



Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement

NMPF and USDEC strongly support the ongoing Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations that include Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore, the U.S. and Vietnam. We hope that the final TPP package results in an outcome that we will be able to support as positive for America's dairy industry. We see clear potential in key parts of the TPP if the following elements are successfully negotiated...

Reform of Government Advantages Driving Global Control

- TPP should address the anti-competitive New Zealand dairy industry structure as a vital precursor to any expansion of U.S.-New Zealand dairy trade by lowering the level of market concentration afforded to one New Zealand dairy company.
- New Zealand government policies that have driven the current industry structure include special legislation to permit exorbitant market concentration by one company and exclusive access for that same company to the country's export licenses that lasted for several years.
 - Taken together, these policies have yielded the concentration of roughly 90% of New Zealand's milk supply into the hands of one company, which in turn dominates over one third of global dairy trade.

Market Access

- Fully open the Canadian and Japanese dairy markets in order to provide sizable new export opportunities to the U.S. dairy industry.
 - Dairy was essentially excluded from NAFTA's U.S.-Canada piece so we do not enjoy the same open access that other U.S. ag sectors have to that market.
- Open access to the Vietnamese and Malaysia markets will also offer new sales opportunities.

SPS Chapter

- Unscientific and unpredictable sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) barriers often wreak havoc on global agricultural markets. Strengthened and enforceable SPS disciplines in TPP are critical to addressing this while preserving countries' legitimate rights to protect food safety.

Geographical Indications / Generic Names

- TPP should help provide improved safeguards for the use of common food names (e.g. parmesan, feta, romano). Many common cheese names are the target of active efforts by the European Union to block the U.S. and other competitors from using them through their Geographical Indications system.