

TRANSXPRESS

PRACTICAL GUIDE · PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

Importing rice into Guinea: documents, duties and taxes, customs clearance and delivery

Guinea imports several hundred thousand tonnes of rice every year, almost all of it through the Autonomous Port of Conakry. Whether you import a few containers or a full vessel, the same questions come up: which documents, which duties and taxes, and how to keep the cargo from getting stuck at the port.

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01 Before buying: define the product precisely

Rice falls under heading 10.06 of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). The subheading depends on the state of the grain and the packing: paddy rice, husked (brown) rice, milled rice in packs of more or less than 5 kg, or broken rice.

- State the variety, the broken percentage, the state (milled, parboiled, husked) and the net weight per bag on the contract and invoice.
- Make the description on the invoice, the packing list and the bill of lading match exactly: a mismatch in weight or description is the first cause of delays.
- Arrange a certified origin: it determines the tariff applied.

02 The documents to gather

- The contract or pro forma invoice, then the final commercial invoice.
- The bill of lading (B/L) and the packing list (number of bags, gross and net weight).
- The certificate of origin.
- The phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country: rice is a plant product subject to phytosanitary control on arrival.
- Where applicable, a quality or fumigation certificate requested by the buyer or the inspection services.
- The importer's tax number (NIF) and, where required, the import authorisations in force.

> Send the documents to your customs broker before the vessel arrives: the declaration can then go in as soon as the vessel is announced.

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03 Duties and taxes on rice

Under the official tariff (ECOWAS CET, HS 2022 nomenclature), husked rice, milled rice and broken rice fall in the 10% customs duty band. On top come the levies set by the tariff: the RTL levy, the ECOWAS community levy (PC) and the African Union contribution (CA). The Guinean tariff exempts these lines from import VAT.

The basis is the customs value, usually the CIF value: price of the rice, freight and insurance to Conakry. The amount payable is the one on the assessment issued by customs; one-off measures (duty suspensions, quotas, reference prices) may apply to rice depending on the period.

> For a first estimate, our online quote tool applies the official tariff line by line. The final figure is always the customs assessment.

04 Bagged, containerised or break bulk

- In containers: easy to track and to deliver inland, but shipping line and terminal charges apply per container, and every day beyond the free time costs demurrage.
- Break bulk (bags in the hold): suited to large volumes; discharge, bag tallying and warehousing are arranged with the stevedore before the vessel arrives.
- In every case, arrange a joint tally of the bags at discharge: it is the basis of any claim for shortages or damaged bags.

05 Customs clearance at the port of Conakry

1. The licensed customs broker lodges the declaration on SYDONIA.
2. Phytosanitary control and, depending on the channel assigned, document check, scanner or physical inspection.
3. Assessment and payment of duties and taxes at the bank.
4. Release order (BAE) from customs and delivery order (DO) from the shipping line.
5. Removal to your warehouse or direct loading onto trucks.

06 Delivery in Conakry and inland

For a large volume, plan the truck rotations before the vessel arrives: the rice leaves the port as fast as trucks are available. For inland destinations (Kindia, Mamou, Labé, Kankan, N'Zérékoré), count on a consignment note for each truck and a bag count at delivery.

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07 What we do for you

TransXpress can consult suppliers, follow the shipment, declare and clear the rice in Conakry, and deliver it to your warehouses. Disbursements (duties, taxes, port, shipping line) are re-invoiced at actual cost with their receipts; our service fee appears on a separate line.

? Frequently asked questions

Do you need a phytosanitary certificate to import rice into Guinea?

Yes. Rice is a plant product subject to phytosanitary control on arrival; the certificate from the exporting country must be attached to the file.

What is the customs duty on rice in Guinea?

Under the official tariff (ECOWAS CET), husked, milled or broken rice falls in the 10% band, plus the levies set by the tariff. The exact amount is the customs assessment.

Can rice be imported in containers?

Yes, it is common for medium volumes. For large volumes, bagged break bulk is often chosen.

General information guide written by TransXpress. Customs rules and procedures change: every file is checked against the documents and the regulations in force. This guide is neither a quotation nor a commitment.

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ONE POINT OF CONTACT, FROM THE PORT TO YOUR SITE

Procurement, freight forwarding and customs, heavy transport and equipment rental in Guinea.

TransXpress supports mining, industrial and construction operators in Guinea and on the corridors to Mali and Sierra Leone. A name, a number and a few words are enough: we call you back within 24 business hours.

QUOTE

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