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I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 524/1999
of 10 March 1999
establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain
fruit and vegetables

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 of 21 December 1994 on detailed rules for the application of the import arrangements for fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1498/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 4 (1) thereof,

Whereas Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in the Annex thereto;

Whereas, in compliance with the above criteria, the standard import values must be fixed at the levels set out in the Annex to this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 24. 12. 1994, p. 66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 198, 15. 7. 1998, p. 4.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 10 March 1999 establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value
0702 00 00	052	63,0
	204	39,2
	212	96,1
	624	174,5
	999	93,2
0707 00 05	068	160,7
	999	160,7
0709 10 00	220	276,6
	999	276,6
0709 90 70	052	117,2
	204	122,8
	999	120,0
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	55,8
	204	48,9
	212	46,2
	600	50,0
	624	47,4
	999	49,7
0805 30 10	052	44,4
	600	58,0
	999	51,2
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	388	108,3
	400	77,0
	404	56,2
	508	81,4
	512	84,8
	528	94,2
	720	97,6
	728	95,7
	999	86,9
0808 20 50	052	122,9
	388	70,1
	400	79,8
	512	63,8
	528	66,2
	624	72,7
	999	79,2

⁽¹⁾ Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2317/97 (OJ L 321, 22. 11. 1997, p. 19). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 525/1999

of 10 March 1999

fixing the representative prices and the additional import duties for molasses in the sugar sector

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 of 30 June 1981 on the common organization of the market in sugar⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1148/98⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1422/95 of 23 June 1995 laying down detailed rules of application for imports of molasses in the sugar sector and amending Regulation (EEC) No 785/68⁽³⁾, and in particular Articles 1 (2) and 3 (1) thereof,

Whereas Regulation (EC) No 1422/95 stipulates that the cif import price for molasses, hereinafter referred to as the 'representative price', should be set in accordance with Commission Regulation (EEC) No 785/68⁽⁴⁾; whereas that price should be fixed for the standard quality defined in Article 1 of the above Regulation;

Whereas the representative price for molasses is calculated at the frontier crossing point into the Community, in this case Amsterdam; whereas that price must be based on the most favourable purchasing opportunities on the world market established on the basis of the quotations or prices on that market adjusted for any deviations from the standard quality; whereas the standard quality for molasses is defined in Regulation (EEC) No 785/68;

Whereas, when the most favourable purchasing opportunities on the world market are being established, account must be taken of all available information on offers on the world market, on the prices recorded on important third-country markets and on sales concluded in international trade of which the Commission is aware, either directly or through the Member States; whereas, under Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 785/68, the Commission may for this purpose take an average of several prices as a basis, provided that this average is representative of actual market trends;

Whereas the information must be disregarded if the goods concerned are not of sound and fair marketable quality or if the price quoted in the offer relates only to a small quantity that is not representative of the market;

whereas offer prices which can be regarded as not representative of actual market trends must also be disregarded;

Whereas, if information on molasses of the standard quality is to be comparable, prices must, depending on the quality of the molasses offered, be increased or reduced in the light of the results achieved by applying Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 785/68;

Whereas a representative price may be left unchanged by way of exception for a limited period if the offer price which served as a basis for the previous calculation of the representative price is not available to the Commission and if the offer prices which are available and which appear not to be sufficiently representative of actual market trends would entail sudden and considerable changes in the representative price;

Whereas where there is a difference between the trigger price for the product in question and the representative price, additional import duties should be fixed under the conditions set out in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1422/95; whereas should the import duties be suspended pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1422/95, specific amounts for these duties should be fixed;

Whereas application of these provisions will have the effect of fixing the representative prices and the additional import duties for the products in question as set out in the Annex to this Regulation;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Sugar,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The representative prices and the additional duties applying to imports of the products referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1422/95 are fixed in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1999.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 159, 3. 6. 1998, p. 38.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 141, 24. 6. 1995, p. 12.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 145, 27. 6. 1968, p. 12.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

fixing the representative prices and additional import duties applying to imports of molasses in the sugar sector

CN code	Amount of the representative price in EUR per 100 kg net of the product in question	Amount of the additional duty in EUR per 100 kg net of the product in question	Amount of the duty to be applied to imports in EUR per 100 kg net of the product in question because of suspension as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1422/95 ⁽²⁾
1703 10 00 ⁽¹⁾	6,27	0,25	—
1703 90 00 ⁽¹⁾	7,64	0,00	—

⁽¹⁾ For the standard quality as defined in Article 1 of amended Regulation (EEC) No 785/68.

