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QUALITY AND OTHER TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR PROCESSED FOOD

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Introduction

This note seeks to identify the various technical and other quality requirements which, on a mandatory or voluntary basis, must be met by processed food from developing countries intended for marketing in the area of the European Union (EU).

The technical quality, phytosanitary, packaging, labelling, etc., requirements are specified but frontier tariffs or taxes are not included, since they are not the subject of this study.

Several annexes set out the standards applicable in each case, i.e. Community standards common to the 15 countries members of the EU, without prejudice to the existence of other national standards, which may supplement but in no case conflict with the Community standards.

T Description of the processed foods

The processed foods may be included under various chapters of the Common external tariff of the European Union, in each chapter there are headings for unprocessed products and others for processed foods. Owing to the large number of items, only the chapters which include processed foods are cited here:

02. *Meat and edible offal*
03. *Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates*
04. *Various produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included*
05. *Products of vegetable origin, not elsewhere specified or included*
09. *Coffee, tea, mate and spices*
11. *Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; gluten; wheat gluten*
12. *Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruits; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder*
13. *Gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts*
15. *Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes*
16. *Preparations of (meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates)*
17. *Sugars and sugar confectionery*
18. *Cocoa and cocoa preparations*

19. *Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products*
20. *Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants*
21. *Miscellaneous edible preparations*
22. *Beverages, spirits and vinegar*

In all cases the processed food legislation is common to all such products, because the EU has developed horizontal standards for additives, labelling, materials in contact with foods, frozen foods, analysis and sampling methods, etc., which are used for all types of processed food.

We will take as an example Chapter 20 of the Tariff, which deals exclusively with processed products derived from fruits and vegetables (preserves, juices, concentrates, etc.).

Description of the market of the European Union

The European Common Market came into being in 1957 in the shape of a commercial union of the six founder countries. Following successive additions of new countries, today this common market has been transformed into the European Union, evolving from a merely commercial into an economic, political and social union, with the disappearance of frontiers and free circulation of goods, people and capital.

At present the EU has 15 member countries: Germany (D), France (F), Belgium (B), Netherlands (NL), Luxembourg (L), Italy (I), United Kingdom (UK), Ireland (IRL), Denmark (DK), Greece (G), Spain (E), Portugal (P), Austria (A), Sweden (S) and Finland (SF). Together they represent a market of over 340 million consumers. Following the signature of the Maastricht Treaty, a Monetary Union, including a single currency, the Euro, and the creation of a Central Bank and other common institutions, is envisaged for 1999. The European Union is the leading market for the production, consumption and import of processed foods. The following table presents data on processed food imports:

Table 1. Import of processed foods from non-Community countries (Chapter 20)

Country	1993	1994	1995(Oct.)	Country	1993	1994	1995(Oct.)
France	288.348	272.311	225.295	Ireland	1.852	6.804	7.866
Belgium-Lux	141.435	236.132	248.563	Denmark	43.152	37.360	30.706
Netherlands	556.566	672.531	631.980	Greece	10.663	17.886	12.889
Germany	738.458	779.094	583.291	Portugal	1.730	10.328	9.203
Italy	76.108	90.103	118.578	Spain	55.999	81.083	91.909
UK	278.080	267.750	253.727	EUR-12	2.212.391	2.471.382	2.214.107

Data in Ml.

Source: FUROSTAT, data for Austria, Sweden and Finland not available.

Table 2. Production, import and export data for processed food in the EU (1992)

	Olive oil and nut oils	Cane or beet sugar and sucrose	Meat and offal of bovine animals, their preparations and preserved meat	Meat and offal of ovine animals, their preparations and preserved meat	Meat and offal of porcine animals, their preparations and preserved meat	Poultry meat and offal, their preparations and preserved meat
Production	1.869.000	17.102.100		1.206.000	14.388.000	7.369.000
Imports	135.000	1.786.000	480.000	262.000	46.000	158.000
Exports	200.100	4.983.000	1.239.000	5.000	537.000	519.000

Data in Ml.

	Processed fruits and vegetables	Butter	Skimmed milk in powder	Cheeses	Canned fish, crustaceans and molluscs	Wine and grape must (1,000 HI)
Production	6.018.000	1.660.000	1.200.000	5.103.000	219.719	160.650
Imports	8.091.038	60.000	5.1100	110.000	50.919	3.324
Exports	6.772.145	250.000	389.000	466.000	---	8.525

Data in Mt.

Quality standards for processed foods

The EU has no quality standards for processed foods such as the ones that exist for fruits and vegetables, but there are other standards applicable to these products.

The EU has two types of legislation: horizontal legislation for a set of food products (additives, materials in contact with foods, labelling, products intended for special foods, deep-frozen foods, food hygiene, new foods, new foodstuff ingredients, etc.), and vertical legislation to regulate the manufacturing

and marketing conditions of certain products (jams, jellies and marmalades, pureed chestnuts, cocoa and cocoa preparations, fruit juices and other similar products, coffee extracts and chicory extracts, etc.).

Since 1985 standards have been introduced to establish the common requirements for all food products, providing the essential guarantees for protection of public health, consumer protection, honesty of transactions and official monitoring of food products.

The legislative powers of the Council are used, by means of framework Directives, to set the essential safety and health criteria. The Commission, assisted by the Standing Committee on Food Products, has the task of establishing and administering the more detailed and technical provisions of the Regulations, by means of specific Directives.

Legislation on individual products still exists in the form of amendments, although most of the food product legislation refers to elements common to all food products, such as additives, labelling and contact materials.

The Directives contain positive lists of the additives which may be used, these lists do not indicate the quantities of additives or the types of product in which they may be used. These aspects are dealt with in each country's national legislation, so that an additive may be authorized for juices in one country but not in another.

