

billion board feet.

The following is a statistical summary of softwood lumber permit applications processed in 2003:

permits issued	39,694
permits routed	2,111
permits rejected	105
permits cancelled	612

Agri-food Products

As part of its implementation of the WTO agreements, the United States imposed TRQs on imports of peanut butter, certain sugar-containing products and refined sugar from Canada. The U.S. Government administers these TRQs on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to ensure orderly exportation under the TRQ system, Canada placed these products on the Export Control List. Exports of peanut butter, certain sugar-containing products and refined sugar to the United States require an export permit issued through EICB if exporters wish to take advantage of the in-quota US tariff rate. There are no quantitative restrictions on the exportation of these products from Canada to other destinations.

1. Peanut butter

Peanut butter was placed on the ECL on January 1, 1995. The Canada-specific TRQ that the United States provides is 14,500 tonnes. During 2003 the quota was 98% utilized.

2. Sugar-containing products

Sugar-containing products were placed on the ECL on February 1, 1995. Under WTO rules, the United States imposed a TRQ on imports from all sources of certain sugar-containing products (SCP) falling under Chapters 17, 18, 19 and 21 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States at a level of 64,773 tonnes. The quota year for sugar-containing products is from October 1 to September 30.

In September 1997, Canada and the United States exchanged letters of understanding under which Canada obtained a country-specific reserve of 59,250 tonnes within the US SCP TRQ. The understanding also provides that only goods that are "product of Canada" may be included in Canada's country-specific reserve. In 2002-2003, Canada's country reserve was fully utilized.

3. Refined sugar

Refined sugar was placed on the ECL on October 1, 1995. Under WTO rules, the United States established a global TRQ for refined sugar of 60,000 tonnes (raw equivalent). The quota year for refined sugar is from October 1 to September 30.

In September 1997, Canada and the United States exchanged letters of understanding under which Canada obtained a country-specific reserve of 10,300 tonnes, raw equivalent (i.e. 9,579 tonnes refined sugar), within the US refined sugar TRQ. The understanding also provides that only goods that are "product of Canada" may be included in Canada's country specific reserve. In 2002-2003, Canada's country reserve was fully utilized.

The following is a statistical summary of applications for export permits processed in 2003 for peanut butter, sugar containing products and refined sugar:

permits issued	6,757
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