The fruit and vegetable market in Switzerland
Overview of the market and access information for international trading companies

Author of the study:
Mrs. Marjorie Chevalley,
SWISSCOFEL

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This report is directed predominantly at international trading companies. It provides the reader with an overview of the fruit and vegetable market in Switzerland; it also contains addresses for the most important Swiss and international organisations, as well as the regulations and special features of the Swiss market.

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Switzerland

Switzerland is a neutral sovereign state situated in the middle of Europe. Although it is not a member of the European Union, the EU is by far its largest trading partner.

Economic aspects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross domestic product</td>
<td>635 SFr billion (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth rate</td>
<td>1.7% (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of inflation</td>
<td>0.4% (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>3.2% (2014)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currency:

1 Swiss franc = 100 Swiss centimes

Rate of exchange:

(Status: July 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>Rate to SFr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>0.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPY</td>
<td>0.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBP</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current exchange rates:

http://quotes.ubs.com/quotes
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<td>APPENDIX NO. 2: POSSIBLE IMPORTS AND EFFECTIVE IMPORTS IN 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Overview / summary

This work arose in the course of Sippo's import promotion programme, whose range of services includes marketing and product advice, import-export promotion through sourcing and the provision of partners, participation at trade fairs, export marketing training with information events, and trade information. The purpose of this report is to give foreign suppliers a general introduction and an initial assessment of the situation for the fruit and vegetable sector. Nevertheless, the information given must be verified in specific cases as regulations are subject to change without notice. No liability whatsoever can be accepted on the basis of information contained in this report.

In comparison with the rest of Europe, Switzerland has a small fruit and vegetable market. However, it is well developed and is characterised by supplies of exceptionally high quality. Half of all consumed fruit and vegetables are imported. Fruit and vegetables that are traditionally and naturally cultivated in Switzerland are subject to a flexible import system. Should there be no domestic production of a certain fruit or vegetable, these products can be imported in unlimited quantities and with very low customs duties. Should demand exceed domestic production, tariff-rate quotas are released. Whenever local supplies are sufficient, it is only possible to import fruit and vegetables at a high customs duty. As for other products, particularly bananas, pineapples, exotic fruits, grapes, peaches, nectarines, citrus fruit and melons, the imports are not restricted with regard to quantity and customs duty.

Switzerland also has a system for preferred customs tariffs (generalised system of preferences [GSP]). Many products from developing countries are subject to reduced customs tariffs or can be imported duty-free. However, an official certificate of origin is essential.

There is a surplus of practically all types of fruit and vegetables in Switzerland throughout the whole year. Given such fierce competition, a supplier will have a chance only if he can stand out from other suppliers on the basis of superior services. For fruits or vegetables that are also cultivated in Switzerland, the best way for a foreign supplier to get a foothold in the Swiss market is to provide produce outside the Swiss season.

Quality is the main criterion for internationally traded products. This includes not only the product itself, but also the packaging, compliance with agreed deadlines and quantities, uninterrupted readiness to deliver, and other factors. As a rule, Swiss importers usually want long-term relationships with suppliers. New partners are tested and selected with caution. It may be a long time before major orders are placed with a supplier.
2. The fruit and vegetable market

2.1 General aspects

Switzerland has a population of around 8.2 million. Its cuisine is influenced by French, Italian, Austrian and German culinary traditions. In addition, the international network boosts demand for an exceptional variety of fruits and vegetables. A living standard that is above average within Europe enables the population to consume top-quality produce throughout the year.

This study largely refers to fresh fruits and vegetables. The definition of “fruit”, and “vegetable” within the FDHA regulations on produce and its derived products (SR 817.022.17) is given below.

Fruit

Art. 2 Definition

1 Fruit is unprocessed plant produce which is used for human consumption.

2 A distinction is made between the following kinds of fruit:
   a. Pome fruits: apples, pears, quinces, etc.
   b. Drupes: apricots, cherries, peaches, plums, damsons, mirabelles, greengages, etc.
   c. Soft fruit (berries): blackberries, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackcurrants, gooseberries, grapes, etc.
   d. Citrus fruit: grapefruits, mandarin oranges, clementines, oranges, lemons, etc.
   e. Exotic fruits: pineapples, bananas, dates, figs, avocados, etc.
   f. Hard-shelled fruit: sweet chestnuts, hazelnuts, coconuts, almonds, Brazil nuts, pistachios, walnuts, etc.

2 Dessert fruit is fruit that, when supplied to consumers, is clean and ripe and normally developed in shape, colour and internal properties, and is free of blemishes that affect its value for consumption.

3 Fruit intended for preserves or cooking is fruit that cannot meet or no longer meets the standards of dessert fruit but which is suitable for cooking, drying and other methods of preserving or usage. It may have external blemishes; may not be fully ripe or may be slightly over-ripe; may be slightly affected in terms of freshness and storage effects; or may be slightly shrunk and slightly devalued by unsuitable or excessive storage, or by transport damage.

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1 https://www.admin.ch/opc/de/classified-compilation/20143412/index.html#a21
Vegetables

Art. 5 Definition

1 Vegetables are plants or parts of plants that are used for human consumption.

2 A distinction is made between the following types of vegetable:

a. Tuber and root vegetables: potatoes, carrots, celeriac, beetroot, black salsify, kohlrabi, radishes, white radishes.

b. Stem vegetables: Swiss chard, rhubarb, asparagus, fennel, celery.

c. Leafy vegetables: all leafy cabbages, spinach, lettuce, cabbage lettuce and other leafy lettuces, Catalonia.

d. Fruit vegetables: cucumbers, tomatoes, courgettes, aubergines, melons.

e. Legumes and pulses (fresh): beans (including soya), peas, peanuts, snow peas, lentils.

f. Bulbous plants: all sorts of onion, garlic.

g. Chicory: Belgian endives (Witloof), red and green cicorino, winter chicory.

h. Artichoke, cauliflower, broccoli.

i. Seaweed

j. Seed

2.2 Market structure

The entire market for fresh fruit and vegetables, preserves, frozen products, concentrates, dried and powdered products, and semi-finished products made from them, can be structured as follows:

Product classification
- Domestically cultivated products
- Central European fruit and vegetables (cultivated)
- Exotic fruit and vegetables (not cultivated)

Method of cultivation
- Organic production
- Conventional and integrated production

Markets
- Retail and wholesale trade
- Discounters and cash-and-carry
- Catering trade, canteens, fast food
- Industry
- Weekly markets and sales directly from the farm

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2 https://www.admin.ch/opc/de/classified-compilation/20143412/index.html#a24
3 Controlled: the import of most of the fruit and vegetables cultivated in Switzerland is limited. Please see the following link for a list of the controlled products: www.swisscofel.ch > Aktuelles und Dokumente zum Download > Violetter Leitfaden zur Importregelung (right column)
4 Not controlled: imports are not limited with regard to quantities and customs tariffs. The products do not have any notified phase: see appendix no. 1.
2.3 Import regulations

In order to maintain a constant level of production in Switzerland, there are special import regulations which can differ throughout the year. The most important legal bases are:

- Agricultural law [LwG] (SR 910.1; articles 17-22, 169, 175)\(^5\)
- Agricultural imports regulation [AEV] (SR 916.01; articles 1-4, 10-15, 21-29)\(^6\)
- Regulation governing the import and export of vegetables, fruit and garden produce [VEAGOG] (SR 916.121.10; articles 1-9, 19-23)\(^7\)
- VEAGOG release regulation (SR 916.121.100).\(^8\)

Non-limited imports

Non-cultivated fruit and vegetables\(^9\) include asparagus, garlic, pickled gherkins, mushrooms, almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, sweet chestnuts, bananas, dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, grapes, mangoes, oranges, mandarins, lemons, limes, grapefruit, melons, papayas, peaches, nectarines, and kiwis.