Since the lists are positive, no other additives except the ones indicated in the Community Directives may be used. However, the decision of the Court of Justice known as "Cassis-Dijon" makes it clear that any product legally manufactured or produced in a country of the EU may freely circulate and be sold in any other member country. Thus although the additives legislation varies slightly from one country to another there are no obstacles to trade within the Community, but there are obstacles to trade with outside countries. The Community additives legislation assigns an identification number to each additive in the following manner: the letter E followed by a number (e.g. E-100) designates a food colourant, curcumin.

The additives legislation covers preservatives, colourants, antioxidants, flavourings, emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickening and gelling agents, and sweeteners. It does not include acidifiers, antacids, anti-caking agents, flavour-enhancers, carbonators, and some agents without specific functions.

Phytosanitary requirements

The European phytosanitary legislation is based on the need to protect plants against harmful organisms. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of 6 December 1951 was drafted, under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as a response to the need to unify the national legislation which had been enacted in each country.

The first Community Directive to appear on this subject was No. 77/93/EEC, and it has been subject to numerous amendments over the years. This is a list of the directives and regulations:

European phytosanitary regulations

Directive 77/93 of 21-12-76 (1, 26, 31-01-77)
Directive 84/378 of 28-06-84 (1, 207, 02-08-84)
Directive 85/173 of 28-02-85 (1, 65, 06-03-85)
Directive 86/545 of 29-10-86 (1, 323, 18-11-86)
Regulation 3768/85 of 20-12-85 (1, 362, 31-12-85)
Directive 85/574 of 19-12-85 (L, 372, 31-12-85)
Directive 86/545 of 29-10-86 (1, 323, 18-11-86)
Directive 86/546 of 29-10-86 (1, 323, 18-11-86)
Directive 86/547 of 29-10-86 (1, 323, 18-11-86)

Directive 86/651 of 18-12-86 (L 382, 31-12-86)
Directive 87/298 of 02-03-87 (L, 151, 11-06-87)
Directive 88/271 of 05-04-88 (1, 116, 04-05-88)
Directive 88/272 of 08-04-88 (1, 116, 04-05-88)
Directive 88/430 of 01-07-88 (1, 208, 02-08-88)
Directive 88/572 of 14-11-88 (1, 313, 19-11-88)
Directive 89/359 of 29-05-89 (1, 153, 06-06-89)
Directive 89/439 of 26-06-89 (1, 212, 22-07-89)
Directive 90/168 of 26-03-90 (1, 92, 07-04-90)
Directive 90/490 of 25-09-90 (1, 271, 03-10-90)
Directive 90/506 of 26-09-90 (1, 282, 13-10-90)
Directive 90/654 of 04-12-90 (L, 353, 17-12-90)
Directive 91/27 of 19-12-90 (1, 16, 22-01-91)
Directive 91/107 of 13-02-91 (1, 56, 02-03-91)
Directive 91/278 of 02-05-91 (1, 142, 06-06-91)
Directive 91/683 of 19-12-91 (1, 376, 31-12-91)
Directive 92/10 of 19-02-92 (1, 70, 17-03-92)
Directive 92/98 of 16-11-92 (1, 352, 02-12-92)
Directive 92/103 of 01-12-92 (1, 363, 11-12-92)
Directive 93/10 of 19-04-93 (1, 96, 22-04-93)
Directive 93/19 of 19-04-93 (1, 96, 22-04-93)
Directive 93/50 of 24-06-93 (1, 205, 17-08-93)
Directive 93/51 of 24-06-93 (1, 205, 17-08-93)
Directive 93/106 of 29-11-93 (1, 298, 03-12-93)
Directive 93/110 of 09-12-93 (1, 303, 10-12-93)
Directive 94/3 of 21-01-94 (1, 32, 03-02-94)

Directive 95/4 of 21-02-95 (L 44, 28-02-95)
Directive 95/41 of 19-07-95 (L 182, 02-08-95)
Directive 95/65 of 14-12-95 (L 308, 21-12-95)
Directive 95/66 of 14-12-95 (L 308, 21-12-95)
Directive 96/14 of 12-03-96 (L 68, 19-03-96)
Directive 96/15 of 14-03-96 (L 70, 21-03-96)
Directive 96/232 of 13-03-96 (L 77, 27-03-96)
Directive 96/301 of 03-05-96 (L 115, 09-05-96)

The phytosanitary legislation has the following structure:

Harmful organisms whose entry should be prohibited in all member States,
Harmful organisms whose entry may be prohibited in some member States:
Harmful organisms whose entry should be prohibited in all member States when present in certain plants or plant products,
Harmful organisms whose entry may be prohibited in some member States when present in certain plants or plant products;
Plants and plant products whose entry should be prohibited in all member States;
Plants, plant products and other items whose entry should be prohibited in some member States,

Specific requirements which should be imposed by all member States on the entry of plants, plant products and other items;

Specific requirements which may be imposed by some member States on the entry of plants and plant products;

Plants, plant products and other items which should be subject to phytosanitary inspection in the country of origin or shipment for entry into all member States:

Plants and plant products which may be subject to a specific schedule.

A standard model phytosanitary certificate consistent with the International Convention has also been introduced for the whole of the EU; it is issued by the official services of each member State. A phytosanitary certificate is not usually required for processed foods, but if the food in question contains plants and/or plant products which have not been processed and therefore may carry harmful organisms into the territory of the Community, a phytosanitary certificate is required for its import from non-Community countries.

Food safety and hygiene requirements

Directive 93/43 on food product hygiene requires the sector's enterprises to describe any phase of their activity which may be decisive in terms of guaranteeing the safety of the food products and the updating of adequate safety procedures in conformity with the HACCP system (hazard analysis and critical control points).

