

Import tariff rules for poultrymeat, eggs, and beef

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EU proposes to simplify representative prices for poultrymeat and eggs, and corrects water/protein ratio for frozen beef

Draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2834 as regards fixing representative prices in the poultrymeat and egg sectors and for egg albumin and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1988 as regards the administration of import tariff quotas in accordance with the 'first come, first served' principle, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 *[scroll down to download]*

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Update

The European Commission is reviewing its rules on additional import duties and representative prices for the poultrymeat and egg sectors. The changes are for consistency and simplification, to enable representative prices to be published online.

The water/protein ratio for frozen beef imported under tariff rate quotas under order numbers 09.0163 and 09.0164 is clarified as 3.2:1.

There is an opportunity to give feedback via the European Commission's [Have Your Say](#) webpage until **19 January 2026**.

Impacted products

Beef, poultrymeat, eggs

What is changing?

For consistency and simplification, in two draft Regulations it is proposed to move the requirements on additional import duties and representative prices for poultrymeat and eggs from Regulation [1484/95](#) into Regulation [2023/2834](#) (see [Import rules for rice, cereals, sugar, and hops](#)). This is done by adding a new Chapter 4a to Regulation [2023/2834](#). Regulation [1484/95](#) is repealed.

It is also proposed to publish the updated representative prices for poultrymeat and eggs on a dedicated [Taxation and Customs Union](#) webpage instead of in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Regarding Regulation [2020/1988](#) (Art. 18.2), it is clarified that the water/protein ratio for the frozen beef tariff rate quota, category B (beef imported under tariff rate quotas with numbers 09.0163 and 09.0164) is **3.2:1** (not 3:2) (see Background).

Why?

The aim is to contribute to the simplification and rationalisation of EU legislation.

On the water/protein ratio for frozen beef, editorial mistakes were introduced over the years since the first regulation in 1995, and needed to be corrected.

Timeline

Adoption is planned for the first quarter of 2026.

Recommended Actions

Stakeholders can give feedback via the European Commission's Have Your Say webpages until **19 January 2026**:

- Agri-food markets – representative prices (poultry and egg products) and water/protein ratio (certain beef products)
- Poultry and eggs – simplifying the publication of representative prices.

Background

The European Union (EU) regularly reviews its rules to reduce the amount of legislation in force, eliminate overlaps, and ensure a more consistent application of EU rules across sectors.

The water/protein ratio requirement was first introduced in Regulation [1977/95](#) (Art. 7(b)) with the value “3 comma 2” (European decimal notation). In subsequent Regulations from 2004, the English translation used “3 point 2” (English decimal notation). Regulation 545/2007 introduced the error “3 colon 2”, while other language versions retained “3 comma 2”. From Regulation 412/2008 onwards, the erroneous notation 3:2 appeared in all language versions, including the current Regulation [2020/1988](#).

Resources

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2023/2834](#) laying down rules for the application of Regulation 1308/2013 as regards imports in the sectors of rice, cereals, sugar and hops

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2020/1988](#) laying down rules for the application of Regulations 1308/2013 and 510/2014 as regards the administration of import tariff quotas in accordance with the first come, first served principle

Commission Regulation (EC) No [1977/95](#) opening and providing for the administration of an import tariff quota for frozen beef intended for processing [repealed]

Sources

[Draft](#) Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2834 as regards fixing representative prices in the poultrymeat and egg sectors and for egg albumin and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1988 as regards the administration of import tariff quotas in accordance with the ‘first come, first served’ principle, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 *[scroll down to download]*

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