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USDA Issues Final Rule Allowing Imports of Colombian Cape Gooseberries

Washington, DC — Colombian Ambassador to the United States Luis Carlos Villegas welcomed the issuance of a final rule by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to allow the import of Colombian cape gooseberries to the United States, effective June 2, 2014.

“President Juan Manuel Santos and I welcome the news that Colombian gooseberry producers will be able to export this fruit without cold treatment into the U.S. market,” said Ambassador Villegas. “This change will allow cape gooseberry growers in Colombia’s Boyaca and Cundinamarca departments (states) to reap the economic benefits of access to the U.S. market, including increased exports. We hope that this is just one of many agricultural products from our country that will continue to benefit from the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which was implemented two years ago.”

The Cape gooseberry – a super fruit – is cultivated using environmentally friendly processes. In addition, the Colombian cape gooseberry industry has the same economic potential for sustainable rural job creation and future development as the flower growing industry.

The U.S.-Colombia FTA was implemented on May 15, 2012.

For more information, click [here](#).

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