For the import of citrus with leaves there are restrictive phytosanitary rules to be followed\(^10\).

Limited imports

The import of the majority of fruit and vegetable varieties cultivated in Switzerland is limited and controlled. They may be imported only by importers with a general import permit (GEB).\(^11\) The GEB is issued by the Federal Office for Agriculture. Depending on sales possibilities and domestic supplies, customs quota per products are released on a weekly basis during the cultivation period. The purpose of these measures is to prevent excess competition with domestic sales during the harvesting season.

Imports of organic products

Organic produce has been subject since 22 September 1997 to the import regulation regarding organic farming and the identification of organically produced food [organic food regulation] (SR 910.18).\(^12\)

Otherwise, organic produce is subject to the same import conditions as conventionally cultivated agricultural produce. There are no separate import quotas. In terms of customs laws, no difference is made between the methods of cultivation. However, if the products are labelled as organic produce, they must meet the principles laid down in the organic regulation in terms of production and processing. Additionally, production must comply with the test procedures stipulated in the organic regulations.

Customs quotas

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\(^5\) [Link](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c910_1.html)
\(^6\) [Link](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c916_01.html)
\(^7\) [Link](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c916_121_10.html)
\(^8\) [Link](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c916_121_100.html)
\(^9\) See appendix no. 1: fruit and vegetables without notified phase
\(^10\) Notes for the import of products with phytosanitary rules: [Link](https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/de/home/nachhaltige-produktion/pflanzenschutz/pflanzengesundheit-eidg-pflanzenschutzdienst/einfuhr.html)
\(^12\) [Link](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c910_18.html)
Switzerland has notified the WTO of the minimum amount of goods required for entry into the market for cultivated fruit and vegetables in the form of a customs quota. As a result of the WTO agreements, Switzerland must ensure that a certain quantity can be imported at the quota customs rate (KZA) each year. The minimum entry into the market amounts to:

- Fresh vegetables 166,076 t
- Frozen vegetables 4,500 t
- Apples, pears, quinces (fresh) 15,800 t
- Apricots, cherries, plums (fresh) 16,340 t
- Other fresh fruit 13,360 t

Imports of cultivated fruits and vegetables are subject to a two-phase system. Each product is divided up into a controlled and a non-controlled period of time.\(^{13}\) During the non-controlled phase, companies registered in Switzerland can import the corresponding product without any limitations on quantity. In the controlled phase, there are three different import possibilities:

1. **Supplementary quotas at the quota customs rate (KZA)**
   Domestic production cannot satisfy market demand. Upon an application by the branch organisation, the Federal Office for Agriculture approves supplementary quotas. These can be exploited proportionally by importers with a general import permit and a quota share.\(^ {14}\)

2. **Imports at the non-quota customs rate AKZA code 1 (reduced customs duty):**
   No quotas are permitted if domestic products can satisfy the market. However, imports are nevertheless possible under the AKZA code 1.

3. **Imports at the non-quota customs rate AKZA (customs duty deposited in GATT):**
   If imports are made in addition to permitted supplementary quotas, the high customs duty (AKZA) has to be paid in return. The competitiveness of imported products on the Swiss market is substantially restricted by this instance of customs duty.

*Tomatoes as an example*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Import possibility</th>
<th>Customs rate in SFr per 100kg gross</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 Oct. - 30 April</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May - 20 Oct. (controlled phase)</td>
<td>Supplementary quotas at the KZA</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Imports at the AKZA code 1</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Imports at the AKZA</td>
<td>264.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For certain products, Switzerland has autonomously determined even shorter controlled periods.

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\(^{13}\) Guide to the import regulation: [www.swisscofel.ch > Aktuelles und Dokumente zum Download > Violetter Leitfaden zur Importregelung](https://www.swisscofel.ch/fileadmin/flash/einfuehren/aktuelles/aktuelles/aktuelles.htm)

Preferred customs tariffs (Generalised System of Preferences [GSP])

Preferential customs treatment allows developing countries and territories to increase and diversify their exports to Switzerland. Switzerland grants reduced customs duties (customs preferential scheme) for most agricultural produce. Often, no customs duty is charged on imports from the least-developed countries [LDC]. In principle, this applies to non-controlled products or to controlled products that can be imported within the quota.

The ordinance on preferential duty rates for developing countries (Ordinance on Tariff Preferences)\(^\text{15}\) governs the tariff preferences in favour of developing countries: the least developed countries (LDC) can export these products into Switzerland duty-free. The prerequisite is a certificate of origin. Certain products from countries that benefit from a debt-relief initiative can also export these products into Switzerland duty-free.

The states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the European Community (EC) have preferential treatment for imports. The customs duty and the tariff quotas are listed in the Ordinance on the rate of duty for goods traded with the EU and EFTA member states (Free Trade Ordinance 1) (SR 632.421.0)\(^\text{16}\). This ordinance also lists the duty-free quotas for imports from the EU.\(^\text{17}\)

The ordinance on the duty rates for goods traded with free trade partners (except the EU and EFTA member states) (Free Trade Ordinance 2),\(^\text{18}\) specifies the duty concessions for imported goods from Turkey, the Faroe Islands, Israel, Morocco, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Macedonia, Mexico, Jordan, Singapore, Chile, Tunisia, Lebanon, the Republic of Korea, the South African Customs Union, Egypt, Canada, Japan, member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Albania, Serbia, Peru, Ukraine, Montenegro, Hong Kong, China, Bosnia-Heregovina, Colombia and other Central American nations.

Value-added tax

Foodstuffs are subject to a reduced value-added tax rate (currently 2.5%), irrespective of their origin.

\section*{2.4 \hspace{1em} Trends}

It is anticipated that the residential population will only increase slightly. The average age will increase. Although older people tend to consume fewer foodstuffs, they are considered to be more quality- and health-conscious.

Switzerland has around 3.5 million households. The number is on the increase, and there was an average of 2.26 persons per household in 2013. Since many people do not have lunch at home and the households tend to be small, they prefer high-quality, pre-processed foods (convenience products) and smaller packages. Swiss consumers are less price-conscious than German consumers, and eat more frequently in restaurants. Consumption of fast food products is on the increase.

\(^{15}\) \url{http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c632_911.html}
\(^{16}\) \url{http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c632_421_0.html}
\(^{17}\) \url{http://www.ezv.admin.ch/zollinfo_firmen/abfertigungshilfen/zollkontingente/index.html?lang=de}
\(^{18}\) \url{http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c632_319.html}
On average, a household devotes only 10.5% of its expenditures to foodstuffs and beverages. For decades, the trend has been on the decline and this will continue in the future. Although the income per household is increasing, expenditure on food is stagnating or not decreasing.\textsuperscript{19}

\textsuperscript{19} http://www.bfs.admin.ch/
Overall per capita consumption of fruit and vegetables is high, and is increasing slightly. The national “5 per day” campaign encourages the consumption of fruits and vegetables. The message of this campaign is: Five portions of fruit and vegetables per day are very good for your health and well-being.

