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## ORANGE JUICE

# U.S. agency: Brazil hurts Florida growers

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Bloomberg News

The International Trade Commission ruled Brazilian orange juice exports to the United States injured producers in Florida and other states, clearing the way for the United States to impose duties on sales by juice makers in the South American nation.

The vote by members of the commission, an independent U.S. agency, was 3-3. The tie still affirms U.S. producers were hurt, the agency said.

The Commerce Department last month confirmed a preliminary decision that some Brazilian orange juice producers dumped product in the United States. Companies affected include Brazil's Sucocítrico Cutrale and Fischer Agroindustria. Kenneth Nobrega, chief of commercial defense affairs at the Brazilian foreign ministry, was not available for comment.

"As a result of our determination today, the Commerce Department will issue an antidumping duty order on imports of certain orange juice from Brazil," commission spokeswoman Peg O'Laughlin said.

The request to impose duties on frozen concentrated orange juice and pasteurized not-from-concentrate juice was filed on Dec. 27, 2004, by Florida Citrus Mutual and processors Citrus World, Peace River Citrus Products, Southern Garden Citrus Processing Corp. and A. Duda & Sons.

Florida is the world's second-biggest grower of oranges after Brazil, which is also the world's largest producer of orange juice. California, Arizona and Texas also grow oranges.