

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** April 03,2020

**Report Number:** ES2020-0008

**Report Name:** El Salvador eliminates tariffs for certain food products and sets maximum sale prices due to COVID-19

**Country:** El Salvador

**Post:** San Salvador

**Report Category:** Country/Regional FTA's, Trade Policy Incident Report, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications, Country/Regional FTA's, Trade Policy Incident Report, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications, Agriculture in the Economy, National Plan, Policy and Program Announcements, FAIRS Export Certificate Report, FAIRS Annual Country Report, FAIRS Subject Report, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative, Grain and Feed, Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

On March 20th, 2020 the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly issued decree 604 temporarily eliminating import tariffs on certain products to guarantee sufficient supply during the COVID-19 emergency. Also, on March 30th, the government of El Salvador set maximum sales prices for basic food products sold at the wholesale and retail level.

The Salvadoran Legislative Assembly issued decree 604 eliminating import tariffs on certain products due to the COVID-19 emergency. Food products included are: red kidney beans, milled rice, corn flour, rice flour, wheat flour and homogenized vegetables. In the case of red beans, the Ministry of Economy (MINEC) set a 25,000 metric ton import quota that would be allowed duty free. MINEC also set a 7,500 metric ton quota for milled rice to be imported duty free.

In addition, on March 30th, 2020 the government of El Salvador through the Consumer Protection Agency issued maximum prices for basic food products at the wholesale and retail levels (13% Value-Added-Tax included)

Product	Wholesale (per 100 pounds)	Retail (per pound/eggs per unit)
White Corn	\$18.00	\$0.25
Milled White Rice	\$42.00	\$0.50
Pre-cooked Rice	\$45.00	\$0.55
Black Beans	\$60.00	\$0.65
Red Beans	\$63.00	\$0.70
Red Kidney Beans	\$68.00	\$0.75
Table Eggs		\$0.15

Product	Supermarket	Wet Markets
White Onion	\$1.05 per pound	\$0.25 per unit
Purple Onion	\$1.20 per pound	\$0.25 per unit
Sweet Pepper	\$0.39 per unit	\$0.17 per unit
Cooking Tomatoes	\$0.75 per pound	\$0.08 per unit
Salad Tomatoes	\$1.05 per pound	\$0.27 per unit
Washed Potatoes	\$1.29 per pound	\$0.65 per pound
Unwashed Potatoes	\$1.00 per pound	\$0.63 per pound

*Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock*

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.