The Swiss population has modified its buying habits over the past 30 years. The retail trade offers an increasingly wide range of fruit and vegetables. Consumers are being sensitised to healthy eating. The demand for fair trade and organic products has increased substantially.

Mini vegetables are a very successful niche product. The interest in mini vegetables is increasing in the catering trade as well as in first-rate restaurants.

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20 [www.5amtag.ch](http://www.5amtag.ch)
2.5 Market prospects and economic circumstances

Overall consumption of fruit and vegetables will rise, particularly due to increased health awareness. Naturally produced products of high quality have particularly good chances for growth, as do convenience products. Demand for individual products can be increased if they are offered before or after the season in Switzerland.

Since 1970, the structure of the population in Switzerland has changed as a result of immigration. Around 24% of the current population in Switzerland comes from abroad. These sectors of the population have brought their cultural and culinary customs with them to Switzerland. Since the majority of immigrants come from Mediterranean and Asian countries, the retail trade has expanded its range of produce to respond to their tastes. This diversification of the available product range has had an exceptionally positive influence on the demand for fruit and vegetables as a whole.

A further factor is the Swiss enthusiasm for travel. Positive culinary experiences on holidays result in an extension of the product range – usually in the form of convenience products – to include dishes from all over the world, especially Asia.

The catering trade is also experiencing a trend towards more Mediterranean and Asian cuisine.
The major distributors’ main sales are in the following exotic products: bananas, kiwis, pineapples, avocados, mangoes and papayas. Further popular products are limes, lychees, dates, ginger, passion fruit, physalis, star fruit, pomegranate, medlar, cassava, cactus figs, cherimoyas, and kumquats.

2.6 Trade structures

As is the case throughout Europe as a whole, trade structures are undergoing a shift. The major distributors, Migros and Coop, determine the market when it comes to the Swiss retail trade. However, the retail trade includes other chains of food shops such as Denner, Magro, Spar, Volg, and Prodega. German discounters, such as Aldi and Lidl, have also been expanding in the market. However, Migros (M-Budget) and Coop (Prix Garantie) also offer affordable product ranges. Furthermore, a concentration process is under way, which is strengthening their respective positions. The trend towards a centralisation of purchasing is increasingly limiting suppliers’ sales opportunities.

Due to the strong presence of Migros and Coop, there is a certain interdependency between suppliers and the major distributors with regard to pricing, marketing, positioning, and advertising, among other factors. The wholesale trade needs to increasingly orient its services towards the requirements of these major retailers.
3. Imports

Fruit and vegetables with a value of around 1.7 billion Swiss francs are imported annually into Switzerland.

Import of edible fruit; citrus fruit or melon peel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tonnen</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>CHF 1000</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>CHF 1000</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>444 880</td>
<td>100,00%</td>
<td>854 024</td>
<td></td>
<td>494 177</td>
<td>100,00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>310 846</td>
<td>69,9%</td>
<td>577 843</td>
<td></td>
<td>342 211</td>
<td>69,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>3 726</td>
<td>0,8%</td>
<td>6 582</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 092</td>
<td>0,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa (other)</td>
<td>19 279</td>
<td>4,3%</td>
<td>42 513</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 562</td>
<td>4,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>10 719</td>
<td>2,4%</td>
<td>25 813</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 285</td>
<td>2,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>13 189</td>
<td>3,0%</td>
<td>57 854</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 430</td>
<td>1,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>43 409</td>
<td>9,8%</td>
<td>60 701</td>
<td></td>
<td>45 132</td>
<td>9,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>36 897</td>
<td>8,3%</td>
<td>64 572</td>
<td></td>
<td>56 747</td>
<td>11,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>6 815</td>
<td>1,5%</td>
<td>18 144</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 718</td>
<td>1,4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Import of vegetables, plants, roots and tubers for nutritional purposes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tonnen</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>CHF 1000</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>CHF 1000</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>269 935</td>
<td>100,00%</td>
<td>552 643</td>
<td></td>
<td>279 868</td>
<td>100,00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>260 820</td>
<td>96,6%</td>
<td>446 501</td>
<td></td>
<td>241 644</td>
<td>86,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>14 586</td>
<td>5,4%</td>
<td>18 891</td>
<td></td>
<td>14 528</td>
<td>5,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa (other)</td>
<td>2 716</td>
<td>0,5%</td>
<td>6 779</td>
<td></td>
<td>938</td>
<td>0,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>11 148</td>
<td>4,1%</td>
<td>47 482</td>
<td></td>
<td>14 444</td>
<td>5,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>7 711</td>
<td>2,9%</td>
<td>29 832</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 840</td>
<td>1,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>0,1%</td>
<td>537</td>
<td></td>
<td>919</td>
<td>0,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>0,2%</td>
<td>2 171</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 873</td>
<td>0,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>0,3%</td>
<td>448</td>
<td></td>
<td>682</td>
<td>0,2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.swiss-impex.admin.ch

In terms of volume, around half of the fruit and vegetables consumed on the domestic market are imported. However, there are major differences according to production possibilities. For example, about 9% of carrots, 37% of tomatoes and around 8.5% of pome fruits were imported in 2014. At the same time, there are also exports (2,125 tons of dessert apples and pears). Exotic fruits and vegetables are only imported.

Fruits and vegetables are mainly imported from neighbouring states and Southern Europe, with about 62% of the fruit and 86% of the vegetable imports coming from Europe. Also, non-European exporters have become important sources for vegetables: Morocco, for instance, accounted for more than 20% of imported tomatoes in 2014.
4. Importers

4.1 Basic aspects

Approximately 365 Swiss importers share the entire import of fruit and vegetables. Depending on market conditions, the quotas are only partially exploited. As a rule, the customs quota part quantities allocated to the importers are valid for one week. They expire if they are not used. If a shortage is anticipated on the domestic market, customs quota part quantities are again allocated for the following days. Hence, the annual sum of the individual customs quota part quantities is larger than the effective import amounts. Appendix no. 2 lists the potential imports and the actual imports per product. As a rule, the minimum entry into the market granted by Switzerland in accordance with the WTO obligation is significantly exceeded.

The release of customs quota part quantities (ZKTM) is published on the internet by the Federal Office for Agriculture.21 The importer can calculate his gross import quantity for the relevant product by means of his customs quota quantities (ZKM represented as a %).

The allocation of the customs quota quantities are published once a year for/by all fruit and vegetable importers.22 This publication shows the most important importers per product.

4.2 Major distributors as importers

Together, Migros23 and Coop,24 the two major distributors that operate a national network of retail outlets, sell over half of the total volume of fruit and vegetables. At the same time, they have the largest customs quota quantities. In addition, they also assume significant volumes from other importers.

23 http://www.migros.ch
24 http://www.coop.ch/
4.3 Importers as specialists

There are specialists who offer some fruits and vegetables of domestic origin. To extend the duration of supplies or to increase their range of products, they import a limited number of products.

