

§10.135 without compliance with §§10.136, 10.137, and 10.138. Blackstrap molasses is “final” molasses practically free from sugar crystals, containing not over 58 percent total sugars and having a ratio of

total sugars × 100/Brix

not in excess of 71. In the event of doubt, an ash determination may be made. An ash content of not less than 7 percent indicates a blackstrap molasses within the meaning of this paragraph.

[T.D. 71-139, 36 FR 10727, June 2, 1971, as amended by T.D. 89-1, 53 FR 51252, Dec. 21, 1988]

IMPORTATIONS NOT OVER \$200 AND BONA FIDE GIFTS

**§ 10.151 Importations not over \$200.**

Subject to the conditions in §10.153 of this part, the port director shall pass free of duty and tax any shipment of merchandise, as defined in §101.1 of this chapter, imported by one person on one day having a fair retail value, as evidenced by an oral declaration or the bill of lading (or other document filed as the entry) or manifest listing each bill of lading, in the country of shipment not exceeding \$200, unless he has reason to believe that the shipment is one of several lots covered by a single order or contract and that it was sent separately for the express purpose of securing free entry therefor or of avoiding compliance with any pertinent law or regulation. Merchandise subject to this exemption shall be entered under the informal entry procedures (see subpart C, part 143, and §§128.24, 145.31, 148.12, and 148.62, of this chapter).

[T.D. 94-51, 59 FR 30293, June 13, 1994, as amended by T.D. 95-31, 60 FR 18990, Apr. 14, 1995; T.D. 95-31, 60 FR 37875, July 24, 1995; T.D. 97-82, 62 FR 51769, Oct. 3, 1997]

**§ 10.152 Bona-fide gifts.**

Subject to the conditions in §10.153 of this part, the port director shall pass free of duty and tax any article sent as a bona-fide gift from a person in a foreign country to a person in the United States, provided that the aggregate fair retail value in the country of shipment of such articles received by one

person on one day does not exceed \$100 or, in the case of articles sent from a person in the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, \$200. Articles subject to this exemption shall be entered under the informal entry procedures (see subpart C, part 143, and §§145.32, 148.12, 148.51, and 148.64, of this chapter). An article is “sent” for purposes of this section if it is conveyed in any manner other than on the person or in the accompanied or unaccompanied baggage of the donor or donee.

[T.D. 94-51, 59 FR 30293, June 13, 1994]

**§ 10.153 Conditions for exemption.**

Customs officers shall be further guided as follows in determining whether an article or parcel shall be exempted from duty and tax under §10.151 or §10.152:

(a) A “bona fide gift” for purposes of §10.152 is an article formerly owned by a donor (may be a commercial firm) who gave it outright in its entirety to a donee without compensation or promise of compensation. It does not include articles acquired by purchase, barter, promissory exchange, or similar transaction, nor does it include articles said to be “given” in conjunction with a purchase, barter, promissory exchange, or similar transaction, such as a so-called bonus article.

(b) A parcel addressed to a person in the United States from an individual in a foreign country which contains a gift should be clearly marked on the outside to indicate that it contains a gift. Such marking is not conclusive evidence of a gift nor is the absence of such marking conclusive evidence that an article is not a gift. Ordinarily an article not exceeding \$100 in fair retail value in the country of shipment sent from a person in a foreign country to a person in the United States (\$200, in the case of an article sent from a person in the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa) will be recognizable as a gift from the nature of the article and obvious facts surrounding the shipment.

(c) A parcel addressed to a person in the United States from a business firm in a foreign country would ordinarily not contain a gift from a donor in the foreign country. When such a parcel in fact contains an article entitled to free