⁽²⁾ This amount replaces, in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1422/95, the rate of the Common Customs Tariff duty fixed for these products.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 526/1999
of 10 March 1999
altering the export refunds on white sugar and raw sugar exported in the natural state

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 of 30 June 1981 on the common organization of the markets in the sugar sector⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1148/98⁽²⁾, and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 19 (4) thereof,

Whereas the refunds on white sugar and raw sugar exported in the natural state were fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 462/1999⁽³⁾;

Whereas it follows from applying the detailed rules contained in Regulation (EC) No 462/1999 to the information known to the Commission that the export refunds

at present in force should be altered to the amounts set out in the Annex hereto,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The export refunds on the products listed in Article 1(1)(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81, undenatured and exported in the natural state, as fixed in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 462/1999 are hereby altered to the amounts shown in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 159, 3. 6. 1998, p. 38.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 56, 4. 3. 1999, p. 5.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 10 March 1999 altering the export refunds on white sugar and raw sugar exported in its unaltered state

Product code	Amount of refund
	— EUR/100 kg —
1701 11 90 9100	43,39 ⁽¹⁾
1701 11 90 9910	44,11 ⁽¹⁾
1701 11 90 9950	⁽²⁾
1701 12 90 9100	43,39 ⁽¹⁾
1701 12 90 9910	44,11 ⁽¹⁾
1701 12 90 9950	⁽²⁾
	— EUR/1 % of sucrose × 100 kg —
1701 91 00 9000	0,4717
	— EUR/100 kg —
1701 99 10 9100	47,17
1701 99 10 9910	47,95
1701 99 10 9950	47,95
	— EUR/1 % of sucrose × 100 kg —
1701 99 90 9100	0,4717

⁽¹⁾ Applicable to raw sugar with a yield of 92 %; if the yield is other than 92 %, the refund applicable is calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 17a (4) of Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81.

⁽²⁾ Fixing suspended by Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2689/85 (OJ L 255, 26. 9. 1985, p. 12), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3251/85 (OJ L 309, 21. 11. 1985, p. 14).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 527/1999
of 10 March 1999

fixing the maximum export refund for white sugar for the 30th partial invitation to tender issued within the framework of the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1574/98

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 of 30 June 1981 on the common organization of the markets in the sugar sector⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1148/98⁽²⁾, and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 17 (5)(b) thereof,

Whereas Commission Regulation (EC) No 1574/98 of 22 July 1998 on a standing invitation to tender to determine levies and/or refunds on exports of white sugar⁽³⁾, requires partial invitations to tender to be issued for the export of this sugar;

Whereas, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of Regulation (EC) No 1574/98 a maximum export refund shall be fixed, as the case may be, account being taken in particular of the state and foreseeable development of the Community and world markets in sugar, for the partial invitation to tender in question;

Whereas, following an examination of the tenders submitted in response to the 30th partial invitation to tender, the provisions set out in Article 1 should be adopted;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Sugar,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 30th partial invitation to tender for white sugar issued pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1574/98 the maximum amount of the export refund is fixed at EUR 50,625 per 100 kilograms.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 159, 3. 6. 1998, p. 38.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 206, 23. 7. 1998, p. 7.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 528/1999

of 10 March 1999

laying down measures to improve the quality of olive oil production

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation No 136/66/EEC of 22 September 1966 on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1638/98⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5(11) thereof,

Whereas pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation No 136/66/EEC 1,4 % of the production aid to olive growers is assigned to finance regional measures in the Member States to improve the quality of olive oil production and its environmental impact; whereas these measures should be specified and also the tasks that can be entrusted to producer organisations;

Whereas, by virtue of the origin of their funding, the measures to be undertaken should directly involve olive growers or oil mills; whereas the purpose of these measures is to produce quality virgin olive oil under conditions that preserve or improve the environment; whereas, as a result, these measures must help to supply the mills with olives with prized characteristics and improve the conditions under which the virgin oils are extracted and stored;

Whereas the way in which the sector operates dictates that quality improvement measures should be implemented over 12-month periods beginning on 1 May of each year; whereas the measures for each period must be included in national programmes; whereas Member States must draw up and execute their national programmes;