According to the publication of customs quota allocations / the effective imports, the following companies (in addition to Migros and Coop), were amongst the main importers of the relevant products in 2014:

- **Apples:** FENACO Union-Fruits, Charrat; FENACO Steffen-Ris AG, Utzenstorf; Iseppi Frutta SA, Dornach; Geiser-agro.com ag, Langenthal.
- **Strawberries:** Iseppi Frutta SA, Dornach; Venzi + Paganini AG, Samedan; Schwab-Guillod AG, Müntschemier.
- **Aubergines:** Schwab-Guillod AG, Müntschemier; Kölla AG, Gümligen; AG für Fruchthandel, Münchenstein.
- **Beans:** Müller + Dietrich, Münchenstein; Satori SA, Aclens; EO Keller AG, Zürich.
- **Onions:** Gugger-Guillod SA, Sugiez; Walter Käppeli Gastro-Service, Merenschwand; Fruchtexpress (Schweiz) GmbH, Diepoldsau.
- **Tomatoes:** Union Maraîchère de Genève, Carouge GE; Stoll Frères SA, Montagny-Yverdon; Schwab-Guillod AG, Müntschemier.
- **Zucchini:** Schwab-Guillod AG, Müntschemier; Kölla AG, Gümligen; AG für Fruchthandel, Münchenstein.

Exotic produce (including bananas), is mainly imported by Migros, Zurich; Coop, Basel; Helfer Georges SA, Gland; AG für Fruchthandel, Basel; Giovanelli Fruchtimport AG, Frauenfeld; and Satori SA, Aclens.

4.4 Processors as importers

Depending on the market conditions, processing companies also function as importers of fresh products for further processing. For example, Brussels sprouts and broccoli are imported by Ditzler Louis AG, Möhlin; Frigemo Produktionsbetrieb, Mellingen; and Kadi AG, Langenthal. The import application can be approved only if there is no comparable produce available on the domestic market.

Pre-packaged frozen products are also imported. Alongside the retail sector, the importers are mainly processing companies such as Ditzler Louis AG, Möhlin; Hilcona AG, Schaan; Frigemo AG, Cressier; Nestlé Suisse AG, Rorschach; and Bischofszell Nahrungsmittel AG, Bischofszell.

Companies in the beverage industry also function as importers of raw materials for the production of juice or spirits.

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25 Allocation of customs quota quantities for fruit and vegetables  
(page down > Dokumentation)
5. Importers' requirements and expectations

5.1 Legal regulations

Foodstuffs are subject to Swiss laws and regulations irrespective of whether they are produced by the domestic market or imported. Swiss food regulation has been thoroughly harmonised with EU law. The precise working of the laws can be called up on the internet by means of the SO numbers (systematic order).

German:  https://www.admin.ch/gov/de/start/bundesrecht/systematische-sammlung.html
Italian:  https://www.admin.ch/gov/it/pagina-iniziale/diritto-federale/raccolta-sistematica.html

- **Law governing foodstuffs** (SR 817.0) Basis of foodstuff legislation.
- **Food and commodities regulation** (SR 817.02).
- **Regulation governing foreign substances constituents** (SR 817.021.23) Regulation governing additives and ingredients in foodstuffs lays down the maximum permissible concentrations for pesticides and growth regulators, heavy metals, pharmacological active agents, microbial toxins, radionuclides, nitrates and nitrites.
- **Regulation governing additives** (SR 817.022.31) Regulation governing the additives permitted in foodstuffs and the declaration of additives. Includes a positive list of approved substances and preparations and an application list of various additives with the maximum permissible amounts.
- **Hygiene regulation** (SR 817.024.1) Regulation governing the hygienic-microorganic standards for foodstuffs, objects, rooms and staff. Lays down tolerance figures for micro-organisms in foodstuffs and drinking water.
- **Regulation on quantity specification (Mengenangabeverordnung)** (SR 941.204) Regulation governing the quantity specification for goods sold per unit and packaged goods.

Swiss alimentary law is being revised at present. New standards will be put into effect by 2017.

5.2 Produce and market skills

As a rule, importers only import top-grade products. Producers and suppliers on the domestic and international market are expected to cultivate the optimum varieties for the Swiss market. The production methods must be selected to ensure that constant volumes of the highest-quality clean, ripe produce, can be marketed over the longest period possible. Their properties in terms of colour, shape and (where applicable) preparation, must meet consumers’ high demands. Fruit and vegetable suppliers are expected to be familiar with general domestic requirements.

Importer-specific requirements must be negotiated. These agreements are generally binding. EU standards apply if these are missing.
Cultivation issues

The Association of Swiss Vegetable Producers (VSGP),\(^\text{26}\) has available all necessary information on the selected varieties, weed control, pesticides in IP and organic cultivation; along with a list of requirements for IP production, composting and costing; and information on additive companies and suppliers. The Swiss Fruit Association (SOV) is responsible for the relevant information on fruit.\(^\text{27}\)

Like the EU, Switzerland does not currently permit the production and the marketing of genetically modified fruit and vegetables.

5.3 Quality standards and trade practices

Quality regulations promote the quality of products on the Swiss fruit and vegetable market, and simplify the handling process for all players.

The Swiss regulations apply to vegetables with a domestic and international origin that are ultimately brought to the Swiss market in an unprocessed state. These are listed on the Qualiservice website.\(^\text{28}\) The quality regulations for fruit are also listed on the Qualiservice website.\(^\text{29}\) Where no appropriate agreements have been made, Swiss trade practices apply. If these do not supply any information, the EU or the UN/ECE standards apply.\(^\text{30}\)

Most retailers require of imported products that they are produced according to the GlobalGAP standard.

The equivalent SwissGAP standard for fruits and vegetables must be followed for domestic produce.

The implementation documentation and technical requirements are available on the SwissGAP,\(^\text{31}\) and GlobalGAP websites.\(^\text{32}\)

The SwissGAP association goal is implementing the GlobalGAP standard and other standards of international relevance in Switzerland. Thereby SwissGAP respects existing structures in Switzerland. The SwissGAP standard is benchmarked against GlobalG.A.P.

In order to comply with consumer expectations and requirements of the market, all representatives (i.e. producers, warehouse keepers, processors, suppliers) have developed the certificate together, and continually work on improving it. The requirements of the GAP guideline cover the following areas:

- Food safety and health
- Health and safety protection in the workplace
- Protection of the environment and sustainable development
- Protection of animals

\(^{26}\) http://www.gemuese.ch/

\(^{27}\) http://www.swissfruit.ch/

\(^{28}\) http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen_gemuese.html

\(^{29}\) http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen_obst.html

\(^{30}\) http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen.html

\(^{31}\) http://www.swissgap.ch/technische-unterlagen.html

\(^{32}\) http://www.globalgap.org/
Each product must comply with the following criteria:
- Traceability: Must be traceable to the production company.
- Seeds and planting stock: The sowing of genetically modified organisms must comply with all existing laws and regulations in the land of cultivation.
- Pesticide labelling: Must include type of plantation, place, date, company name of the pesticide, name of the user.

