

AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2003/37

CHEESE AND CURD TARIFF QUOTA – ALLOCATIONS FOR 2003-2004

The Australian Customs Service (Customs) will shortly be advising importers of their allocation of cheese and curd quota for the period 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004.

The calculation of an importer’s quota is based on the actual use of the quota by that importer in the 23-month period ending 31 May 2003, as shown in Customs’ records of clearances for home consumption. The 23-month period has been chosen to reflect the most recent use of quota by importers.

This calculation excludes any part of the quota that was transferred to another importer during the 23-month period or that was unused as at 31 May 2003.

Importers are reminded that quotas are allocated for a particular financial year. To use the quota allocated importers are required to ‘enter for home consumption’ their imported cheese or curd by the end of the financial year to which the allocation relates, that is, by 30 June of that year.

The cheese or curd is ‘entered for home consumption’ if:

1. an entry for home consumption for the goods is lodged with Customs; **and**
2. the vessel or aircraft carrying the cheese or curd has arrived at the first Australian port or airport at which **any** cargo is intended to be discharged.

If both conditions are not met by the end of the financial year to which the allocation relates, the goods will be taken to have been ‘entered for home consumption’ in the following financial year.

In such circumstances, the goods are either entered:

* under quota for the following financial year (if the importer has sufficient quota for that year); or
* without concession at the rate of customs duty applicable to the relevant subheading of Schedule 3 of the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*.

2.

Quota allocations are transferable between importers. An application to transfer quota entitlements may be made by completing a Transfer of Base Quota (Cheese and Curd) form (form B235) and submitting it to:

Director Tariff Concessions Australian Customs Service Customs House

5 Constitution Avenue CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Applicants are reminded that transfer applications are dealt with strictly in order of receipt and may take up to four working days to process. This processing time is suspended when it is necessary to return an incomplete or incorrect application, and resumes when the application is returned. Applications should be submitted well in advance of intended use.

The Transfer of Base Quota (Cheese and Curd) form B235 is available on the internet website [www.customs.gov.au](http://www.customs.gov.au/). Further information on the Cheese and Curd Quota Scheme may be obtained by telephoning (02) 6275 6483.

John Arndell

Acting National Manager Trade

For Chief Executive Officer 2 June 2003