Member States will promote the production of guides to correct hygiene practice, to which enterprises may refer if they wish. These guides will be produced under the auspices of a national standards agency in accordance with the international codes of recommended practice and the general food hygiene principles of the Codex Alimentarius.

Member States will urge food-sector enterprises to apply the European standards in the EN 29000 series (equivalent to the ISO 9000 standards) in addition to

the general hygiene standards and the guides to correct hygiene practice.

If a hygiene problem which may constitute a hazard to human health arises in the territory of a non-Community country, the Commission will take the following measures:

- suspension of imports from the whole or part of the country in question,
- introduction of specific conditions for food products from the whole or part of the country in question.

In the case of heavy metals (lead, cadmium, mercury, etc.), there is no common legislation for processed foods. But all countries have their own national legislation on heavy metals, especially for preserved foods of animal or plant origin.

Directive 94/62 on packaging and packaging wastes is specific on concentrations of heavy metals in packaging: the total concentrations of lead, cadmium, mercury and chrome (VI) present in packaging or its components must not exceed:

- 600 ppm by weight two years after the date mentioned in article 22, paragraph 1;
- 250 ppm by weight three years after the date mentioned in article 22, paragraph I ,
- 100 ppm by weight five years after the date mentioned in article 22, paragraph I .

The date mentioned in article 22, paragraph I , is 30 June 1996.

Germany allows tolerances with respect to the nitrate content of various leaf vegetables: for example, for canned or frozen spinach the limit is 2,000 mg/kg.

With respect to microbiological problems, there is no common legislation on maximum micro-organisms contents and each country has different levels for the maximum quantities of micro-organisms permitted in processed foods.

Nor are there any Community standards for aflatoxin content, but some national legislations specify the maximum concentrations permitted in dried or desiccated fruits.

Labelling and packaging requirements

The Community standards for labelling, presentation and advertising of food products intended for the final consumer are based on Directive 79/112. The labels on food products must show the following mandatory information:

- 1/ The name under which the product is sold,
- 2/ a list of ingredients,
- 3/ for pre-packed food products, the net quantity .
- 4/ the minimum sell-by date:
- 5/ special instructions for preservation and use;
- 6/ the name or company name and the address of the packer or importer in the Community:
- 7/ the place of origin or dispatch when its omission might mislead the consumer about the true place of origin or dispatch of the food product;
- 8/ instructions for use when, in the absence of this information, it is impossible to use the food product properly.

In addition:

The name under which the product is sold should be the one specified in the legislation.

- There is no need to indicate the ingredients for fresh fruits and vegetables, carbonated water, wine vinegar, cheese, butter, milk and sour cream, or for products consisting of a single ingredient.
- The list of ingredients should consist of' an enumeration of all the ingredients of the food

product in descending order of weight at the time of preparation.

The net quantity of a food product should be expressed in:

- Units of volume in the case of liquid products,
- Units of weight in the case of other products, using litres, centilitres, millilitres or kilograms or grams as appropriate.

The minimum sell-by date should be preceded by the words "To be consumed preferably before...." when the date includes the day, or "To be consumed preferably before the end of...." in other cases.

The date should consist of an indication - clear and in order - of the day, month and year. For products whose shelf-life is under three months it is sufficient to indicate the day and month, over three months but under 18 months - the month and year; and over 18 months - the year_

The member country in which a product is marketed may establish for its territory a mandatory requirement that the information on the label should appear in at least one or in several languages specified by that member country.

Any of the I I EU languages may be used: French, English, Spanish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Greek, Dutch, Danish, Swedish and Finnish. However, the commercial practice indicates use of

the language of the country of destination of the exports.

With regard to packaging and its environmental impact, legislation has been introduced on the disposal of packaging wastes_ and this legislation must be observed.

In 1991 the Federal Republic of Germany adopted the Regulations on Disposal of Packaging (Tocpfer Regulations), and since then other countries have also brought in their own legislation (France, Austria and Sweden, for example). In 1994 the EU adopted Directive 94/62 on packaging and packaging wastes.

On the basis of the Tocpfer Regulations, German commercial and industrial enterprises set up the company Dual System Deutschland GmbH in order to facilitate the collection of packaging from close to residential property, to ensure the acceptance and use of such wastes by manufacturers of packaging or suppliers of raw materials, and to finance the system.

The "Green Point" (Gruener Punkt) is the logo shown on packaging registered under the Dual System in Germany, the purpose of the logo is to:

- inform consumers that they should deposit used packaging at the DSD collection points,
- classify packaging wastes;
- act as a marketing tool by identifying environmentally sound packaging,
- finance the Dual System.

Imported products must be covered by the DSD system through either the German importer or the exporter.

The Green Point application must specify the annual sales volume for each package, product and material for the whole country; these data are more easily supplied by the importer than the exporter.

The transportation containers and additional packaging (blister, plastic, cardboard and similar packaging) are not covered by the Green Point system. It is therefore recommended that pallets should be of standard size and preferably 800x 1200 mm (Europallet 1) or 600x800 mm (Dusseldorf pallet or Euro 2). It is also recommended that transportation packaging should

be multi-use, and of a single material which can be easily folded and used as sales packaging.

In 1992 France adopted a Decree on disposal of domestic packaging wastes and created the company Eco-Emballage SA, which operates the system for disposal of packaging wastes and recovery of materials.

The logo used is identical to the Green Point logo, under an agreement with DSD, but without the words "Gruener Punkt". Use of this logo is subject to conclusion of a contract with Eco-Emballage and to a usage rate. This contract must be signed by the producer, the importer or the person responsible for the initial marketing of the goods.