5.4 Transport conditions

Transport policy
The performance-related road-user charge for trucks (LSVA) has applied in Switzerland since 1 January 2001 (article 85 of the Federal Constitution).33 In 2005, the weight limit for HGVs was increased to 40 tons. The objective of these measures is to limit the growth of heavy goods traffic, to encourage a shift of goods traffic to the railway, and to reduce environmental damage.

The LSVA applies to all goods vehicles with a laden weight in excess of 3.5 tons. The LSVA depends on the following factors:
- The amount of kilometres covered in Switzerland
- The gross vehicle weight rating of the vehicle
- The emission category of the vehicle

Further information on LSVA:

33 http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/101/a85.html
Packaging / containers

Packaging and containers should protect food products from damage and spoilage. The packaging must be clean and hygienic, and satisfy regulations pertaining to foodstuffs. The following systems are used in international trade:

Reusable container
- IFCO Systems GmbH: http://www.ifco.ch
- Euro Pool System: http://www.europoolsystem.com

Disposable container
- Wooden crates (40 x 60cm and 40 x 30cm)
- Cardboard box (40 x 60cm and 40 x 30cm)

Pallets
- Overseas transport: disposable pallets (wooden, treated against pests)
- Transport within Europe: reusable pallets EURO 80 x 120 cm (wooden)

Containers
- Overseas transport: air-conditioned CA containers (40’ and 20’)

Some importers wish to receive the fruit or vegetables at the stage when they can be put straight onto the shelves without the need for any further processing. The detailed requirements must be discussed with the customer in this case.

For imports to Switzerland, attention must also be paid to the fact that Switzerland enforces weight duty on the entire weight (gross weight). This means that the same customs duty must be paid for the packaging as for the main product.

Labelling
Labelling must comply with the requirements of the food law (Mengenangabeverordnung),34 and have the following objectives:
- Product description
- Logistical information via the EAN code (identification standard)
- Traceability

34 https://www.admin.ch/opc/de/classified-compilation/20120892/index.html
5.5 **Importers’ specific expectations**

- There is a surplus of almost all fruits and vegetables in Switzerland throughout the year. Given such fierce competition, a supplier will only have a chance if he can stand out from other suppliers on the basis of superior services. Importers set maximum store by the reliability of their suppliers.

**Adherence to deadlines**
The timing of the release of customs quota part quantities is very important so that the importers can order their goods in good time. This affects highly perishable goods, so the quantities allocated are valid for one week as a rule. Major losses and problems with supplying the market result from products of the desired quality not reaching shops in time.

**Residues / contamination**
Under no circumstances may foodstuffs contain forbidden substances or exceed the maximum permissible values of regulated substances.\(^{35}\) If products with excessive amounts of such substances are marketed and the existence of these substances can be substantiated the damage is enormous. Apart from fines and destruction of the products, boycotts of the suppliers in question and retail chains concerned are also possible. Due to the increase in responsibility regarding product liability in recent years, the route from production (plantation) to shop should be transparent. As a consequence, importers tend to cooperate with a small number of efficient partners. The suppliers should be able to offer as many products as possible throughout the year and be certified according to GlobalGAP.

**Prices**
In an EU-wide comparison, the national retail prices for fruit and vegetables are on average 30 to 40% higher. World market prices apply for imports.

Thanks to the import system, surpluses can frequently be avoided. The price situation is appropriately stable, though prices can fluctuate sharply according to the season and significant surpluses can affect prices. However, low prices cannot compensate for quality defects or late deliveries.

\(^{35}\) [http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c817_021_23.html](http://www.admin.ch/ch/d/sr/c817_021_23.html)
Refusal to accept / rejection

If agreements are not adhered to, importers can refuse to accept products. Damage may lead to rejection, whether it is the result of transport or it has occurred at the production stage. This is particularly the case when quality expectations or deadlines are not met or if products contain residues, which is unpleasant for all involved. However, the supplier is entitled to demand an expert’s report in order to have a quality defect neutrally assessed. In Switzerland, the Qualiservice GmbH is the responsible authority: it selects and trains experts.\(^{36}\) The trade practices are to be observed in the event of rejections.

“Social Code”

Increasing importance is also being placed on “fair” treatment of employees at production and trading levels. For example, workers on plantations and in packaging plants are expected to receive fair wages and good social security coverage, and there should be no child labour. A high level of safety in the workplace is important. This also explains the success of the Max Havelaar Label (the Max Havelaar Foundation issues a seal of quality for fairly traded products. By means of fair trade, the living and working conditions of small-scale farmers and plantation workers in disadvantaged regions are improved).\(^{37}\)

The “Global Compact’s Ten Principles” demand that companies recognise, support and implement within their area of influence a catalogue of basic values in the areas of human rights, working standards, protection of the environment and combating corruption. For further information, please visit: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles

\(^{36}\) http://www.qualiservice.ch
\(^{37}\) http://www.maxhavelaar.ch
6. The European market

Until 1 January 1995, the European Union (EU) comprised 15 member states. 10 new members joined in May 2004. These are: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Cyprus. Bulgaria and Romania joined in 2007; Croatia in 2013. The population of the EU amounted to 508 million in 2014.

Legal bases in the EU:
- Fruit and vegetable legislation:
- General principles and requirements of the food law:
  EC regulation 178/2002
- Marketing standard for quality, labels, packaging: EC 2200/96 regulation
- Pest control: EC 2002/89 regulation
  https://www.ippc.int/en/ (international), www.eppo.org (European)

Consumption

As a whole, the market for fresh fruit and vegetables is stable. However, consumption is decreasing in some countries. The new EU countries have a high per capita consumption level. The consumption of fruit and vegetables is considerably higher in the southern member states than in the northern member states. Moreover, more time is spent shopping for and preparing food in the south. In contrast, Northern Europeans (especially Britons) increasingly favour convenience products.

Per capita fruit consumption in kg 2013 (Freshfel Europe Monitor 2015)
Production
The European Union has a very high degree of self-sufficiency for fruit and vegetables. However, the seasons and the change in climate limit cultivation in the north of Europe. However, insufficient quantities during the winter months are alleviated partly through greenhouse cultivation. The rest is covered by imports from the north of Africa, Turkey and the Middle East. Suppliers from outside the EU can offer their produce on the European market mainly during the winter months. Exotic fruits can be imported throughout the whole year without any major problems.

Italy, France and Spain cover 63% of the fruit requirements and 42% of the vegetable requirements for Europe.

With the exception of Poland, the “new” member states (since 2004) produce small quantities of fruit and vegetables. These countries still have limited infrastructures. Upon their entry into the EU, they now have free access to the EU markets. As a result these new EU countries have increased cultivation and exports to Western Europe. The structural change is well under way. Intensive production is well developed, and the producers are organised into producer cooperatives. This type of cooperative increases competitive chances. Poland is already competitive in the field of berries, mushrooms, frozen products and fruit juices, for example.
Imports
In 2014, fruit imports into the EU countries amounted to 10.6 billion euro / 11.4 million tons. Vegetables valued at 1.9 billion euro / 1.7 million tons were imported. The products most commonly imported by the EU are bananas, citrus fruits, dates, figs, table grapes, apples, pears, melons, papayas and tomatoes.

There are also importers and exporters within the EU. The Netherlands (21.8%), the United Kingdom (19.2%), and Belgium (13.2%) are the countries with the greatest imports.

