



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigations of Imports of Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from Belgium, Colombia, and Thailand and a Countervailing Duty Investigation of Imports of Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from Thailand

- On June 23, 2017, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of antidumping duty (AD) investigations of imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts from Belgium, Colombia, and Thailand and a countervailing duty (CVD) investigation of imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts from Thailand.
- The AD and CVD laws provide U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent, quasi-judicial, and internationally accepted mechanism to seek relief from the market-distorting effects caused by injurious dumping and unfair subsidization of imports into the United States, establishing an opportunity to compete on a level playing field.
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value. For the purpose of CVD investigations, a countervailable subsidy is financial assistance from a foreign government that benefits the production of goods from foreign companies and is limited to specific enterprises or industries, or is contingent either upon export performance or upon the use of domestic goods over imported goods.
- The petitioners are Archer Daniels Midland Company (IL), Cargill, Incorporated (MN), and Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas LLC (IL).
- The scope of these investigations covers all grades and granulation sizes of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate in their unblended forms, whether dry or in solution, and regardless of packaging type. The scope also includes blends of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate; as well as blends with other ingredients, such as sugar, where the unblended form(s) of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate constitute 40 percent or more, by weight, of the blend.

The scope also includes all forms of crude calcium citrate, including dicalcium citrate monohydrate, and tricalcium citrate tetrahydrate, which are intermediate products in the production of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate.

The scope includes the hydrous and anhydrous forms of citric acid, the dihydrate and anhydrous forms of sodium citrate, otherwise known as citric acid sodium salt, and the monohydrate and monopotassium forms of potassium citrate. Sodium citrate also includes both trisodium citrate and monosodium citrate which are also known as citric acid trisodium salt and citric acid monosodium salt, respectively.

The scope does not include calcium citrate that satisfies the standards set forth in the United States Pharmacopeia and has been mixed with a functional excipient, such as dextrose or starch, where the excipient constitutes at least 2 percent, by weight, of the product.

Citric acid and sodium citrate are classifiable under 2918.14.0000 and 2918.15.1000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), respectively. Potassium citrate and crude calcium citrate are classifiable under 2918.15.5000 and, if included in a mixture or blend, 3824.99.9295 of the HTSUS. Blends that include citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate are classifiable under 3824.99.9295 of the HTSUS. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

- In 2016, imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts from Belgium, Colombia, and Thailand were valued at an estimated \$10.2 million, \$26.5 million, and \$49.9 million, respectively.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or before July 17, 2017.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts from Belgium, Colombia, and/or Thailand, materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry in the United States, the investigations will continue, and the Department will be scheduled to announce its preliminary CVD determination in August 2017 and its preliminary AD determinations in November 2017, though these dates may be extended. If the ITC’s determinations are negative, the investigations will be terminated.

ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGINS
Belgium	15.80 to 62.13 percent
Colombia	41.18 to 49.46 percent
Thailand	4.60 to 40.00 percent

ESTIMATED SUBSIDY RATE:

COUNTRY	SUBSIDY RATE
Thailand	Above <i>de minimis</i>*

* *de minimis* = less than 1% for developed countries, less than 2% for developing countries.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATIONS	CVD INVESTIGATION
Petitions Filed	June 2, 2017	June 2, 2017
DOC Initiation Date	June 22, 2017	June 22, 2017
ITC Preliminary Determinations*	July 17, 2017	July 17, 2017
DOC Preliminary Determinations	November 9, 2017	August 28, 2017†
DOC Final Determinations	January 23, 2018	November 9, 2017
ITC Final Determinations**	March 9, 2018	December 26, 2017†
Issuance of Orders***	March 16, 2018	January 2, 2018

NOTE: Commerce preliminary and final determination deadlines are governed by statute. For CVD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 703(b) and 705(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For AD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 733(b) and 735(a) of the Act. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

†Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

* If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the investigations are terminated.

**This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce.

***This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

BELGIUM	2014	2015	2016
Volume (metric tons)	9,392	10,970	8,345
Value (USD)	13,223,200	14,210,504	10,202,748
COLOMBIA	2014	2015	2016
Volume (metric tons)	18,588	20,229	21,656
Value (USD)	23,996,216	25,826,597	26,523,630
THAILAND	2014	2015	2016
Volume (metric tons)	34,594	40,491	48,411
Value (USD)	44,047,407	46,762,447	49,925,417

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 2918.14.0000 and 2918.15.1000)

Imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts may also enter under HTSUS subheadings 2918.15.5000 and 3824.99.9295. These HTSUS subheadings are basket categories and cover both subject and non-subject merchandise; therefore, these HTSUS subheadings have been excluded for purposes of reporting the above import statistics.