ITC has produced a number of documents explaining the German Green Point system, as well as other documents concerning the environmental implications of containers and packaging, which are recommended reading. These documents, some of which will shortly be available in Spanish, are the following:

Export Packaging Notes

- No. 35.2 The potential impact of environmental legislation on export packaging from developing countries*
- No. 36 Environmental considerations influencing the selection of export packaging*
- No. 37 the trade implications of eco-packaging initiatives*
- No. 39 The use of modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) for the international distribution of fresh produce.*

Packdata Factsheets

- No. 12 Takeback Provisions Help List with ref to the German Packaging Ordinance*
- No. 16 The German Packaging Ordinance and Dual System Deutschland*
- No. 28 The European Packaging Directive (EPD)*

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| <p>No. 29 <i>The Packaging Legislation of AUSTRIA and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> <p>No. 30 <i>The Packaging Legislation of BELGIUM and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> <p>No. 31 <i>The Packaging Legislation of the NETHERLANDS and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> <p>No. 32 <i>The Packaging Legislation of IRAN and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> | <p>No. 33 <i>The Packaging Legislation of GERMANY and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> <p>No. 36 <i>The Packaging Legislation of the United Kingdom and its Implications for the Exporters of Packaged Products</i></p> <p>No. 41 <i>The Packaging Legislation of Italy and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> <p>No. 42 <i>The Packaging Legislation of Spain and its Potential Impact on Export Packaging from Developing Countries</i></p> |
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Transportation and storage

There are no common standards on the transportation and storage of processed foods. However, the EU is a party to all the international conventions on the carriage of perishable goods, which may be applicable to frozen or chilled products. Both the countries members of the EU and the European Commission are parties to the ATP agreement on the international carriage of perishable goods and special vehicles used for this purpose. The discussion and amendment of the ATP take place in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. The provisions of

this Agreement are binding on the members of the Community.

Additional standards on deep-frozen foods for human consumption are to be found in Directives 99/109 of 21 December 1988 (OJ 40 of 11 February 1989), 92/1 and 92/2 of 13 January 1992 concerning temperature control in means of transport, warehousing and storage facilities for frozen foods for human consumption, sampling procedures and the Community analysis methods for the official temperature inspection of such foods.

Verification, inspection and certification requirements

In contrast to the arrangements for fruits and vegetables, once they have cleared customs processed foods may circulate freely throughout the EU, and no prior import inspection is required. The importer is responsible for the goods. The inspection and sampling are effected at the wholesale warehouse or at the retail point of sale by the inspection authorities of each country.

If the goods do not meet the Community standards the importer is responsible, and he must therefore make sure before importing the goods that they satisfy the hygiene, phytosanitary, quality, labelling, etc. standards applicable in the EU.

Directive 85/591 establishes common standards for the Community sampling and analysis methods for

the inspection of products intended for human consumption. If it becomes necessary to introduce Community sampling or analysis methods to determine the composition or details of the manufacture, packaging or labelling of a food product, such methods will be adopted by the Commission.

The introduction of the envisaged methods will not prevent member States from using other tested and scientifically sound methods, provided that they do not obstruct the free circulation of products. However, in the event of disagreement about the interpretation of the results, the ones obtained by Community methods shall be decisive.

Analysis methods will have to meet the following criteria:

- Specificity
- Accuracy
- Reliability: repeatable in the same laboratory and reproducible at the same time in the same laboratory or in different laboratories, variability
- Detection limit

- Sensitivity
- Practicability and applicability
- Other criteria which may be adopted as necessary

The accuracy values will be deduced from a collective trial conducted in accordance with an internationally accepted protocol for this type of trial (for example, ISO 5725 of 1981 on accuracy of testing methods). The repeatability and reproducibility values will be expressed in an internationally accepted form (for example, reliability intervals of 95 per cent, as defined in ISO standard 5725/1981). The results of the collective trial will be published, or access to them will not be restricted.

Analysis methods uniformly applicable to different groups of product will be given preference over methods applicable only to specific products. The analysis methods adopted in accordance with the Directive will have to comply with the standardized presentation of analysis recommended by the International Organization for Standardization.

Pesticide residue requirements

The use of pesticides in or on plants to combat pests or diseases causes the deposition of a pesticide residue, which degrades over time but may persist for a long period.

For this reason, the Codex Alimentarius has defined "good agricultural practice", which consists of the necessary, officially recommended or authorized use of pesticides to combat harmful insects under practical conditions at any stage of production, storage, distribution or processing, bearing in mind the needs in a single region and between one region and another, as well as the minimum quantities necessary for securing adequate control and for treatment of the product in such a way that the residue is as small as possible and acceptable from the toxicological standpoint.

The EU has legislation on maximum residue tolerances or limits (MRL) for products of plant origin and products of animal origin, which is the maximum concentration of a pesticide residue recommended as

legally permissible in or on a food or food product. The concentration is expressed in terms of residue weight or in parts per million (ppm) of the weight of the food or food product.

The following products of plant origin are covered by legislation: fruits, vegetables, dried vegetables, oil seeds, potatoes, tea and other infusions, hops, cereals, cereal derivatives, spices and other products of plant origin.

The following products of animal origin are covered by legislation: meat and edible offal of cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, horses, asses and mules, chilled or frozen; meat and edible offal of poultry under Tariff heading 0105 (chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea hens), chilled or frozen, bacon, milk and cream, whether concentrated or not and with or without the addition of sugar, cheese, curd, butter and other fats derived from milk; poultry eggs in the shell or without shells, and egg yolks, sausages and similar products; and other canned meat, offal and blood preparations.

Regulations were also introduced on the parts of the plant which should be analyzed and on sampling, with a view to standardizing the data produced by different laboratories.

Of course, not all pesticides have fixed tolerances: as new pesticides emerge and scientific data are obtained about their applications, toxicity, manner of use, etc., the EU introduces MRLs for these pesticides.

