

# Mexico Suspends Import Duties on Meat and Poultry

## **SPEAKERS**

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Mexico has eliminated import duties on all pork, beef and poultry muscle cuts for one year. The main impact on the red meat market is likely to be an uptick in pork muscle cuts imported from Europe. U.S. Meat Export Federation Vice President of Economic Analysis Erin Borrer has more details in this USMEF report.

### **Erin Borrer**

This general policy has been done by Mexico in the past and actually even last year, they again opened a 10,000 ton duty free quota for pork cuts, and they have opened periodic 30,000 ton quotas for poultry. Brazil is only a factor on the chicken side and remains ineligible to ship both pork and beef to Mexico. So on the pork side, the size of the Mexican market and its general open nature, that is certainly drawing the competitors into this space. Europe has been in the market really making a splash when we were under those retaliatory metal tariffs from 2018 to 2019, for about a year. Europe has gone from basically zero import share to 1.6% last year. An important note on Mexico's actions these tariff reductions have not included variety meats or processed products. And that's a big chunk of what Europe has been shipping. The variety meats are entering at a 10% tariff from Europe. But again, elimination of those tariffs on the muscle cuts will likely contribute to some additional EU growth. On the beef side it's pretty much irrelevant. U.S., Canadian and Nicaraguan beef are the main suppliers to the market and have duty free access already. Australia mainly ships skirt meat, which is actually under the variety meats code, so again, it's not included in these blanket tariff eliminations, so they're still paying a trade agreement tariff rate of 14.6%.

### **Joe Schuele**

For more information, please visit [USMEF.org](https://usmef.org). For the U.S. Meat Export Federation. I'm Joe Schuele.