

# International Agribusiness Center

Weekly Country Report, January 18-22, 2021

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## USDA/Global Agricultural Information Network Reports

Hong Kong Took Further Action in the WTO on US Origin Marking Requirement – [link](#)

On January 14, 2021, Hong Kong requested the World Trade Organization (WTO) Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSB) to set up a panel to consider its dispute with the United States on the United States' recent origin marking requirement for Hong Kong products.

Dutch Ministry of Agriculture Launches National Protein Strategy – [link](#)

On December 22, 2020, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality presented a National Protein Strategy by which it aims to enhance the cultivation of protein-rich crops over the next five to ten years. The Dutch strategy follows a European Union (EU)-wide ambition to reduce dependency on protein imports and to increase production of plant proteins at the EU level. The Netherlands is dependent on imports for roughly 80 percent of its vegetable protein, and is the largest importer of soybeans in the EU. The National Protein Strategy touches on the Ministry's goal to obtain proteins from residual flows, as well as from other sources (such as beet leaves, brewer's grains, kitchen waste, etc.). In addition, other projects (such as identifying how proteins can be extracted from seaweed and what options there are to use vegetable proteins as a meat replacement for human consumption) are also part of the Strategy

China Lowers Applied MFN Tariff Rates and Revises Out of Quota TRQ Rates – [link](#)

On December 23, 2020, the State Council Tariff Commission (SCTC) announced its annual tariff adjustment plan that sets tentative import and export tariff rates for select tariff lines in 2021. In this announcement, China lowered the tentative tariff rates for certain dairy products, certain wood products and made changes to the calculation for out-of-quota cotton tariff rates. The tentative tariff rates are applicable to tariff lines from all exporting countries. This report contains an unofficial translation of the SCTC notice and the list of agriculture-related tariff lines subject to tentative applied MFN tariff rate changes in 2021.

Opportunities for Organic Exports to Germany – [link](#)

Germany is the second largest organic market in the world with good prospects for U.S. organic products, such as tree nuts, fruits and vegetables, and processed food products. This report sets out information on the German organic market, including best prospects, and opportunities such as participation in BioFach eSPECIAL, the world's largest organic trade fair, taking place online February 17 – 19, 2021.

Taiwan Removes US Products From 2021 Enhanced Inspection List – [link](#)

The Taiwan Food and Drug Administration (TFDA) enhanced inspection list for food imports in calendar year 2021 contains no U.S. products. Ongoing engagement from FAS Taipei helped ensure the removal of blueberries and onions, the last two U.S. products on the list.