57.5% of vegetable imports and 13.7% of fruit imports come from developing countries. They have an important part to play in supplying bananas, sweet oranges, pineapples, table grapes and clementines. They also supply vegetables; these include mainly tomatoes, beans, onions, sweet peppers, and courgettes.

Exports
In 2014, exports of fruit from the EU amounted to 4.2 million tons at the cost of 3.3 billion euro, and exports of vegetables amounted to 2 million tons at 1.6 billion euro. The main exporters were: Poland (20.2%), the Netherlands (18.8%), Spain (16%) and Italy (11.5%).

The most important EU exports are apples, pears and citrus fruit. They make up almost 71% of fruit exports. The most important vegetables are onions and tomatoes, which make up 57% of vegetable exports. For further information on EU markets, please visit: http://www.freshfel.org/.
7. Useful addresses

**SWISSCOFEL**
Belpstrasse 26, PO Box 7954, CH-3001 Bern; Tel. +41 31 380 75 75; Fax. +41 380 75 76;
e-mail: sekretariat@swisscofel.ch; http://www.swisscofel.ch

SWISSCOFEL is the association for the Swiss fruit, vegetable and potato trade. The objective
of the national trade organisation is to ensure supply of the market with these products.
SWISSCOFEL represents the interests of its members from the wholesale and retail trade
(domestic and import trade, packaging companies, producers of ready-made fresh products,
major distributors, etc.) in their dealings with authorities, other trade organisations and the
public. Important services performed by SWISSCOFEL are: information, legal aid, further
training and participation in the import regulation for fruit and vegetables.

**International organisations**

**Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband e.V. (DFHV) Bundesverband Deutscher Fruchthandelsfirmen**
Bergweg 6, D-53225 Bonn; Tel. +49 228 911 45 0; Fax +49 228 911 45 45;
e-mail: info@dfhv.de; http://www.dfhv.de

This association represents the interests of German trade companies in the fruit and vegetable
sector.

**EuroCommerce**
Avenue des Nerviens 85, B-1040 Brussels; Tel. +32 2 737 05 98; Fax +32 2 230 00 78;
e-mail: bastings@eurocommerce.be; http://www.eurocommerce.be

EuroCommerce represents the retail, wholesale and export trade in Europe (EU hygiene
regulation / product liability).

**Euro-Handelsinstitut**
Spichernstraße 55, D-50672 Cologne; Tel. +49 2 215 79 93-0; Fax +49 2 215 79 93-45;
e-mail: info@ehi.org; http://www.ehi.org

The Euro-Handelsinstitut promotes the rationalisation of the goods trade and innovation in
trade / EAN coordination.

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, I-00153 Rome; Tel. +39 06 57051; Fax +39 06 570 53152;
e-mail: fao-hq@fao.org; http://www.fao.org

The FAO's objective is to achieve food safety for all concerned and to improve dietary quality,
aricultural productivity and quality of life.

**Freshfel Europe**
Rue de Trèves 49-51, bte 8, B-1040 Brussels; Tel. +32 2 777 15 80; Fax +32 2 777 15 81;
e-mail: info@freshfel.org; http://www.freshfel.org

Freshfel Europe is the central organisation representing and coordinating the interests of
national associations on the EU level. Internationally trading groups may also apply for direct
membership.

**OECD**
2, rue André Pascal, F-75775 Paris Cedex 16; Tel. +33 145 24 82 00; Fax +33 145 24 85 00;
e-mail: webmaster@oecd.org; http://www.oecd.org

OECD is an organisation for economic cooperation in Europe: a “Scheme for the application of
international standards for fruit and vegetables”.

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Trade and market information

Foodnews GmbH
Steinenring 3, 4051 Basle; Tel. +41 61 713 20 35; Fax +41 61 713 20 37; e-mail: info@foodnews.ch; http://www.foodnews.ch
Foodnews is an independent internet magazine dealing with the subject of food.

International Trade Centre
Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; Tel. +41 22 730 01 11; Fax +41 22 733 44 39; e-mail: mns@intracen.org; http://www.intracen.org/
Market News Service conveys to developing countries price and market information in order to help them expand their trade.

Max Havelaar-Stiftung Schweiz
Limmatstrasse 107, 8005 Zürich; Tel. +41 44 278 99 00; Fax +41 44 567 89 59; e-mail: info@maxhavelaar.ch; http://www.maxhavelaar.ch
The Max-Havelaar Foundation issues a seal of quality for fair-trade products. By means of fair trade, the living standards and working conditions of small farmers and plantation works in disadvantaged regions are improved.

Qualiservice GmbH
Belpstrasse 26, PO Box 7960, CH-3001 Bern; Tel. 031 385 36 90 031; e-mail: info@qualiservice.ch; http://www.qualiservice.ch
Qualiservice is the national, neutral service centre for all types of quality controls, residue analyses and experts' reports for fruits, vegetables, potatoes and pre-cooked products.

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Ernährung (SGE)
Schwarztorstrasse 87, PO Box 8333, CH-3001 Bern; Tel. +41 31 385 00 00, Fax +41 31 385 00 05; e-mail: info@sge-ssn.ch; http://www.sge-ssn.ch
Explaining to the population all matters pertaining to a healthy diet using the latest scientifically proven and balanced measures of nutritional information, education and training.

Swiss Convenience Food Association (SCFA)
Worbstrasse 52, CH-3074 Muri b. Bern; Tel: +41 31 352 11 88, Fax. +41 31 352 11 85; e-mail: mail@swissconvenience.ch; http://www.swissconvenience.ch
The Swiss Convenience Food Association offers its members advice and support (producers of traditional heat-sterilised preserves, frozen products and refrigerated products) in legal and economic matters.

Production organisations in Switzerland

Schweizer Obstverband (SOV)
Baarerstrasse 88, CH-6300 Zug; Tel. +41 728 68 68; Fax +41 728 68 00; e-mail: sov@swissfruit.ch; http://www.swissfruit.ch
The Swiss Fruit Association (SOV) is a private branch organisation of fruit producers and processors. It represents members in their dealings with authorities, industry, consumers and the public.
Schweiz. Zentralstelle Gemüsebau und Spezialkulturen (SZG)
Bern-Zürich-Strasse 18, CH-3425 Koppigen; Tel. +41 34 413 70 70; Fax +41 34 413 70 75;
e-mail: info@szg.ch; http://www.szg.ch
The purpose of the SZG is making transparent the domestic supply, the design of Swiss
vegetable cultivation and of special cultures in line with the market demand, and compliance
with a healthy, varied production.

Verband Schweizer Gemüseproduzenten (VSGP)
Belpstrasse 26, PO Box 8617, CH-3001 Bern; Tel. +41 31 385 36 20;
Fax +41 31 385 36 30; e-mail info@gemuese.ch; http://www.gemuese.ch/
The VSGP is a professional organisation for producers of fresh, stored and processed
vegetables.

