



# Durant Commodities

## Edible-Grade Oil - Import Pricing Guide (2026 Edition)

*A practical reference for U.S. buyers evaluating imported high-oleic sunflower oil.*

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## Introduction

Most import pricing conversations focus on one number - the Cost + Freight (CFR) price. It's the number everyone quotes, and it's the number most buyers anchor to. The problem is simple: **CFR is not your landed cost.** It's only the cost to get the product to the port.

Once the vessel arrives, the real expenses begin: inspection, port fees, customs processing, inland freight, and a handful of smaller charges that add up quickly. On a typical HO sunflower oil shipment, these items add **10–15%** on top of the invoice price.

This guide gives you a clear, practical breakdown of what it actually costs to bring refined high-oleic sunflower oil into the United States. The numbers are based on real shipments, real suppliers, and real logistics, not theory.

If you're evaluating edible-oil for your facility, this will help you build an accurate cost model before you commit.



# Who This Guide Is For

This guide is built for:

- Food manufacturers using edible-oil as a core input
- Distributors comparing domestic vs. imported pricing
- Procurement teams modeling landed cost for 2026 contracts
- Buyers who want transparency before locking in a supplier

If you fall into any of these categories, this reference will save you time, money, and frustration.

# Landed Cost Breakdown

Below is a real cost structure from a **21.5 MT shipment** of refined HO sunflower oil delivered to the U.S. East Coast (Norfolk, VA). These are actual numbers from a completed transaction.

## Landed Cost Summary

Cost Component	Total Cost	Per MT	Per lb
CFR Price (Ukroliya, Apr 2026)	\$40,313	\$1,875	\$0.851
SGS Inspection	\$1,226	\$57	\$0.026
Port & Customs (MPF, HMF, Broker)	\$1,136	\$53	\$0.024
Inland Logistics (Norfolk → Destination)	\$1,600	\$74	\$0.034
<b>Total Landed Cost</b>	<b>\$44,275</b>	<b>\$2,059</b>	<b>\$0.934</b>



## Key Takeaways

- The CFR price is **not** the landed cost.
- In this example, the invoice price was \$1,875/MT, but the true delivered cost was \$2,059/MT.
- That's a **10% increase** driven entirely by logistics, inspection, and compliance.
- Buyers who budget only for the CFR price routinely underestimate total cost.
- SGS inspection is essential - it protects you from off-spec product and quality disputes.

## Quality Specifications

High-oleic sunflower oil is defined by its fatty acid profile - specifically, oleic acid content above 75%. Below are typical specification ranges for refined, bleached, deodorized, winterized (RBDW) HO sunflower oil sold into the U.S. market.

Parameter	Specification
Oleic Acid Content	≥ 75% (typically 80–90%)
Peroxide Value	≤ 2.0 meq O <sub>2</sub> /kg
Free Fatty Acids (FFA)	≤ 0.1% (as oleic acid)
Moisture & Volatiles	≤ 0.1%
Color (Lovibond)	Max 1.5R / 15Y
Smoke Point	≥ 230°C

These specs should be verified through a third-party inspection (SGS, Cotecna, Bureau Veritas) before shipment.



# Supplier Vetting Checklist

A strong price means nothing if the supplier can't deliver consistent quality, documentation, and logistics support. Use this checklist when evaluating HO sunflower oil suppliers:

- COA with oleic acid  $\geq 75\%$
- FFA  $\leq 0.1\%$
- Peroxide value  $\leq 2.0$
- Third-party inspection included (SGS or equivalent)
- Ability to provide FAME test results
- Packaging options (IBC, flexitank, drums)
- Monthly production capacity
- Export documentation accuracy
- Past U.S. shipment history
- Payment terms (LC, DP, TT)
- Lead times and port availability

This checklist alone will eliminate most of the risk in supplier selection.

## What This Means for Buyers

- Your landed cost is **never** the CFR price.
- Expect **10–15%** above invoice cost depending on port, inspection, and inland freight.
- Inland freight is often the largest variable cost - model it carefully.
- A transparent landed-cost model prevents margin erosion.
- A vetted supplier + third-party inspection protects your production schedule.



## Next Steps

Every buyer's situation is different. Your volume, delivery location, payment terms, and quality requirements all affect final pricing.

If you're purchasing HO sunflower oil and want a tailored landed-cost proposal based on your specific needs, reach out directly.

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