



Notification Number: 2016/567/F

## Order implementing Article L1338-2 of the Public Health Code

Date received : 24/10/2016

End of Standstill : 25/01/2017

### Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2016) 03283

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2016/0567/F

No abre el plazo - Nezaahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201603283.EN)

#### 1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2016 0567 F EN 24-10-2016 F NOTIF

#### 2. Member State

F

#### 3. Department Responsible

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#### 3. Originating Department

Ministère des Affaires Sociales et de la Santé

Direction Générale de la Santé

Sous-direction de la prévention des risques liés à l'environnement et à l'alimentation

Bureau Environnement extérieur et produits chimiques (EA1)

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**4. Notification Number**

2016/0567/F - S60E

**5. Title**

Order implementing Article L1338-2 of the Public Health Code

**6. Products Concerned**

Annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.)

Giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida* L.)

Perennial ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya* DC.)

**7. Notification Under Another Act**

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**8. Main Content**

This draft Order is issued pursuant to Article L338-2 of the Public Health Code, which provides for a ban on certain practices related to plant species by ministerial decree. The draft prohibits the deliberate introduction into French territory, transport, use, sale or purchase of any kind whatsoever (including as a mixture) of annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida* L.) and perennial ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya* DC). This measure shall apply in accordance with national regulatory provisions pursuant to Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2002 on undesirable substances in animal feed, as amended.

**9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

Ragweed constitutes an environmental and public health concern within French territory both due to the fact that it has highly allergenic pollen and its potential to invade various environments (agricultural soil, edges of transport routes, construction zones, home gardens, etc.). Annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya* DC.) and perennial ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida* L.) are plants native to North America that were unintentionally introduced in France; they are gradually invading the country and require government action to combat their proliferation. Annual ragweed, currently the most widespread in France, is heavily colonised in certain areas such as the Vallée du Rhône and the Massif Central. It is now reported in nearly all of the metropolitan departments. In the Rhône-Alpes region (now the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region), the French region where ragweed is most pervasive, it was estimated in 2013 that approximately 200 000 people a year suffer from allergies related to the plant. Annual health costs incurred amounted to €15 million for this region alone. Moreover, the percentage of people allergic to annual ragweed in the Rhône-Alpes region has been increasing in recent years – from 9 % to 13 % between 2004 and 2014 – in the three areas studied in the region (in 2014, it is estimated that 284,604 inhabitants of Rhône-Alpes were affected by this allergy). Faced with this public health issue, the French authorities have decided to implement preventive measures in a coordinated manner as soon as possible throughout French territory, in order to combat this plant species and best protect the population and environment. Given the particularly harmful nature of the plant species covered



by the French legislation, the impact on the free movement of goods will be low, and justified on public health grounds.

**10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

Reference(s) to basic text(s): – Articles L1338-1 and L1338-2 of the Public Health Code;  
- draft Decree on measures to combat annual ragweed, giant ragweed and perennial ragweed.

**11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

No

**12. Grounds for the Emergency**

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**13. Confidentiality**

No

**14. Fiscal measures**

No

**15. Impact assessment**

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**16. TBT and SPS aspects**

TBT aspect

No - the draft has no significant impact on international trade.

SPS aspect

No - the draft has no significant impact on international trade.

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European Commission

Contact point Directive (EU) 2015/1535

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