry of Economy which, according to A. Bakumenko, had given out licenses for import of 3.975 million tons of meat, that corresponds to 2 years need of the country for this production.

Yuriy Karasik, Chairman of the All Ukrainian Union of Agricultural Enterprises, called the country leaders to annul urgently the licenses given out on meat imports.

“It is necessary to cancel all the licenses”, he said, having noticed that active imports of meat are destroying the domestic cattle-breeding industry.

Sergei Gnatyuk, General Director of the Tvarynprom Corporation which produces meat on an industrial basis, informed that due to active meat imports domestic producers cannot sell their products.

Moreover, last week internal prices for pork fell to 20% - to UAH 16.5-17 per kilogram. “But nobody buys pork even at this price,” he added.

As it was informed, recently the Public Organizations of the Agrarian Industry Complex have addressed to the Ukrainian President, the Prime-Minister and the Head of Verkhovna Rada with recommendations to take measures aimed on stabilizing the situation in the cattle-breeding industry.

According to their data, Ukraine has imported 158,400 MT of raw meats since the beginning of 2009. This factor has complicated the selling of domestically produced meat and has led to reduction in the number of livestock.

The Ukrainian Public Organizations of Agrarian Industry Complex are expected to hold a nationwide strike if the government doesn't take any measures.

Ukraine has introduced 13% additional import duty on some types of goods including meat since March 5, 2009. But the State Customs Service of Ukraine announced that a 13% temporary extra charge to the import duties of Ukraine was cancelled on March 25. According to its letter # 11/1-10.21/2619-EP as of March 24, refrigerators and automobiles are still subject to the 13% additional import duty.

*Source: Apk-Inform News Agency (apk-inform.com)*

*Translated by: usapeec.kz*

## **Ukrainian President signed decree supporting Agrarian Industry Complex and animal – breeding industry**

Ukrainian President Victor Yushchenko on May 29, 2009 signed a decree “On some measures regarding improvement of the financial state of the agrarian sector of economy and development of animal breeding”. According to the press service of the President, promulgation of the decree is connected with the difficult financial condition of producers of agricultural products and the critical state of the animal breeding industry.

In particular, the number of livestock has decreased by 5% this year, and the production of meat and dairy products has also decreased.

At the same time, imports of meat and meat products have increased three times; this factor threatens the food security of the country.

The government is assigned to take measures regarding the restriction of meat imports for the defense of domestic producers of agricultural products and to protect them against “dumped” imports.

The head of the country is convinced that introducing these regulations will improve the financial state of agricultural producers, create conditions to stop the slump in animal breeding and will gradually increase the production of agricultural products in order to supply the internal demand and to increase exports of domestic production to foreign markets.

*Source: ProAgro News Agency  
(proagro.com.ua)  
Translated by: usapeec.kz*

## **Yulia Tymoshenko has allocated UAH 50 million (about USD 6.5 million) to prevent swine flu**

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, by its Resolution No. 473 of April 28, has allocated UAH 50 million (about USD 6.5 million) to the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to carry out high-priority measures for the prevention of A/H1N1 flu on the territory of Ukraine.

The government has charged the Ministry of Finance with implementing these measures at the expense of the reserve fund of the state budget.

*Source: ForUm News Agency (for-ua.com)*

## **Cattle numbers have decreased in Ukraine**

Cattle numbers in Ukraine totaled 5.759 million as of May 1, 2009, or 5% less than as of May 1, 2008.

According to the State Statistics Committee, cow numbers over this period fell by 6.8% to 2.883 million.

Pig numbers grew by 4.8% to 6.844 million, sheep numbers grew by 4.2% to 2.163 million and poultry numbers have increased by 5.4% to 174.8 million.

In 2008, cattle numbers in Ukraine fell by 6.1% to 5.156 million as of January 1, 2009.

*Source: Ukrinform News Agency  
(ukrinform.ua)*

## **Moldova**



## **Moldova has banned pork imports**

Moldova has imposed a ban on imports of pork and pork products from Canada due to the A/H1N1 virus having been confirmed in the country. According to the Veterinary Services of Moldova, imports of pork from all the countries that have reported the presence of the A/H1N1 virus will be suspended for an indefinite term.

At the same time, according to the press service of Moldova’s Veterinary Sanitary and Food of Animal Origin Safety Agency, the transit of live animals originating from countries with confirmed swine flu cases through the territory of Moldova has also been banned.

*Source: Newsmoldova News Agency  
(newsmoldova.md)  
Translated by: usapeec.kz*

## **World Bank Approves USD 10 Million in Additional Financing for Moldova's Rural Investment and Services Project II**

The World Bank Board of Directors on May 14 approved an additional credit to the Republic of Moldova in the amount of USD 10 million for the Rural Investment and Services Project (RISP) II. The additional financing will complement the total RISP II allocation of USD 21 million and will be used for scaling-up ongoing project activities.

RISP II objectives are:

- To continue fostering post-privatization growth in the agricultural and rural sectors by improving access of farmers and rural entrepreneurs to knowledge, know-how and finance; and
- To build the capacity of private and public institutions to ensure the sustainability of the activities.

“The RISP Program has been a real catalyst for start-up businesses and young entrepreneurs across Moldova. I am confident that the additional USD 10 million will provide the extra support needed to foster entrepreneurship in rural areas of the country,” emphasized Melanie Marlett, World Bank Country Manager for Moldova.

“In 2009 I will increase my production capacity and I am expecting a profit of USD 13,000,” says Victor Velisca, a carpenter from the village of Varatic. Mr. Velisca benefited from a USD 28,000 preferential credit through RISP, which enabled him to purchase modern equipment for the production of industrial wooden boxes. ACSA, the RISP-supported national extension agency, helped the start-up entrepreneur design his own business plan and define his business priorities.

As a result of the RISP Program (RISP I and II) over 1,700 new businesses have been created, which has generated 7,000 new jobs, mainly in rural areas. Annually, over 350,000 Moldovan farmers benefit from the services of the national agricultural extension agency, ACSA, which was established with support from RISP.

The RISP II Project was launched in June 2006 and is the second phase of a two-phase Rural Investment and Services Program, co-financed with a USD 6 million grant from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

*Source: Interlic.md*

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