In the event of questions, please contact:
EU, UN/ECE standards
http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen.html

GlobalGAP
http://www.globalgap.org

SwissGAP
http://www.swissgap.ch

Release of the customs quota part quantities
Fruit and vegetables: https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/de/home/markt/einfuhr-von-agrarprodukten/gemuese-und-obst.html (page down > Dokumentation)

General import permit, documentation for importing fruit and vegetables
Federal Office for Agriculture, Mattenhofstrasse 5, CH 3003 Bern; Tel. +41 58 462 25 11;
Fax +41 58 462 26 34; e-mail: info@blw.admin.ch;

Importers and customs quota part quantities
Allocation of customs quota quantities for fruit and vegetables

Guide on import regulation
www.swisscofel.ch > Aktuelles und Dokumente zum Download > Violetter Leitfaden
zur Importregelung

PDF documents – Adobe Acrobat Reader
Adobe Acrobat Reader is free software that enables you to read files in a portable document format (PDF) on all important computer platforms.
http://www.adobe.de/products/acrobat/readstep2.html
Directory of pesticides
For further information: Federal Office for Agriculture, Pesticides Department, Mattenhofstrasse 5, CH 3003 Bern; Tel. +41 58 462 25 11; Fax +41 58 462 26 34; e-mail: info@blw.admin.ch; https://www.blw.admin.ch/blw/de/home/nachhaltige-produktion/pflanzenschutz/pflanzengesundheit-eidg-pflanzenschutzdienst/einfuhr.html

Quality regulations
- Vegetables: http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen_gemuese.html
- Fruit: http://www.qualiservice.ch/de/dienstleistungen/normen_obst.html

Legal bases
German: https://www.admin.ch/gov/de/start/bundesrecht/systematische-sammlung.html
Italian: https://www.admin.ch/gov/it/pagina-iniziale/diritto-federale/raccolta-sistematica.html

Statistics
Federal Office for Statistics, Espace de l'Europe 10, 2010 Neuchâtel
Tel. +41 58 463 60 11; http://www.bfs.admin.ch

Telephone book http://www.tel.search.ch

Transport policy
- Bundesamt für Raumentwicklung, ARE, CH-3003 Bern;
  Tel. +41 58 462 40 60; info@are.admin.ch; http://www.are.admin.ch
- LSVA, rates:

Packaging
- IFCO Systems GmbH: http://www.ifco.ch
- Euro Pool System: http://www.europoolsystem.com

Rates of exchange http://quotes.ubs.com/quotes

Economic policy
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft (seco), Holzikofenweg 36, CH-3003 Bern;
Tel. +41 58 462 56 56; Fax +41 58 462 27 49; http://www.seco.admin.ch

