

from direct access to Australia's retail market. Canada considers the restrictions to be more trade-restrictive than necessary and is continuing representations to resolve the matter.

In May 1998, Australian authorities proposed a generic Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on imported pork and sought public comments. In January 2001, Biosecurity Australia published an issues paper upon which Canada provided comments, including on the PRRS issue. Canada provided comments again on October 13, 2003, on the draft IRA that was released on August 12, 2003. The final IRA should be released sometime in 2004. Canada will be following closely and will make all necessary representations to press for improved access and to ensure that the results of the IRA do not result in further restrictions against Canadian products.

Mill Liners

On December 2, 2002, the Australian Customs Service initiated an investigation into the alleged dumping of iron and steel grinding mill liners exported to Australia from Canada. On September 17, 2003, the Australian Minister for Justice and Customs accepted the recommendation of the Customs Service that anti-dumping duties be imposed, for five years, on Canadian exports of mill liners. The dumping margin has been estimated at between 80% and 90%. The Canadian industry is concerned that Australian authorities did not consider all the relevant facts prior to their decision to impose anti-dumping duties on Canadian exports. The Government of Canada supports the Canadian industry in its request for a review of the decision and will closely follow upcoming decisions on that issue.

New Zealand

Overview

In 2003, Canada exported \$414 million in goods to New Zealand and imported \$541 million in return. In 2003, Canada's leading exports to New Zealand were fertilizer, frozen pork and lumber. Canada was New Zealand's largest foreign supplier of each of these products. In the same period, Canada's leading

imports from New Zealand were fresh, chilled and frozen beef and lamb meat. Total Canadian direct investment in New Zealand was \$1.1 billion in 2002.

Canada's Market Access Priorities for 2004

- Canada will continue to press for improved access for Canadian pork.
- Canada will also make representations for early removal of New Zealand's trout import ban and to ensure that it is not extended beyond the current expiry date of November 4, 2004.

IMPROVING ACCESS FOR TRADE IN GOODS

Pork

Effective September 1, 2001, New Zealand imposed new requirements suspending the import of unprocessed pork products from Canada and other countries due to alleged animal health concerns relating to porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome. The new measure requires that imported pork must be cooked either in the exporting country or in a transitional facility in New Zealand. These measures raise the cost of Canadian pork and exclude Canadian exporters from direct access to New Zealand's retail market. Canada considers the measure to be more trade-restrictive than necessary and is continuing representations to resolve the matter.

Trout

In December 1998, New Zealand imposed a "temporary" ban on the import of trout. Since then, the ban has been extended several times. In October 2001, New Zealand announced the replacement of the existing Customs Import (Trout) Prohibition Order 1998 with an entirely new one, which will be in force through November 7, 2004. New Zealand claims that the ban is for conservation reasons. Canada's position is that New Zealand has provided no scientific information to justify the ban on conservation or any other grounds, and that it is inconsistent with New Zealand's international trade obligations. Canada is continuing to make representations, bilaterally and multilaterally, to remove the ban.