

Chinese Taipei has committed to join the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement and has agreed to market access concessions in the Agreement for some key sectors of interest to Canada. Although the formal accession process has been slowed for technical reasons, Chinese Taipei has stated that its public tendering procedures will be fair, transparent and consistent with the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. Despite this commitment, public project tendering often continues to favour local suppliers.

#### **Market Access Results in 2004**

- Chinese Taipei lifted its BSE-related ban on certain pet food products. Canadian pet food plants that are not using raw materials derived from domestic ruminants can now apply through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to obtain Taiwanese approval to export to Taiwan.

#### **Canada's Market Access Priorities for 2005**

- Continue representations aimed at removing Chinese Taipei's remaining BSE measures on imports of beef and beef products from Canada.
- Continue representations aimed at removing Chinese Taipei's BSE measures on avian and porcine meat and bone meal, processed porcine blood and protein-free tallow.
- Continue representations aimed at removing Chinese Taipei's avian influenza measures on poultry products from British Columbia.
- Monitor Chinese Taipei's compliance with its WTO accession commitments, as they affect access for products of interest to Canadian firms.
- Encourage the accession of Chinese Taipei to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.
- Press for tariff parity with soybeans and corn for Canadian feed peas.
- Encourage Chinese Taipei to adopt a standard for icewine.
- Continue to encourage Chinese Taipei to recognize the equivalency of Canadian and U.S. quality control regimes for medical devices.
- Continue to press for advance notification of any changes in Chinese Taipei's regulations affecting trade in agricultural and forestry products.

- Request recognition of Canada's regulatory regime for products, which would reduce the need for Chinese Taipei's regular inspections of Canadian operations, for example, apple orchard inspections. Inspections are paid for by industry.

### **IMPROVING ACCESS FOR TRADE IN GOODS**

#### **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy**

Following Canada's May 20, 2003, announcement of a BSE case, Chinese Taipei issued a temporary ban on the import of Canadian meat and meat products including offals, animal feed, tallow and embryos. Effective August 27, 2003, Chinese Taipei authorities lifted the ban on imports of bovine, sheep and goat embryos from Canada. Canada has kept all its trading partners, including Chinese Taipei, fully informed of the results of its investigation and regulatory response, and it is requesting a resumption of trade on scientific grounds. (For further information, see the BSE overview in Chapter 2.)

#### **Feed Peas**

Chinese Taipei applies the same import tariff rate to feed peas as it does to peas for human consumption. This puts Canadian feed peas at a competitive disadvantage compared with soybeans and corn, which are used for animal feed. In WTO accession negotiations, Chinese Taipei agreed to reduce the tariff on feed peas to zero by 2007. The tariff rates on soybeans and corn meal are already zero.

#### **Ice Wine**

The Canadian Vintners Association and member wineries have complained that the presence of "false ice wine" in Chinese Taipei is undercutting the market for Canadian Vintners Quality Alliance ice wine and is having a negative impact on consumers' appreciation and acceptance of the product. Canada would like Chinese Taipei to follow the lead of Canada, the United States and European Union countries, which have adopted minimum quality standards for ice wine.