

US Sugar Policy History

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| 1934-74 | US Sugar Act | Quotas for both domestic and foreign suppliers, indexed price support, labor provisions, excise tax |
| 1974-76 | Free trade! | No operative program. Only the basic low tariff |
| 1977-81 | 1977 Farm Bill | For 1977 and 1978, import duties and fees to keep price above 13.5 cent loan rate. Brief period of direct payments. For 1979, reverted to basic authority and 14-16 cent support using duty and fee system. No program in 1980-81 due to high world prices |
| 1981-85 | 1981 Farm Bill | Reestablished price support program, with loan rate rising from 17 to 18 cents. Administration imposed high 21.5 cent Market Stabilization Price. In 1982 reinstated import quotas in response to weak world price. Quotas based on 1975-81 imports when no quotas applied. |
| 1985-89 | 1985 Farm Bill | No-cost provision added, making the MSP a floor price. |
| 1990-95 | 1990 Farm Bill | Marketing allotments on sugar and crystalline fructose introduced if imports projected to be below 1.25 million tons. In separate budget legislation, assessment of 0.2 cents/pound imposed on producers. |
| 1996-2001 | 1996 Farm Bill | Marketing allotments suspended. No-cost provision dropped. Loans could be recourse or non-recourse, depending on import level. Forfeiture penalty reduced effective support level by one cent. Marketing assessment raised to .25 cents. |
| 2002-07 | 2002 Farm Bill | Marketing allotments and no-cost provision reintroduced. Allotments contingent on imports being less than 1.5 million tons. Forfeiture penalty and assessments dropped. |
| In addition to the formal farm bills, there have been numerous other battles over various aspects of sugar policy in the context of budget legislation, appropriations bills, and international trade proceedings and negotiations. | | |