Whereas the expenditure in each period must be based on the deduction from the production aid for the marketing year preceding that in which the programme begins; whereas production is estimated by the Commission in accordance with Article 17a(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84 of 17 July 1984 laying down general rules on the granting of aid for the production of olive oil and of aid to olive oil producer organisations⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1639/98⁽⁴⁾;

whereas expenditure on the execution of programmes must be managed and checked nationally in accordance with Community rules;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Oils and Fats,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. This Regulation specifies the measures to be undertaken and procedures to be followed to improve the quality of olive oil production at regional level and its impact on the environment.
2. The measures relate to 12-month production cycles beginning on 1 May each year and involve:
 - (a) action against the olive fly and possibly other harmful organisms, including control, warning and evaluation arrangements;
 - (b) improvement of the conditions under which olive trees are grown and treated, olives are harvested, stored and processed and the resulting oils are stored;
 - (c) technical assistance to growers and mills to help improve the environment, the quality of the olives produced and their conversion into oil;
 - (d) improvement of the disposal of crushing residues so that the environment is not harmed;
 - (e) training, information provision and demonstrations for farmers and mills on oil quality and the environmental impact of the oil production chain;
 - (f) creation and operation, at regional, provincial or producer-organisation level, of laboratories for virgin oil analysis;
 - (g) collaboration with specialist agencies on research programmes to improve the quality of virgin olive oil and at the same time help improve the environment.

⁽¹⁾ OJ 172, 30. 9. 1966, p. 3025/66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 210, 28. 7. 1998, p. 32.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 208, 3. 8. 1984, p. 3.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 210, 28. 7. 1998, p. 38.

3. Action under points (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 shall place special emphasis on integrated biological control methods.

Insecticides against olive fly must be used in conjunction with protein baits. However in special circumstances the use of insecticides without protein baits may be authorised under the direction of the agency responsible for prescribing treatments. Insecticides and their mode of application must be such that no residue in olives from the zones in question or in the oil produced from them exceeds the maximum doses authorised by Community legislation.

Article 2

1. Member States shall establish by 31 March of each year an action programme for the next production cycle.

The programme shall include:

- (a) a detailed description of the measures envisaged, with duration and cost;
- (b) a list of the products and materials needed, with unit costs;
- (c) a list of the centres, agencies or producer organisations responsible for execution of the measures.

Contracts and agreements with centres, agencies or producer organisations charged with execution of the measures, and administrative provisions made by the Member State in regard to these bodies, shall be concluded or adopted so as to take effect at the beginning of the production cycle concerned. Such contracts or agreements may be multiannual in duration subject to adjustments stemming from the successive programmes. They shall be drawn up using standard contract terms made available by the Commission.

The programme shall be approved by and executed on the responsibility of the Member State.

2. Before 1 May each year producer Member States shall notify to the Commission the measures planned for the next production cycle, listed by category as indicated in Article 1(2), and their estimated expenditure on them.

Article 3

1. Expenditure on the measures specified in this Regulation shall be financed from the production aid deduction made pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation No 136/66/EEC.

2. The Commission shall determine under the procedure laid down in Article 38 of Regulation No 136/66/EEC, for each production cycle referred to in Article 1(2) and each producer Member State, the financing ceilings for measures eligible for reimbursement by the EAGGF Guarantee Section.

The ceilings shall be determined on the basis of the production aid deduction, estimated in accordance with Article 17a(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84, for the marketing year finishing in the year preceding that in which the production cycle begins.

3. If the resources referred to in paragraph 1 do not suffice to cover expenditure on some of the measures included in the programme for a production cycle, the Member State may make an additional financial contribution equal at most to 50 % of the Community financing for each of the measures in question. This contribution must not be funded through a deduction from the production aid.

Article 4

1. Expenditure under the programme adopted by the Member State shall be eligible under this Regulation only if the measures in question are not covered by any other Community financing.

Only a maximum of 75 % shall be eligible in the case of expenditure on:

- execution of the treatments required for the purposes of action as referred to in Article 1(2)(a),
- remuneration of the personnel of the laboratories referred to in Article 1(2)(f).

2. The general costs of contractors, including those of any subcontractors, shall be limited to 2 % of total eligible expenditure.

Article 5

1. Payments in connection with:

- contracts and agreements concluded or adopted by a Member State with centres, agencies or producer organisations responsible for the execution of measures,
- administrative provisions of the Member State in connection with such centres, agencies or organisations,

shall be made on presentation of supporting documents for the expenditure and following verification by the competent authorities of these documents and of fulfilment of the specified obligations.

The competent body shall make the payments referred to above within 60 calendar days of receipt of the application. However, this deadline may be suspended at any time in the 60-day period after the payment application is first registered, by informing the creditor contractor that his application is not admissible, either because the sum is not payable, because the application is not supported by the requisite evidence for all the additional applications, or if the competent body deems it necessary to have further information or to make checks. The deadline shall start to run again from the date the requested information — which must be sent within 30 calendar days — is received. Except in cases of *force majeure*, any delay in making the above payments shall give rise to a reduction in the refund to the Member State, in accordance with the rules laid down in Article 4 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 296/96 ⁽¹⁾.

