International Trade



NPPC supports trade agreements and other trade initiatives that open new and expand existing export markets and eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers to U.S. pork exports.

Elimination of Ongoing Market Access Issues Globally

Countries in Asia and the South Pacific are some of the fastest growing regions in the world. However, many tariff and non-tariff barriers exist throughout the region. The U.S. must prioritize market access discussions with Vietnam, the Philippines, and Australia.

> Vietnam: The ongoing ban on white offal must be resolved. In 2011, the country instituted a ban on the importation of all pork offal, without explanation. In April 2011, the country lifted the import ban on red offal (e.g., heart, liver, kidney) but left the ban on white offal (e.g., intestine, spleen, tongue, etc.) in place. The country lifted its ban on white offal on Jan. 25, 2014, and many U.S. companies subsequently completed and submitted to Vietnam paperwork to begin exporting white offal to the country. An inconsistent approval process, however, has left many still waiting for approval to export white offal to Vietnam.

> The Philippines: One of the main non-tariff obstacles that must be addressed is the cold storage requirements for imported pork. Under two administrative orders, the Philippines requires all imported meat to be placed in a cold storage facility. However, domestically produced meat is exempt from this requirement, suppressing demand for U.S. pork and clearly violating World Trade Organization rules related to non-discriminatory treatment of imports.

> Australia: The country limits U.S. pork imports for retail to products that are heat-processed or frozen and boneless for further processing, because of what the country claims are risks associated with the transmission of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) virus to the Australian swine herd. These restrictions are inconsistent with international standards and scientific findings.

Facts That Matter:

Pork exports are vital to the U.S. pork industry. **\$7.6 billion** is exported to over 100 foreign destinations. The total value of exports equates to more than **\$61** in average value from each hog that is marketed in the U.S. More than 155,000 U.S. jobs are supported by pork exports, which contributed over \$14.5 billion to the U.S. economy.

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We invite you to learn more about policy issues to support and strengthen America's pork producers at <u>NPPC.org</u>.

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