The Community pesticides legislation is based on the following Directives of the Council of the European Communities:

07/427 of 27 June (O.J. 11-07-67)
71/160 of 30 March (O.J. 30-07-71)
76/x95 of 23 November (O.J. 109-12-76)
79/700 of 24 July (on sampling)
80/428 of 28 March (O.J. 19-04-80)
81/36 of 19 February (O.J. 19-02-81)
82/528 of 19 July (O.J. 09-08-82)
86/362 of 24 July (O.J. 07-08-86)
88/298 of 10 May (O.J. 120-05-88)
89/186 of 6 March (O.J. 10-03-89)
90/642 of 27 November (O.J. 14-12-90)
93/57 of 29 June (O.J. 23-08-93)
93/58 of 29 June (O.J. 23-08-93)
94/29 of 23 June (O.J. 23-07-94)
94/30 of 23 June (O.J. 23-07-94)
Decision of 13 July 1995 (O.J. 120-07-95)
95/38 of 17 July (O.J. 122-08-95)
95/39 of 17 July (O.J. 22-08-95)
95/61 of 29 November (O.J. 07-12-95)

The legislation is amended almost every year to bring it into line with the current state of scientific knowledge. There is a programme under which every country must produce a national pesticide residue monitoring plan, and findings are communicated annually to the Commission to inform it about the problems which have arisen.

If new scientific data show that a pesticide has a higher toxicity than previously known, member States may take the necessary measures to safeguard the health of their citizens, but the Committee on Pesticide Residues must be notified as soon as possible so that a new MRL can be established for the pesticide at the earliest possible date.

Some tolerances are provisional and do not become definitive until a specified date (within a period of three years, for example), unless in the meantime scientific data are produced which authorize a tolerance different from the one established in the legislation.

In the case of frozen foods, if the EU legislation does not specify tolerances some countries apply tolerances based on the form in which the product is presented. For example, if the product is presented in dehydrated form the base tolerance multiplied by the degree of dehydration is applied; in the case of a juice concentrate the juice tolerance is multiplied by the degree of dehydration is applied; in the case of a juice concentrated the juice tolerance is multiplied by the degree of concentration.

Recommendations for exporters in developing countries

In order to export processed foods to the EU, it is first necessary to find an importer legally established there and of recognized reliability. The importer advises the exporter about the information which he wishes to appear on the product labels and about its marketing characteristics in terms of net weight, drained weight, etc.

The next step is to submit a sample of the product to be sold to the importer for his approval. The sample sent must be identical in all respects with the lot which will later be exported. The foods must satisfy the

quality standards applicable in the EU, the phytosanitary standards, and the labelling and pesticide residue standards, etc. which have been discussed above.

The most suitable mode of transportation should be chosen in the light of the distance from the exporting country to the EU destination country, for these are mostly perishable goods and should be transported under the best possible conditions. Once the mode of transportation has been decided, the most economical service should be selected.

Most suitable mode of transportation means the mode which offers refrigerated transportation at a specified temperature if the product is chilled or frozen, or which offers shipment in a controlled atmosphere if this is recommended. The chilled or frozen goods should be loaded on to the means of transport without breaking the refrigeration chain, and it is recommended that thermo-hygrographs should be installed so that the humidity and temperature can be monitored during transportation and, if the refrigeration chain is broken, the time and the cause can be established. Such a break can cause irreparable damage.

Prior laboratory analysis of pesticide residues is

recommended, in order to verify that they meet the EU standards.

As far as possible mixed cargoes should not be loaded on the same means of transport, for tastes and odours can be transferred from one product to another if they are not properly pre-packaged. The loading and stowage of the goods in the means of transport should also be supervised, in order to prevent any shifting of the cargo during shipment

Packaged foods must comply with the Community legislation on nominal capacities.

Selection of Community Directives applicable to processed foods

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON ADDITIVES

FOR FOOD USE: FOOD ADDITIVES

Directive 88/344 of 3-06-88 (L 157, 240-6-98) Extraction solvents

Directive 88/388 of 22-06-88 (L 184, 15-07-88) Flavourings

Flavourings

Directive 89/107 of 21-12-88 (L 40, 11-02-89) Food additives permitted in food products for human consumption

Directive 91/71 of 16-01-91 (L 142, 15-11-91) Flavourings

Directive 92/115 of 7-12-92 (L 409, 31-12-92) Extraction solvents

Directive 94/34 of 30-06-94 (L 237, 10-09-94) ,unending tlic preceding Directive

Directive 94/35 of 30-06-94 (L 237, 10-09-94) Sweeteners used in food products

Directive 94/36 of 30-06-94 (L 237, 10-09-94) Colorants used in food products

Directive 95/2 of 20-02-95 (L 61, 18-03-95) Food additives other than colourants and sweeteners

Directive 94/36 of 30-06-94 (L 237, 10-09-94) Colorants used in food products

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PRESERVATIVES

Directive 64/54 of 05-11-63 (L 12, 27-01-64) Preservatives

Preservatives

- OJ L 87, 17-04-71

- OJ L 298, 31-12-72

- OJ L 38, 11-02-74

- OJ L 208, 30-07-74

- OJ L 126, 14-05-76

- OJ L 101, 11-04-81

- OJ L 357, 21-12-83

ANTIOXIDANTS

Directive 70/357 of 13-07-70 (L 157, 11-07-67)

