

THE LATEST ON EU AGRI-FOOD POLICIES IMPACTING LOW-INCOME & MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

## EU-Moldova Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area

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<u>Proposal</u> for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Association Committee in Trade Configuration established by the Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova

#### What is changing and why?

The EU and Moldova have reached agreement on expanding their trade relations. This will provide greater access to the EU market for Moldovan apples, cherries, garlic, grapes, grape juice, plums, and tomatoes as shown in Table 1.

The agreement includes a safeguard clause that allows the EU to reintroduce tariffs if imports cause social or economic disruption either across the EU or in any Member State. Moldova has agreed to align its national rules on pesticides with EU rules by the end of 2027.

To support the country's trade in the context of the Ukraine war, in 2022 the EU permitted imports of all agricultural products from Moldova at zero duty, but these measures expired in July 2025.

#### **Timeline**

Tariff rate quotas already in place under the existing agreement reopen on 25 July 2025.

The revised quotas in Table 1 will apply once the new agreement has been formally adopted, potentially in early 2026.

For more information see the <u>full record</u> on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest <u>AGRINFO Update</u> newsletters and <u>search</u> the database.





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### **Tables & Figures**

# Table 1 Improved market access to the European Union under the reviewed EU–Moldova DCFTA

Products	DCFTA <sup>[1]</sup> tariff rate quotas (tonnes)	
	Current	Reviewed
Apples	40,000	50,000
Cherries	1,500	4,500
Garlic	220	Full liberalisation <sup>[2]</sup>
Grape juice	500	Full liberalisation <sup>[2]</sup>
Grapes (table)	20,000	40,000
Plums	15,000	61,000
Tomatoes	2,000	Liberalisation (no quota): under the entry price system, specific duty is maintained but <i>ad valorem</i> <sup>[3]</sup> component is exempt

<sup>1.</sup> DCFTA: Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area.

<sup>3.</sup> Ad valorem: "according to the value" – duty levied as a percentage of value of the goods imported, rather than weight or number of units.



Source: based on Proposal for a Council Decision

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<sup>2.</sup> Full liberalisation: zero duty for all imports, no quota.