2. Contracts or agreements cannot be concluded until a security equal to 15 % of the maximum amount of Community funding has been lodged, in order to guarantee their proper performance. The security shall be lodged in accordance with Title III of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2220/85 ⁽²⁾.

However, if the contractor is a public body or a quasi-public body, a written guarantee from its supervisory authority covering an amount equal to the percentage referred to in the preceding subparagraph may be accepted by the competent body, provided that the supervisory authority undertakes to verify that:

- the obligations entered into have been properly discharged, and
- the sums received were correctly used to discharge the obligations entered into.

Proof of lodgement of the security must reach the competent body before the time limit referred to in the second subparagraph of paragraph 1 expires.

3. The primary requirement within the meaning of Article 20 of Regulation (EEC) No 2220/85 shall be the implementation of the measures in the contract.

4. In the case of multiannual contracts or agreements, the security shall be calculated on the basis of the value of each of their annual parts.

5. Release of the security shall be conditional on verification by the Member State of execution within the indicated time limits of the measures specified in the

contract or agreement, or during the annual period applicable.

6. All centres, agencies and producer organisations charged with the execution of measures shall submit to the Member State within two months of the final date set for execution a detailed report on the use of the Community funds assigned and the outcome of the measures in question. If the report is presented after the two-month time limit 3 % of the Community contribution for the measures in question shall be retained for each month or part thereof by which the report is late.

Article 6

1. Within 30 calendar days of the signing of the contract, the contractor may submit an application for an advance to the competent body, accompanied by the security referred to in paragraph 3 below. No applications for an advance can be made after the 30-day limit.

Advances may cover at most 30 % of the amount of Community funding.

2. The competent body must pay the advance within 30 calendar days of the submission of the application for an advance. Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 296/96 shall apply where payment is made late.

3. The advance shall be paid subject to the lodging by the contractor of a security equal to 110 % of the advance, in favour of the competent body, in accordance with Title III of Regulation (EEC) No 2220/85.

However, if the contractor is a public body or a quasi-public body, a written guarantee from its supervisory authority covering an amount equal to the percentage referred to in the preceding subparagraph may be accepted by the competent body, provided that the supervisory authority undertakes to pay the amount covered by the security should entitlement to the amount advanced not be established.

4. Release of securities shall be conditional on:

- transmission to the Member State of the supporting documents for the expenditure effected,
- verification of the documents and establishment that the specified obligations have been met.

Article 7

If a security as referred to in Articles 5 or 6 is forfeited or a deduction made as referred to in Article 5(6), the amount in question shall be deducted from EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 39, 17. 2. 1996, p. 5.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 205, 3. 8. 1985, p. 5.

Article 8

1. Member States shall apply a checking system to ensure that measures included in programmes for which financing is granted are correctly executed. This shall involve:

- administrative and accounting checks on the costs borne,
- checks, in particular on the spot, on verification of conformity of execution of the measures with the provisions of the contract or agreement or the administrative provisions.

2. Member States shall inform the Commission of their planned checking system when they transmit the information referred to in Article 2(2).

The Commission may request Member States to make any change in the checking system it deems necessary.

3. A short report on execution of the programme and the checks made shall be transmitted by Member States to the Commission by 1 October following each production cycle.

It shall summarise the measures planned and carried out, by category as referred to in Article 2(2), and for each measure state the costs allocated and checks made and assess the results achieved, the environmental impact and the difficulties encountered.

Article 9

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 529/1999
of 10 March 1999
on the issue of import licences for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 936/97 of 27 May 1997 opening and providing for the administration of tariff quotas for high-quality fresh, chilled and frozen beef and for frozen buffalo meat⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 134/1999⁽²⁾,

Whereas Regulation (EC) No 936/97 provides in Articles 4 and 5 the conditions for applications and for the issue of import licences for meat referred to in Article 2(f);

Whereas Article 2(f) of Regulation (EC) No 936/97 fixes the amount of high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal originating in and imported from the United States of America and Canada which may be imported on special terms for the period 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999 at 11 500 tonnes;

Whereas it should be recalled that licences issued pursuant to this Regulation will, throughout the period of

validity, be open for use only in so far as provisions on health protection in force permit,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. All applications for import licences from 1 to 5 March 1999 for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal as referred to in Article 2(f) of Regulation (EC) No 936/97 shall be granted in full.

2. Applications for licences may be submitted, in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 936/97, during the first five days of April 1999 for 3 430,157 tonnes.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 137, 28. 5. 1997, p. 10.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 17, 22. 1. 1999, p. 22.