



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-423-813]

Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from Belgium: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2023-2024

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of
Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that
Citribel nv. (Citribel) did not sell subject merchandise in the United States at prices below
normal value (NV) during the period of review (POR), July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. We
invite interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable [Insert date of publication in the *Federal Register*.]

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Cohen, AD/CVD Operations,
Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department
of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-
4521.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 25, 2018, Commerce published the antidumping duty (AD) order on citric acid
and certain citrate salts (citric acid) from Belgium in the *Federal Register*.¹ On August 14, 2024,
pursuant to section 751(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), Commerce
initiated an AD administrative review of the *Order*.² During the course of this administrative

¹ See *Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from Belgium, Colombia and Thailand: Antidumping Duty Orders*, 83
FR 35214 (July 25, 2018) (*Order*).

² See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 89 FR 66035 (August 14, 2024).

review, Citribel responded to Commerce’s questionnaire and supplemental questionnaires. For further details, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.³

Scope of the *Order*

The merchandise covered by this *Order* includes all grades and granulation sizes of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate in their unblended forms, whether dry or in solution, and regardless of packaging type. For a full description of the scope of the *Order*, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this review in accordance with section 751(a) of the Act. Export price has been calculated in accordance with section 772(a) of the Act, and NV was calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. A list of the topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is attached as an appendix to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Preliminary Results of the Review

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margin exists for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

Exporter/Producer	Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)
Citribel nv.	0.00

Disclosure

³ *See* Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review: Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from Belgium; 2023-2024,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties for these preliminary results within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register* in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(ii), we have modified the deadline for interested parties to submit case briefs to Commerce to no later than 21 days after the date of the publication of this notice.⁴ Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.⁵ Interested parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.⁶ All briefs must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety in ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this review, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.⁷ Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final results in this administrative review. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each

⁴ See 19 CFR 351.309.

⁵ See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (*APO and Service Final Rule*).

⁶ See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

⁷ We use the term “issue” here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).⁸

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, filed electronically via ACCESS. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Oral presentations at the hearing will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold a hearing at a date and time to be determined.⁹ Parties should confirm the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Assessment Rates

Pursuant to section 751(a)(2)(A) of the Act, upon completion of the final results of this administrative review, Commerce shall determine, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries of subject merchandise covered by this review.¹⁰ If the weighted-average dumping margin for Citribel (*i.e.*, the sole individually-examined respondent in this review) is not zero or *de minimis* (*i.e.*, greater than or equal to 0.5 percent) in the final results of this review, we will calculate importer-specific *ad valorem* assessment rates for the merchandise based on the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the examined sales made during the POR to each importer and the total entered value of those same sales, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1). Where we do not have entered values for all U.S. sales to a particular importer, we will calculate an importer-specific, per-unit assessment rate on the basis of the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the importer's examined sales to the total quantity of those sales.¹¹ To determine whether an

⁸ See *APO and Service Final Rule*.

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.212(b).

¹¹ See 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).

importer-specific, per-unit assessment rate is *de minimis*, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2), we also will calculate an importer-specific *ad valorem* ratio based on estimated entered values. Where an importer-specific *ad valorem* assessment rate is zero or *de minimis* in the final results of the review, we will instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties.¹² The final results of this administrative review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the final results of this review and for future deposits of estimated duties, where applicable.¹³

In accordance with Commerce's "automatic assessment" practice, for entries of subject merchandise during the POR produced by Citribel for which the producer did not know its merchandise was destined for the United States, we will instruct CBP to liquidate unreviewed entries at the all-others rate established in the original less-than-fair value (LTFV) investigation (*i.e.*, 18.81 percent)¹⁴ if there is no rate for the intermediate company (or companies) involved in the transaction.¹⁵

Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the *Federal Register*. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication of the final results of this administrative review for all shipments of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date of the final results of this administrative review, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) the cash

¹² See 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2).

¹³ See section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act.

¹⁴ See *Order*, 83 FR at 35215.

¹⁵ See *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties*, 68 FR 23954 (May 6, 2003).

deposit rate for Citribel will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin established in the final results of this administrative review, except if the rate is less than 0.50 percent, and therefore *de minimis* within the meaning of 19 CFR 351.106(c)(1), in which case the cash deposit rate will be zero; (2) for previously reviewed or investigated companies not listed above, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding in which the company participated; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review, a prior review, or in the investigation but the producer is, the cash deposit rate will be the rate established for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding for the producer of the merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be the all-others rate of 19.30 percent, the rate established in the LTFV investigation of this proceeding.¹⁶ These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Final Results of Review

Unless the deadline is extended pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(2), Commerce will issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of our analysis of the issues raised by the parties in their case briefs, not later than 120 days after the date of publication of this notice, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Notification to Importers

This notice also serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties occurred and the subsequent

¹⁶ See *Order*, 83 FR at 35215.

assessment of double antidumping duties, and/or an increase in the amount of antidumping duties by the amount of the countervailing duties.

Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing these preliminary results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1).

Dated: August 19, 2025.

Abdelali Elouaradia,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the *Order*
- IV. Discussion of the Methodology
- V. Currency Conversion
- VI. Recommendation

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