

A Guide For Haitian Exporters to the USA

COFFEE

Prepared for Haiti HAP

October 2002

Product Description: Harmonized Tariff Schedule

- Coffee is designated under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) Chapter 09. Please refer to the following table for ample details on each subheading.

Subheading	Stat. Suffix	Article Description
0901		Coffee, whether or not roasted or decaffeinated; coffee husks and skins; coffee substitutes containing coffee in any proportion Coffee Not Roasted
0901.11.00.	10	Arabica
	90	Other
0901.12.00	00	Decaffeinated
		Coffee Roasted
0901.21.00		Not Decaffeinated
	30	In retail containers weighing 2 kg or less
	60	Other
0901.22.00		Decaffeinated
	30	In retail containers weighing 2 kg or less
	60	Other
0901.90		Other
0901.90.10	00	Coffee husks and skins
0901.90.20	00	Coffee substitutes containing coffee

Source: US ITC, 2002 Tariff Schedule

Applicable Tariffs

Roasted Haitian Coffee is categorized under HS subheading 0901.21.00 (Coffee Roasted). The applicable tariffs as of 2002 for this product are stated in the table below.

- The general subcolumn refers to the rates that are applicable to coffee exported to the United States. Haitian coffee falls into this category. Please refer to the following table to find the duty rate applicable for Haitian coffee. No special tariff program for this commodity.

Subheading	Stat. Suffix	Article Description	Unit of quantity	General Rate of Duty
		Coffee Roasted		
0901.21.00		Not Decaffeinated	Kg	Free
	30	In retail containers weighing 2 kg or less	Kg	Free
	60	Other	Kg	Free
0901.22.00		Decaffeinated	Kg	Free
	30	In retail containers weighing 2 kg or less	Kg	Free
	60	Other	Kg	Free

Source: US ITC, 2002 Tariff Schedule.

For an in-depth view of the US 2002 Tariff Schedule, please go to the following website:

➤ <http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff/TOC.HTML>

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

To make or file a consumption entry for roasted coffee going directly into the commerce of the United States without any time or use restrictions placed on them, the following documents are generally required:

1. A **bill of lading**, airway bill, or carrier's certificate (naming the consignee for customs purposes) as evidence of the consignee's right to make entry. This document is issued by a shipping company and should give details of goods shipped, the ship on which the goods are consigned, and the names of the consignor and consignee. **(Please see sample in the Form Section)**
2. A **commercial invoice** obtained from the seller, which shows the value and description of the merchandise.
3. **Certificate of Origin**: The certificate states the country of origin of the coffee and provides information required under the relevant controls rules, e.g. country of destination, volume of coffee exported, etc.
4. **Entry/ Entry Summary** (Customs Form 7501): rate of duty, specify taxes and fees applicable to
 - Product
 - Packing List
 - Proof of payment on any non dutiable charge
5. **Entry manifest** (Customs Form 7533) or **Entry/Immediate Delivery** (Customs Form 3461).

NOTE

A number of US customs forms are not available for downloading but others are. Please visit this page for downloadable forms.

<http://www.customs.ustreas.gov/impoexpo/impoexpo.htm>

STANDARDS AND FDA REQUIREMENTS

The coffee shall comply with one of the options in the following list, which shall be specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

➤ **Type I - Green, whole bean**

- A. Brazils
- B. Colombian Excelso
- C. Milds (other than Colombian Excelso)
- D. Robustas

➤ **Type II - Roasted, whole bean**

- A. From Type I-A
- B. A blend from any combination of Types I-A, I-B, and I-C, as specified
- C. A blend from any combination of Type I

➤ **Type III - Roasted, ground**

- A. From Type II-A
- B. From Type II-B
- C. From Type II-C

- **Style 1 - Regular**
- **Style 2 - Decaffeinated**

CLASSIFICATION

2.2 Type II, roasted, whole bean: The green coffee shall be thoroughly cleaned, roasted without the addition of water except in sufficient quantity to check roasting process, and thoroughly stoned. The coffee shall have typical quality, body, acidity, flavor, and aroma for the type.