- OJ L 44, 15-02-78

- OJ L 354, 09-12-81

- OJ L 002, 03-02-85

- OJ L 24, 27-01-84

FOOD COLOURANTS

- OJ L 115, 11-11-62

- OJ P 178, 26-10-65

- OJ P 263, 30-10-67

- OJ L 309, 24-12-68

- OJ L 157, 18-7-70

- OJ L 002, 01-01-73

- OJ L 108, 26-04-76

- OJ L 044, 15-02-78

- OJ L 043, 14-02-81

- OJ L 002, 03-01-85

- OJ L 001, 03-01-94

Directive 94/36 of 30-06-94 (OJ L 237, 10-09-94) on food colourants

- OJ L 226, 22-09-95

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- OJ L 022, 09-02-65
 - OJ P 148, 11-07-67
 - OJ L 126, 14-05-76
 - OJ L 223, 14-08-78
 - OJ L 257, 10-09-81
 - OJ L 230, 05-08-82
 - OJ L 297, 23-10-82
 - OJ L 352, 13-12-86
 - OJ L 326, 24-11-90
 - OJ L 001, 03-01-94
- Directive 95/31 of 05-07-95 (L 178, 28-07-95) on sweeteners
Directive 95/45 of 26-07-95 (L 226, 22-09-95) on colourants

FLAVOURS AND BASE SUBSTANCES FOR PRODUCTION OF FLAVOURS

- OJ L 184, 15-07-88
- OJ L 042, 15-02-91
- OJ L 001, 03-01-94

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON PRODUCTS IN CONTACT WITH FOODS

- Directive 78/142 of 30-01-78 (L 44, 15-02-7) on vinyl chloride monomer
Directive 80/766, of 08-07-80 (L 213, 16-08-80) on vinyl chloride
Directive 81/432 of 29-04-81 (L 167, 24-06-81) on analysis of vinyl chloride
Directive 82/711 of 18-10-82 (L 297, 23-10-82) on analysis of plastic materials
Directive 83/229 of 25-04-83 (L 123, 11-05-83) on materials and objects of reconstituted cellulose film
Directive 84/500 of 15-10-84 (L 277, 20-10-84) on ceramics in contact with food
Directive 85/572, of 19-12-85 (L 372, 31-12-85). List of simulators used to check the migration of constituents of plastic materials in contact with food products
Directive 86/388 of 23-07-86 (L 228, 14-08-86) on reconstituted cellulose
Directive 89/109 of 21-12-88 (L 40, 11-02-89). Materials intended to come into contact with food
Directive 90/128 of 23-02-90 (L 75, 21-03-90). Reconstitution of vinyl chloride
Directive 92/39 of 14-05-92 (L 168, 23-06-92) containing plastics amendments
Directive 93/9 of 15-03-93 (L 90, 14-04-93) containing plastics amendments
Directive 93/10 of 15-03-93 (L 93, 17-04-93) on reconstituted cellulose film
Directive 95/3 of 14-02-95 (L 41, 23-02-95) containing plastics amendments

LEGISLATION ON FOOD HYGIENE!

- Directive 93/43 of 14-06-93 (L 175, 19-07-93) on food hygiene
80/1089, recommendation of 11-11-80 on tests to assess the harmfulness of food additives (L 320, 27-11-80)

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON INSPECTION AND ANALYSIS METHODS

- Directive 85/591 of 20-12-85 (L 372, 31-12-85). General Directive on sampling and analysis methods for products intended for human consumption
Directive 89/397 of 14-06-89 (L 186, 30-06-89). General Directive on inspection of food products
Directive 93/43 of 14-06-93 (L 175, 19-07-93) on control of food products
Directive 93/99 of 29-10-93 (L 290, 24-11-93) on control of food products

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON NUTRITIONAL PROPERTIES

- Directive 90/496 of 24-09-90 (L 276, 06-10-90). Labelling of nutritional properties of food products.

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON FROZEN FOODS

- Directive 89/108 of 21-12-88 (L 40, 11-02-89). General Directive on frozen foods.

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON SPECIAL FOODS'

- Directive 89/398 of 03-05-89 (L 186, 30-06-89) food products for special consumption.

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON LABELLING, PRESENTATION AND ADVERTISING OF FOODS

- Directive 79/112 of 18-12-78 (L 33, 08-02-79) on labelling, presentation and advertising of food products
- Directive 85/7 of 19-12-84 (L 002, 03-01-95)
- Directive 86/197 of 26-05-86 (L 144, 29-05-86)
- Directive 89/397 of 14-06-89 (L 186, 30-06-89) on labelling, presentation and advertising of food products
- Directive 91/72 of 16-01-91 (L 42, 15-02-91)

LEGISLATION ON JAMS, JELLIES, MARMALADES AND PUREED CHESTNUTS

- Directive 79/692 of 24-07-79 (L 205, 13-08-79) on jams, jellies, marmalades and pureed chestnuts
Directive 80/1276 of 22-12-80 (L 375, 31-12-80)
Directive 88/593 of 18-11-88 (L 318, 25-11-88) amending the preceding Directive

COMMUNITY LEGISLATION ON FRUIT JUICES

- Directive 75/726 of 17-11-75 (L 311, 01-12-75) on fruit juices and other similar products
Directive 79/168 of 05-02-79 (L 37, 13-02-79). Amendment
Directive 81/487 of 30-06-81 (L 189, 11-07-81). Amendment
Directive 89/394 of 14-06-89 (L 186, 30-06-89) on fruit juices
Directive 93/77 of 21-09-93 (L 244, 30-09-93) on fruit juices and other similar products
Directive 93/45 of 17-06-93 (L 159, 01-07-93) on production of nectars

HONEY

Directive 74/409 of 22-07-74 (L 221, 12-08-74).
Harmonization of legislations on honey

- OJ L 197, 22-07-79
- OJ L 291, 17-10-78
- OJ L 170, 03-07-80
- OJ L 002, 03-01-85

EXTRACTS OF COFFEE AND EXTRACTS OF CHICORY

Directive 77/436 of 27-06-77 (L 172, 12-07-77) on
extracts of coffee and chicory

Directive 85/7 of 19-12-84 (L 002, 03-01-85)

