

- 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.
- Reach agreement on phytosanitary protocols for greenhouse cluster tomatoes (tomatoes on the vine), table potatoes and seed potatoes.
- Press for tariff parity on feed peas and soybean meal.
- Encourage Chinese Taipei to undertake early inspections and approval of Canadian pet food plants so that they can resume exports.
- Encourage Chinese Taipei to adopt a standard for imported icewine.
- Encourage Chinese Taipei to recognize the equivalency of wood product standards.
- Continue to encourage Chinese Taipei to recognise 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 products.

## 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, 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.)

### Greenhouse Cluster Tomatoes

Both the Canadian greenhouse vegetable industry and importers in Chinese Taipei have indicated a desire to initiate trade in greenhouse cluster tomatoes (tomatoes on the vine). Canada is seeking access to the Chinese Taipei market for greenhouse-grown cluster tomatoes

from British Columbia. Chinese Taipei insists on restricting imports of tomatoes unless they can be certified as originating from an area free from potato late blight type A-2, a disease to which tomatoes are susceptible and which is found around the world.

### Table and Seed Potatoes

Chinese Taipei currently bans the import of seed potatoes from all Canadian provinces except New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec for fear of A-2 late blight and golden nematode. Chinese Taipei will not accept results from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's seed potato certification program, which deals with detecting A-2 across Canada. Compared with its requirements for other countries, Chinese Taipei's treatment of Canada is inconsistent.

### 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 when compared with soybean meal, which is used for animal feed. In WTO accession negotiations, Chinese Taipei agreed to reduce the tariff on feed peas to zero by 2007. The tariff rate on soybean meal is already zero.

### Icewine

The Canadian Vintners Association and member wineries have complained that the presence of "false icewine" in Chinese Taipei is undercutting the market for Canadian Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) icewine 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 icewine.

### Pet Food

Chinese Taipei currently bans the import of all Canadian pet food products derived from ruminant raw materials. Prior to Canada's May BSE announcement, pet food products were an important Canadian export to Chinese Taipei. Canada is involved in technical discussions to allow the resumption of trade.