

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SWEETENER USERS PRAISE QUOTA INCREASE BUT SAY MORE IS NEEDED

April 26, 2010--The Sweetener Users Association today issued the following statement on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's April 23, 2010, announcement that the sugar tariff rate quota will be increased by 200,000 short tons:

"USDA's decision to increase the sugar import quota by 200,000 tons is a good first step, and we appreciate the Department's action, but significantly more sugar will be needed to adequately supply the U.S. market this year. Even if all 200,000 tons are eventually imported, stocks of sugar would end the fiscal year at tight levels -- and history suggests that there is normally a shortfall in any quota, that is, less than the full amount is actually imported for various reasons. A number of news articles and independent market analysts have stated that Friday's quota increase was less than expected. We urge USDA to begin work immediately on a second quota increase: There is no doubt that several hundred thousand tons more will be needed."

SUA represents companies that use nutritive sweeteners in making foods and beverages, as well as trade associations that represent these companies.

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