Directive 85/573 of 19-12-85 (L 372, 31-12-85)

CERTAIN SUGARS

Directive 73/437 of 11-12-73 (L 356, 27-12-73) on certain
sugars intended for human consumption

AUTHORIZED NOMINAL CAPACITIES FOR CERTAIN PACKAGED PRODUCTS

Directive 75/106 of 19-12-74 (L 42, 15-02-75)

Directive 79/1005 of 23-11-79 (L 308, 04-12-79)

Directive 80/232 of 15-01-80 (L 51, 25-02-80)

Directive 85/10 of 18-12-84 (L 04, 05-01-85)

Directive 86/96 of 18-03-86 (L 80, 25-03-86)

COCOA AND CHOCOLATE PRODUCTS

Directive 73/241 of 24-07-73 (L 228, 16-08-73) on cocoa and
chocolate products intended for human consumption

- OJ L 221, 12-08-74

- OJ L 349, 28-12-74

- OJ L 64, 11-03-75

- OJ L 223, 16-08-70

List of food product quality control authorities in the European Union

Country	Telephone	Fax
AUSTRIA		
Bundesanstalt für Lebensmittel- untersuchung and -forschung Kinderspitalgasse 15 A-1090 Wien	431/404910	431/40491540
Bundesanstalt für Lebensmittel- untersuchung in Linz Bürgerstrasse 47 A-4020 Linz	43732/779071	
Bundcsanstalt für Lebensmittel- untersuchung in Salzburg Schopperstrasse 13 A-5020 Salzburg	43662/451027	43662/52770
Bundesanstalt für Lebensmittel- untersuchung in Graz Beethovenstrasse 8 A-8010 Graz	43316/327588	43316/327588
Bundcsanstalt für Lebensmittel- untersuchung in Innsbruck Technikerstrasse 70 A-6020 Innsbruck	43512/22440	43512/22440-15
Lebcnsmitteluntersuchungs- anstalt der Stadt Wien Henneberggasse 3 A-1030 Wien	43179514-0	
Landwirtschaftl.-chem. Versuchs- and Lebensmitteluntersuchung sanstalt für Karnten Lastenstrasse 40 A-9020 Klagenfurt	43463/32130	43463/341-74

<u>Country</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
Lebensmitteluntersuchungsanstalt des Landes Vorarlberg Monfortstrasse 4 A-6901 Bregenz	435574/51 1420	435574/5114212
BELGIUM Ministere de la Santé Publique Inspection Generale des Denrées Alimentaires Cite Administrative de l'Etat Quartier Esplanade - II ^{eme} etage 1010 BRUXELLES	02/2104846	02/2104816
DENMARK Lævnemiddel Styrelsen Morkhøj Bygade, 19 2860 Soborg	45/39696600	45/39660100
FINLAND Finnish Customs Laboratory Tekniikantie 13 02510 Espoo 15	+3589/6143210	+3589/463383
FRANCE Direction generale de la concurrence, de la consommation et de la repression des fraudes Sous-direction D - Produits agricoles et Alimentaires Télédoc 251 -59, boulevard Vincent-Auriol F-75703 Paris Cedex 13	(33 1)44972347	
Direction Generale de l'Alimentation Service de la qualité alimentaire et des actions vétérinaires et phytosanitaires 175, rue du Chevaleret 75013 Paris	(33 1)49559177	(33 1)49555 106
GERMANY Baden-Württemberg Bavarn Berlin Brandenburg Bremen	49/721/1353611 49/89/315601 49/30/397051 49/355/638265 49/421/36115247	49/721/1353549 49/89/31560425 49/30/39705380 49/421/36115504

Country	Telephone	Fax
Hamburg	49/40/78964301	49/40/78964274
Hessen	49/561/3 1010	49/561/3 101242
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	49/3843/62003	49/3843/61047
Niedersachsen		49/531 /4841001
Nordrhein- Westfalen	49/241/5 14045	49/241/505296
Rheinland-Pfalz	49/261/3911	49/261/391350
Saarland	49/681/5865701	49/681 /5865727
Schleswig- Holstein	49/4321/5017	49/4321/53590
Thuringen	49/3681/5609	49/368 1/21562
GRECE		
Ministry of Agriculture	(1)5228066	(1)5228066
Department of food control		
State Chemical laboratorv	(1)64282101	6465123
IRELAND		
Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	(01)6072000	(01)6616263
Horticulture Division	(01)6799011	(01)6620198
Agriculture House	(Ext. 3000/2300)	(01)6795214
Kildare Street		
IRL - Dublin 2		
ITALY		
Dipartimento degli Alimenti e Nutrizione e della Sanita Pubblica Veterinaria P Le Marconi, 25 Palazzo Italia I-00144 Roma	396/59943946	
Ministcro delle Risorse Agricole, Alimentari e Forestali Direzione Generale delle Politiche Agricole e Agroindustriali Via XX Settembre, 20 I-00187 Roma	396/46654047	
LUXEMBURG		
Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture Service de l'horticulture, Service de controle des fruits et legumes 16, route d' Esch, bone postale 1904 L- 10 19 Luxembourg		

<u>Country</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
NETHERLANDS		
Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport Hoofdinspecie Gezondheidsbescherming (HIGB) P O Box 5840 2280HV RIJSWIJK	+31703405060	+31703405435
PORTUGAL		
Portugal Continental	01/7967650	7971750
Instituto do Protecçao da Produgao Agro-Alimentar Avenida Conde Valbom, no 98 P- 1050 Lisboa	01/7967658 01/7967659	
Rcgiao Aut6noma da Madeira	091/222058	091/248230
Direc~ao Regional de Agricultura Avenida Arriaga, n° 21 A - Edificio Golden, 2° andar P-9000 Funchal	091/222059	
Rcgiao Aut6noma dos Adores	096/653333	096/653707
Instituto de AlimentaFao c Mercados Agricolas (LAMA) Rua do Passal, n° 150 P-9500 Ponta Delgada		
SPAIN		
Dirección General de Sanidad de la Producción Agraria (Sanidad Vegetal) Velazquez, 147 E-28002 Madrid	913478233	913478245
Dirección General de Política Alimentaria Subdirección General de Calidad Agroalimentaria AGRIM E Pasco Infanta Isabel, 1 E-28014 Madrid	913475394	913475727
Instituto Nacional del ConSUMo Principe de Vergara, 54 E-28071 Madrid	91431 1836	915763927

