



## **Canadian Pork Council Pleased with U.S. Decision to Revoke Duty**

*Ottawa, November 1, 1999* — “Canadian hog producers are very pleased with the decision of the U.S. Department of Commerce that the countervailing duty on live swine from Canada should be revoked as of January 1, 2000”, said Edouard Asnong, President of the Canadian Pork Council. “It once again confirms that hog farmers in Canada now operate in a fully market-driven economic environment which conforms to international disciplines against the use of trade-distorting agricultural subsidies.”

The U.S. countervailing duty order that applies to live market hogs from Canada was established in 1985. Administrative reviews of the duty conducted in recent years arrived at the same zero subsidization result as this most recent Commerce Department decision. However, the duty order itself has until now remained in place.

The Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations established an obligation for member countries to review any outstanding countervailing or antidumping duty orders at least every five years and if conditions no longer justify their continuation, to terminate them. Canada was a strong proponent of this innovation of the new World Trade Organization.

“While recent new investments and renovations in hog processing capacity in Canada already have resulted in declining live swine exports to the United States, this decision is a very satisfying one for the Canadian hog industry in that it should remove once and for all any doubt that our production is not subject to unfair subsidies”, added Mr. Asnong, who finishes hogs in Pike River, Québec.

There remains a 30-day period after the publication of Commerce’s decision for appeals to be filed, after which the determination becomes final.

**S 30 S**

For information:

Martin Rice  
Executive Director, CPC  
(613) 236-9239

Edouard Asnong  
President  
(450) 248-2375