

Sincerely,
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.
[FR Doc. 98-26803 Filed 10-6-98; 8:45 am]
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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the United Mexican States

September 30, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing levels under the North America Free Trade Agreement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

In order to implement Annex 300-B of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), restrictions and consultation levels for certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products from Mexico are being established for the period beginning on January 1, 1999 and extending through December 31, 1999.

These restrictions and consultation levels do not apply to NAFTA originating goods, as defined in Annex 300-B, Chapter 4 and Annex 401 of the agreement. In addition, restrictions and consultation levels do not apply to textile and apparel goods that are assembled in Mexico from fabrics wholly formed and cut in the United States and exported from and re-imported into the United States under U.S. tariff item 9802.00.90.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the

Commissioner of Customs to implement levels for the 1999 period.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 62 FR 66057, published on December 17, 1997). Information regarding the 1999 CORRELATION will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements
September 30, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), between the Governments of the United States, the United Mexican States and Canada, you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 1999, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in Mexico and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1999 and extending through December 31, 1999, in excess of the following levels:

Category	Twelve-month limit
219	9,438,000 square meters.
313	16,854,000 square meters.
314	6,966,904 square meters.
315	6,966,904 square meters.
317	8,427,000 square meters.
338/339/638/639	650,000 dozen.
340/640	174,137 dozen.
347/348/647/648	650,000 dozen.
410	397,160 square meters.
433	11,000 dozen.
443	182,498 numbers.
611	1,267,710 square meters.
633	10,000 dozen.
643	155,556 numbers.

The levels set forth above are subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of Annex 300-B of the NAFTA.

Products in the above categories exported during 1998 shall be charged to the applicable category levels for that year (see directive dated December 22, 1997) to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event

the levels established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the levels set forth in this directive.

The foregoing levels do not apply to NAFTA originating goods, as defined in Annex 300-B, Chapter 4 and Annex 401 of the agreement. In addition, restrictions and consultation levels do not apply to textile and apparel goods that are assembled in Mexico from fabrics wholly formed and cut in the United States and exported from and re-imported into the United States under U.S. tariff item 9802.00.90.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Sri Lanka

September 30, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roy Unger, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The import restraint limits for textile products, produced or manufactured in Sri Lanka and exported during the period January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999 are based on limits notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC).

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the 1999 limits. The limits for certain categories have been reduced for carryforward applied to the 1998 limits.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 62 FR 66057, published on December 17, 1997). Information regarding the 1999 CORRELATION will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

September 30, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 1999, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in Sri Lanka and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1999 and extending through December 31, 1999, in excess of the following levels of restraint:

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit
341/641	2,252,795 dozen of which not more than 1,501,864 dozen shall be in Category 341 and not more than 1,501,864 dozen shall be in Category 641.
342/642/842	758,739 dozen.
345/845	207,151 dozen.
347/348/847	1,178,469 dozen.
350/650	135,642 dozen.
351/651	375,700 dozen.
352/652	1,550,206 dozen.
359-C/659-C ¹	1,492,562 kilograms.
360	1,735,020 numbers.
363	14,048,739 numbers.
369-D ²	1,116,364 kilograms.
369-S ³	878,949 kilograms.
434	7,458 dozen.
435	15,981 dozen.
440	10,654 dozen.
611	6,795,497 square meters.
635	426,308 dozen.
638/639/838	1,096,108 dozen.
644	615,290 numbers.
645/646	246,115 dozen.
647/648	1,246,746 dozen.
840	354,181 dozen.

¹Category 359-C: only HTS numbers 6103.42.2025, 6103.49.8034, 6104.62.1020, 6104.69.8010, 6114.20.0048, 6114.20.0052, 6203.42.2010, 6203.42.2090, 6204.62.2010, 6211.32.0010, 6211.32.0025 and 6211.42.0010; Category 659-C: only HTS numbers 6103.23.0055, 6103.43.2020, 6103.43.2025, 6103.49.2000, 6103.49.8038, 6104.63.1020, 6104.63.1030, 6104.69.1000, 6104.69.8014, 6114.30.3044, 6114.30.3054, 6203.43.2010, 6203.43.2090, 6203.49.1010, 6203.49.1090, 6204.63.1510, 6204.69.1010, 6210.10.9010, 6211.33.0010, 6211.33.0017 and 6211.43.0010.

²Category 369-D: only HTS numbers 6302.60.0010, 6302.91.0005 and 6302.91.0045.

³Category 369-S: only HTS number 6307.10.2005.

The limits set forth above are subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the ATC and administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

Products in the above categories exported during 1998 shall be charged to the applicable category limits for that year (see directive dated December 22, 1997) to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limits established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the limits set forth in this directive.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,
Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment of Export Visa Requirements for Textile and Clothing Integrated into GATT 1994 in the Second Stage

September 30, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

ACTION: Issuing a Directive to the Commissioner of Customs amending export visa requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori E. Mennitt, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing provides for the integration of textiles and clothing into GATT 1994. The second stage of the integration commenced on January 1, 1998 (see 60 FR 21075, published on May 1, 1995). In a **Federal Register** notice published on October 3, 1997 (62 FR 51832), the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements announced that it had determined that it was necessary to maintain coverage of the currently applicable visa systems for the products to be integrated in the second stage of the integration and that an export visa issued by the government of the country of origin would continue to be required for products integrated on and after January 1, 1998, before entry is permitted into the United States.

Subsequent experience has shown that export visas for these products from World Trade Organization Member countries are not necessary. In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to no longer require a visa for these products from World Trade Organization Member countries entered into the United States on and after January 1, 1999.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit
237	342,660 dozen.
314	4,917,752 square meters.
331/631	3,489,709 dozen pairs.
333/633	65,632 dozen.
334/634	726,659 dozen.
335/835	319,730 dozen.
336/636/836	478,628 dozen.
338/339	1,453,319 dozen.
340/640	1,292,035 dozen.