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Embassy of Colombia in the United States

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## **First Order of Colombian Hass Avocados Arrives in the United States**

**Washington, DC** — Colombian Ambassador to the United States Camilo Reyes today welcomed the news that the first shipment of Colombian Hass avocados arrived in the United States.

The avocados, which arrived yesterday at Port Everglades, Florida, come after the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted access of the Colombian fruit to the United States earlier this year.

“The first Hass avocado shipment marks an important moment in the strong U.S.-Colombia partnership, signaling that both countries are open for business and expanded trade ties,” said Ambassador Reyes. “The U.S. and Colombian governments worked closely to open America’s doors to the fruit, which will support growers, exporters and communities. We look forward to taking additional steps as part of our Free Trade Agreement so that two-way trade continues to deliver mutual economic benefits.”

Colombia is the second-largest market in South America for U.S. exports, and the United States is Colombia’s largest trading partner. Since the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement entered into force in 2012, two-way trade and investment has expanded significantly. Over a four-year period, from 2013 through 2016, U.S. agricultural exports to Colombia reached \$1.6 billion in 2016. During the same period, Colombia received, on average, more than \$2.3 billion in foreign direct investment from the United States.

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