Customs information, customs post and tariff configuration
- Eidg. Oberzolldirektion, Monbijoustrasse 40, CH-3003 Bern;
  Tel. +41 31 322 65 11; Fax +41 31 322 78 72; http://www.ezv.admin.ch
- www.tares.ch (working tariff)
## Appendix no. 1 Fruits and vegetables without quotas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tarifnr.</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0703.1080</td>
<td>Shallots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0703.2000</td>
<td>Garlic, fresh or chilled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0703.9090</td>
<td>Allium-type vegetables, fresh or chilled (excl. leek)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0704.9090</td>
<td>Cabbage and similar edible vegetables of the brassica variety, fresh or chilled (excl. cauliflower, winter cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, red cabbage, white cabbage, pointed cabbage, savoy cabbage, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, pak choi cabbage, turnip cabbage and kale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0705.2990</td>
<td>Chicory [cichorium spp.], fresh or chilled, a.n.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0706.9090</td>
<td>Edible root vegetables, fresh or chilled, a.n.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0707.0050</td>
<td>Gherkins, fresh or chilled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0708.2010</td>
<td>Shelled and unshelled beans, fresh or chilled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0708.9090</td>
<td>Leguminous fruits, shelled and unshelled, fresh or chilled (excl. peas [Pisum sativum], beans [Vigna spp., Phaseolus spp.], guar beans and produce for human consumption)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.2090</td>
<td>Asparagus, fresh or chilled (excl. green asparagus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.5100</td>
<td>Mushrooms of the genus Agaricus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.5900</td>
<td>Mushrooms and truffles, other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.6090</td>
<td>Fruits of the genus Capsicum and genus Pimenta, fresh or chilled (excl. jalapeno peppers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.7090</td>
<td>Orache (garden) spinach, fresh or chilled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.9200</td>
<td>Olives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.9300</td>
<td>Pumpkins, squash and gourds (Cucurbita spp.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.9980</td>
<td>Watercress and dandelions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0709.9999</td>
<td>Vegetables, fresh or chilled, a.n.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0710.2210</td>
<td>Shelled and unshelled beans, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0710.2900</td>
<td>Leguminous vegetables, shelled and unshelled beans, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen (excl. peas [Pisum sativum] and beans [Vigna and Phaseolus varieties])</td>
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<tr>
<td>0710.3090</td>
<td>Garden (orache) spinach, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0710.4000</td>
<td>Sweet corn, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen</td>
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<tr>
<td>0710.8090</td>
<td>Vegetables, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, a.n.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0710.9090</td>
<td>Vegetable mixes, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, a.n.g.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0802.1100</td>
<td>Almonds, fresh or dried, in their shells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.1200</td>
<td>Almonds, fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2110</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, in their shells, for use as animal feed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2120</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, in their shells, for oil extraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2190</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, in their shells (excl. sorts for animal feed or oil extraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2210</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned, for use as animal feed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2220</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned, for oil extraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.2290</td>
<td>Hazelnuts [ Corylus spp.], fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned (excl. sorts for animal feed or oil extraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.3110</td>
<td>Walnuts, fresh or dried, in their shells, for use as animal feed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.3120</td>
<td>Walnuts, fresh or dried, in their shells, for oil extraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.3190</td>
<td>Walnuts, fresh or dried, in their shells (excl. sorts for animal feed or oil extraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.3210</td>
<td>Walnuts, fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned, for use as animal feed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0802.3220</td>
<td>Walnuts, fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned, for oil extraction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
0802.3290 Walnuts, fresh or dried, without shells, skinned or unskinned (excl. sorts for animal feed or oil extraction)
0802.4100 Chestnuts (Castanea spp.) in shell
0802.4200 Chestnuts (Castanea spp.) shelled
0802.5100 Pistachio nuts in shell
0802.5200 Pistachio nuts shelled
0802.6100 Macadamia nuts in shell
0802.6200 Macadamia nuts shelled
0802.7000 Kola nuts (cola spp.)
0802.8000 Areca nuts
0802.9030 Tropical nuts, fresh or dried, with or without shells, skinned or unskinned (excl. coconuts, Brazil nuts and cashew nuts)
0802.9090 Nuts, fresh or dried, with or without shells, skinned or unskinned (excl. almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, chestnuts, pistachios and tropical nuts)
0803.1000 Plantain bananas
0803.9000 Bananas, other
0804.1000 Dates, fresh or dried
0804.2010 Figs, fresh
0804.2020 Figs, dried
0804.3000 Pineapples, fresh or dried
0804.4000 Avocados, fresh or dried
0804.5000 Guavas, mangoes and mangosteens, fresh or dried
0805.1000 Oranges, fresh or dried
0805.2000 Mandarins, incl. tangerines and satsumas, plus clementines, wilkings and similar citrus hybrids, fresh or dried
0805.3000 Citrus fruit, grapefruit, fresh or dried
0805.4000 Shaddocks and grapefruit, fresh or dried
0805.5000 Lemons (Citrus limon, Citrus limonum) and limes (Citrus aurantifolia, Citrus Latifolia), fresh or dried
0805.9000 Lemons, shaddocks, grapefruits, mandarins, incl. tangerines and satsumas, plus clementines, wilkings and similar citrus hybrids, fresh or dried
0806.2000 Grapes, dried
0807.1100 Watermelons, fresh
0807.1900 Melons, fresh (excl. watermelons)
0807.2000 Papaya fruit, fresh
0809.3010 Peaches, fresh
0809.3020 Nectarines, fresh
0809.4015 Sloes, fresh, loose packed
0809.4095 Sloes, fresh, (excl. loose packed)
0810.2030 Mulberries and loganberries, fresh
0810.3012 Gooseberries, fresh
0810.4000 Cranberries, bilberries and other fruits of the genus Vaccinium, fresh
0810.5000 Kiwi fruit, fresh
0810.6000 Durians
0810.7000 Persimmons
0810.9092 Tropical fruit, fresh, a.n.g.
0810.9098 Other fruit, fresh
0811.1000 Strawberries, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners
0811.2010 Raspberries, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with added sugar or other sweeteners
0811.2090 Raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, loganberries, blackcurrant, reedcurrant and whitecurrant berries, and gooseberries, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners (excl. raspberries, all with added sugar or other sweeteners)
0811.9010 Black-, white- or redcurrant berries, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners
0811.9021 Carambolas, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners
0811.9029 Edible tropical fruits and nuts, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners (excl. carambolas)
0811.9090 Edible fruits and nuts, uncooked, boiled or steamed, frozen, with or without added sugar or other sweeteners (excl. strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, loganberries, blackcurrant, redcurrant and whitecurrant berries, gooseberries, bilberries and tropical fruits)
0813.1000 Apricots, dried
0813.2010 Plums, whole, dried
0813.2090 Plums, dried (excl. whole plums)
0813.3000 Apples, dried
0813.4011 Pears, whole, dried
0813.4019 Pears, dried (excl. whole pears)
0813.4020 Rose hips and elderberries, dried
0813.4081 Stone fruit, whole, dried, for use as animal feed (excl. apricots and plums)
0813.4089 Stone fruit, whole, dried, (excl. sorts used as animal feed, plus apricots and plums)
0813.4092 Edible fruits and nuts, dried, for use as animal feed, a.n.g.
0813.4099 Edible fruits and nuts, dried, for uses other than as animal feed, a.n.g.
0813.5012 Mixtures of nuts and dried fruits under headings 0801 or 0802, containing > 50% almonds and/or walnuts, containing hazelnuts and/or walnuts, for use as animal feed
0813.5019 Mixtures of nuts and dried fruits under headings 0801 or 0802, containing > 50% almonds and/or walnuts (excl. mixes with hazelnuts and/or walnuts, for use as animal feed)
0813.5021 Mixtures of nuts and dried fruits under headings 0801 or 0802, containing <= 50% almonds and/or walnuts, containing hazelnuts and/or walnuts, for use as animal feed
0813.5029 Mixtures of nuts and dried fruits under headings 0801 or 0802, containing <= 50% almonds and/or walnuts (excl. mixes with hazelnuts and/or walnuts, for use as animal feed)
0813.5081 Mixtures of edible and dried fruits and nuts, containing > 40% plums and <= 20% in total of apricots and/or pome fruit, for use as animal feed (excl. mixtures of dried fruit and nuts under headings 0801 and 0802)
0813.5089 Mixtures of edible and dried fruits and nuts, containing > 40% plums and <= 20% in total of apricots and/or pome fruit (excl. mixes used for animal feed, as well as mixes of dried fruit and nuts from headings 0801 and 0802)
0813.5092 Mixtures of edible dried fruit, or dried fruit and nuts, containing fruit or nuts from headings 0813.4081 to 0813.4099, for use as animal feed
0813.5099 Mixtures of dried fruit, or dried fruit and nuts, other
0904.1100 Pepper of the genus Piper, neither crushed nor ground
0904.1200 Pepper of the genus Piper, crushed or ground
0904.2100 Fruits of the genus Capsicum and genus Pimenta, dried, neither crushed nor ground
0904.2200 Fruits of the genus Capsicum and genus Pimenta, dried, crushed or ground
0905.1000 Vanilla, neither crushed nor ground
0905.2000 Vanilla, crushed or ground
0906.1100 Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers, Cinnamon (Cinnamomum zeylanicum Blume), neither crushed nor ground
0906.1900 Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers, other, neither crushed nor ground
0906.2000 Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers, broken or powdered
0907.1000 Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), neither crushed nor ground
0907.2000 Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), crushed or ground
0908.1100 Nutmeg, neither crushed nor ground
0908.1200 Nutmeg, crushed or ground
0908.2100 Mace, neither crushed nor ground
0908.2200 Mace, crushed or ground
0908.3100 Cardamoms, neither crushed nor ground
0908.3200 Cardamoms, crushed or ground
0909.2100 Coriander, neither crushed nor ground
0909.2200 Coriander, broken or powdered
0909.3100 Cumin seeds, neither crushed nor ground
0909.3200 Cumin seeds, broken or powdered
0909.6110 Caraway seeds, neither crushed nor ground
0909.6120 Anise, badian or fennel; juniper berries, neither crushed nor ground
0909.6210 Caraway seeds, broken or powdered
0909.6220 Anise, badian or fennel; juniper berries, broken or powdered
0910.1100 Ginger, neither crushed nor ground
0910.1200 Ginger, crushed or ground
0910.2000 Saffron
0910.3000 Turmeric
0910.9100 Mixtures of spices of various types
0910.9900 Spices, a.n.g. (excl. mixtures of various types)
1214.9090 Swedes, mangolds, fodder roots, hay, lucerne (alfalfa), clover, sainfoin, forage kale, lupines, vetches and similar forage products, whether or not in the form of pellets
### Appendix no. 2: possible imports and effective imports in 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customs tariff number</th>
<th>Stat. key</th>
<th>Product description</th>
<th>Possible imports (tons) in accordance with the release of customs quota part quantities</th>
<th>Effective imports (tons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VEGETABLES</strong></td>
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<td>Peretti tomatoes</td>
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<td>Tomatoes</td>
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<td>Onion for planting</td>
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<td>Spring onions</td>
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<td>Brussels sprouts</td>
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<td>Red cabbages</td>
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<td>Chinese cabbage</td>
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<td>Kohlrabi</td>
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<td>Iceberg lettuce, without surrounding leaves</td>
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<td>Batavia lettuce and others</td>
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<td>0705.1911</td>
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<td>0705.1921</td>
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<td>Curled lettuce</td>
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<td>0705.1931/41</td>
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<td>Chicory from the greenhouse</td>
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<td>Endive, curly</td>
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<td>Red chicory lettuce, others</td>
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<td>Sugar-loaf chicory</td>
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<td>Nostrani cucumbers</td>
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<td>Green and blanched celery</td>
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<td>Lamb’s lettuce</td>
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</table>
Publication of the allocation of the customs quotas 2014


Categories: fresh fruit and vegetables