



United States  
Department  
of Agriculture

Agricultural  
Economic  
Report  
Number 840

February 2005



Electronic Report from the Economic Research Service

[www.ers.usda.gov](http://www.ers.usda.gov)

# Market Access for High-Value Foods

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## Abstract

Market access remains a major impediment for expansion of global trade in high-value foods, particularly processed foods. Countries use tariffs and other measures that effectively stimulate imports of relatively unprocessed agricultural commodities at the expense of processed products. Tariff escalation, in which tariffs rise with the level of processing, discourages trade in high-value foods, and trade remedy measures, such as antidumping duties, are concentrated among high-value products. Globalization has provided countries with easier access to capital and technology needed to produce processed food, further affecting trade patterns and markets for high-value foods. A uniform cut in tariffs increases trade in high-value foods more than trade in raw agricultural commodities and improves real wages in developing and developed countries.

**Keywords:** Food trade, processed food, high-value foods, tariff, tariff escalation, trade remedy measures, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, safeguard measures, revealed comparative advantage, trade complementarities.

## Acknowledgments

Appreciation is extended to Mary Bohman, John Dunmore, Greg Pompelli, Praveen Dixit, Robert Collender, and Donna Roberts for their support of the project and review comments, and to David Blandford (Pennsylvania State University) and David Orden (International Food Policy Research Institute) for a thorough review of the publication. The authors also extend thanks for review comments to Nora Brooks, Erik Dohlman, Bill Coyle, and Roy Darwin of ERS; Sara Schwartz, Betsy Sellers, and Daniel Whitley of USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service; Carol Goodloe and David Stallings of USDA's Office of the Chief Economist; Lynn Kennedy of Louisiana State University; Gopinath Munisamy of Oregon State University; and Lars Brink of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. While we greatly benefited from the reviewers' comments, the remaining errors are the authors' own responsibility. The authors acknowledge support received from USDA's Emerging Market Project. Finally, special thanks are extended to John Weber for editorial assistance, and Wynnice Napper for design assistance.

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