2.2.1 Type II-A. This type shall be Type I-A, roasted in accordance with 2.2 and 3.1.

2.2.2 Type II-B. This type shall be a blend of any combination of Type I-A, I-B, and I-C in proportions as specified (see 7.1), and shall be roasted in accordance with 2.2 and 3.1.

2.2.3 Type II-C. This type shall be a blend of any combination of Types I-A, I-B, I-C, and I-D in proportions as specified (see 7.1), and shall be roasted in accordance with 2.2 and 3.1.

2.3 Type III, roasted, ground: The coffee shall be ground in accordance with 7.1.

2.3.1 Type III-A. This type shall be ground from whole bean Type II-A.

2.3.2 Type III-B. This type shall be ground from whole bean Type II-B.

2.3.3 Type III-C. This type shall be ground from whole bean Type II-C.

Roasted whole bean or ground coffee: Roasted whole bean or ground coffee, packed in bags or cartons, shall be shipped as soon as possible after roasting and in no case later than 72 hours. Shipping of vacuum packed coffee must conform to the terms specified in the purchase contract.

Coffee blend: Roasted and ground coffee (Type III-B or Type III-C) shall be produced from a blend, by weight, of green coffees, as specified (see 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.3.2, and 2.3.3).

Palatability: Delivery samples of the finished product shall be cup tested by a panel of experienced USDA coffee specialists. Coffee shall possess the flavor and aroma of the blend procured. Coffee that passes the sensory tests shall conform to all other requirements as specified herein.

Plant qualification: The product shall be prepared, processed, and packaged in establishments meeting the requirements of Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, **Part 110: Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacture, Processing, Packaging or Holding of Human Foods** (see Chapter VIII of the General Guidelines).

Analytical requirements: Moisture content of roasted and ground Style 1 coffee shall not exceed 5.00 percent in the packaged item. Moisture content of roasted and ground Style 2 coffee shall not exceed 6.0 percent in the packaged item. For Style 2, caffeine content shall not exceed 0.10 percent on a dry basis in the packaged item.

Analytical procedure: One pound of composite ground coffee shall be used for testing.

Analytical testing: Testing shall be in accordance with the following methods of the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International:

<u>Test</u>	<u>Method</u>
Moisture	968.11

For Style 2 only:
Caffeine 979.11

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.

The delivered coffee shall comply with all applicable Federal and State mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sale of the coffee within the commercial marketplace. Delivered coffee shall comply with all provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

PACKAGING

Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and case marking: Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and case marking shall be as specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

Purchasers shall specify:

- Type(s), style(s), grind(s) (as required), and formulation of the blend of coffee required.
- When Type II-B is required, specify proportion of combination (see 2.2.2 and 3.1).
- When the cans are required to have a close fitting plastic lid.
- If the contractor's certification paragraph is referenced in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the contracting officer shall specify in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order the amount of time to maintain substantiating evidence.

RELEVANT INFORMATION AND ADDRESSES

- Importers may also wish to obtain guidance from private-sector experts who specialize in Customs matters, for example, licensed customs brokers, attorneys, or consultants. Interested parties who wish to learn more about import and export regulations, procedures and requirements, or who are interested in other should visit the Customs Web site at: <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>
- To speed customs clearance, the import community and the Customs Service have created the [Customs Automated Commercial System \(ACS\)](#), which electronically receives and processes entry documentation and provides cargo disposition information. Cargo carriers, customs brokers, and importers may use the system, which reduces clearance time from days to hours or even minutes. Persons entering into the importing trade who intend to file their own entry documentation with Customs are encouraged to explore this method of transacting business. Also, those importing merchandise either for their own use or for commercial transactions may use a customs broker who transacts customs business using the [Automated Broker Interface \(ABI\)](#) in combination with ACS.
- Copies of the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International may be obtained from: **AOAC International, 481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877.**

ADDRESSES

Food and Drug Administration

Division of Import Operations and Policy
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 443-6553

- **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Please note that since September 11, new measures are being taken by the US Customs Service to prevent any attempt by terrorists to smuggle nuclear and deadly weapons into the US. As a result, details on the contents of sea containers destined for the US 24 hours before the cargo is loaded onto ships at foreign ports will be required at certain ports.