

Voluntary Report - public distribution

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Nigeria

Grain and Feed

Nigerian Rice Tariff Update

2003

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> Report Highlights: On March 19, 2003, the Nigerian Customs Service issued a circular stipulating that import duty on rice imported from Thailand and India will be calculated on CIF value of \$230 per ton and \$205 per ton respectively. This circular supersedes the earlier one reported in NI3008.

> > Includes PSD changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Lagos [NI1], NI

Executive Summary

The GON has revised its earlier decision that the import duty on all categories of rice imports will be calculated on a minimum CIF value of Two Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$270) per ton. This follows complaints by rice importers in the country that the rate was arbitrary. The Nigerian Customs Service issued circular no. 13/2003, titled "Re: Under Invoicing in the importation of rice," dated March 19, 2003. This circular supersedes circular no. 08/2003 reported in NI3008. The full text of the new directive is as follows:

"With effect from the March 14, 2003, import duty and other statutory charges on rice imported from Thailand will be calculated on a minimum cost of One Hundred and Ninety dollars (\$190) per ton, and freight of not less than Forty dollars per ton, thereby giving a CIF value of Two Hundred and Thirty dollars (\$230) per ton.

Rice imported from India will attract a FOB price of One Hundred and Sixty dollars (\$165) per ton and Forty dollars for freight, giving a CIF value of Two Hundred and Five dollars (\$205) per ton. "

Post met with customs official who stated that the duty on rice imports from the United States will be calculated on \$230 per ton, the same as Thai rice.

Import purchases which slowed down following the first circular, has since the release of the new circular, picked up markedly.

Note that although the new circular was dated March 19, 2003, it was effective from March 14, 2003.