<u>Country</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
<p>SWEDEN</p> <p>Statens Livsmedelsverket National Food Administration Box 622 S-75126 Uppsala Sweden</p>	+46/18175500	+46/18105848
<p>UNITED KINGDOM</p> <p>Horticultural Marketing Inspectorate Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food c/o Nobel House 17 Smith Square UK-London SW1P 3JR</p>	441712383000	441712386735
<p>Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department Pentland House 47 Robbs Loan UK-Edinburgh EH 14 1TY</p>	0315548400	0312446001/2
<p>Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland Dundonald House Upper Newtonards Road UK-Belfast BT4 3SB</p>	0232520 100	0232524266
<p>Welsh Office Agriculture Department New Crown Building Cathay's Park UK-Cardiff, Wales, CF1 3NQ</p>	0222825757	0222823352

List of phytosanitary inspection authorities in the European Union

<u>Country</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
AUSTRIA		
Bundesamt and Forschungsrentrum fur Landwirtschaft Spargelfeldstrasse 191 A-1220 Wien	43-I-28816-5214	43-1-28816-5216
Abteilung 1 A 2 Bundcsministerium fur Land- and Forstwirtschaft Stubering I A-10 12 Wien	43-1-71100-5 842	43-1-71100-6503
BELGIUM		
Ministers do l' Agriculture Service de la Protection des Vegetaux Boulevard Simon Bolivar, N° 30 W.T.C. 3, 6eme etage B-12 10 Bruxelles	32-2-2083701	32-2-2083705
Ministerie van Landbouw Dienst Plantenbescherming St. Lievenslaan 33A B- 9000 Gent	32-9-2359090	32-9-2352523
DENMARK		
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries The Danish Plant Directorate Skovbrynet 20 DK- 2800 Lyngby	45-45966820	45-45966613
FINLAND		
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Department of Rural Development Mariankatu 23 P.O. Box 232 FIN-00171 Helsinki	358-0-1602449	358-0-1602443

<u>Country</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
Plant Production Inspection Centre Plant Protection Division Vilhonvuorenkatu 1 l.c P.O. Box 42 FIN-00501 Helsinki	358-0-13421402	358-0-13421499
FRANCE		
Ministere de l'Agriculture, de la Peche et de l'Alimentation Sous Direction de la Protection des Vegctaux 175, rue du Chevaleret F - 75646 Paris Cedex 13	33-1-49558153	33-1-49555949
GERMANY		
Bundesministerium fur Ernährung, Landwirtschaft and Forsten Rochuestrasse 1 D- 53123 Bonn 1	49-228-5293590	49-228-5294262
Biologische Bundesanstalt fur Land- find Forstwirtschaftl (BBA) Messweg 11-12 D- 38104 Braunschweig	49-531-2993370	49-531-2993007
GRECE		
Ministry of Agriculture Plant Protection Service Ippokratus 3-5 GR- Athens	30-1-3605480	30-1-3617103
IRELAND		
Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Kildare Street IRL- Dublin 2	353-1-6072699	353-1-6785214
Forest Service- Forest Protection Section Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Lesson Lane IRL Dublin 2	353-I-6072957	353-1-6623180

Country	Telephone	Fax
Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Agriculture House Kildare Street IRL- Dublin 2	353-1-6072089	353-1-6616263
ITALY Ministero delle Risorse Agricole Alimentari e Forestali Servizio Fitosanitario Via XX Settembre 20 I- Roma	39-6-4884293	39-6-4814628
Università degli Studi di Bologna Istituto Patologia Vegetale Via Filippo Re 8 I- Bologna	39-51-351431	39-51-351438 39-51-351438
LUXEMBURG Ministère de l'Agriculture Adm. des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture 16, route d'Esch - BP 1904 L- 1019 Luxembourg	352-457172-218 (switchboard 457172-1)	352-457172-340
NETHERLANDS Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries Department of Agriculture Division Crop Protection Bezuidenhoutseweg 73/Postbus 20401 NL- 2500 EK's- Gravenhage	31-70-379391 1	31-70-3476896
Policy Matters Plant Protection Service Phytosanitary Development Gcortjesweg 15/ Postbus 9102 NL-6700 EK Wageningen	31-317-496911	31-317-421701

Country	Telephone	Fax
PORTUGAL		
Centro Nacional de Protecção da Produção Agrícola Quinta do Masques P-2780 Oeiras	351-I-4435058	351-1-4420616
Centro Nacional de Protecção da Produção Agrícola Tapada da Ajuda P- 1300 Lisboa	351-1-3635013	351-1-3635016
SPAIN		
Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación M.A.P.A. Subdirección General de Sanidad Vegetal c/ Velazquez 147, 1 planta E-28002 Madrid	34-I-3478254	34-1-3478263
SWEDEN		
Head of Service Jordbruks Verket Swedish Board of Agriculture Plant Protection Service S-55182Jonkoping	46-36-155913	46-36-122522
UNITED KINGDOM		
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAAF) Plant Health Division, Room 351 Foss House, King's Pool 1-2 Pcasholme Green UK-York YO1 2PX	44-1904-455161	44-1904-455163