



Notification Number: 2001/220/E

## **Decree governing the granting and use of the "certified quality" mark for agricultural and food products.**

Date received : 21/05/2001  
End of Standstill : 22/08/2001  
Issue of comments by : Austria,Netherlands,Sweden

### Message

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Message 002



Communication from the Commission - SG(2001) D/51123  
Directive 98/34/EC  
Translation of the message 001  
Notification: 2001/220/E

(MSG: 200101123.EN)

**1. Structured Information Line**

MSG 002 IND 2001 0220 E EN 21-05-2001 E NOTIF

**2. Member State**

Spain

**3. Department Responsible**

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**4. Notification Number**

2001/220/E - C00A

**5. Title**

Decree governing the granting and use of the "certified quality" mark for agricultural and food products.

**6. Products Concerned**



The certified quality mark may be used to identify those products which fulfil any of the following requirements:

- 1) Products protected by designations of origin, protected geographical indications, specific designations and designations for organic farming referred to by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 of 14 July 1992, Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 of 17 May 1999, Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 of 24 June 1991 and Act No 25/1970 of 2 December 1970 and Decree No 835/1972 of 23 March 1972 and related legislation.
- 2) Products protected by certificates of specific character governed by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2082/92 of 14 July 1992.
- 3) Products authorised to use the integrated production guarantee mark, governed by Decree No 215/1995 of 19 September 1995.
- 4) Agri-foodstuffs and fishery products whose quality is certified by accredited certification bodies in accordance with standard EN-45011.

## **7. Notification Under Another Act**

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## **8. Main Content**

The aim of the Decree is to regulate the use and authorisation of the certified quality mark for the products listed in point 6. The Department for Agriculture and Fisheries owns and has the exclusive right to use the certified quality mark, and can authorise its use in accordance with the provisions of this Decree and with the instructions for its approved use.

Authorisation to use the mark may be requested by natural or legal persons wishing to use it on the products indicated in point 6.

Authorisation shall be granted on an individual basis for the product/s for which its use is requested (not for the whole range of articles produced by the applicant) by means of a resolution issued within six months by the head of the Directorate-General for Industry and the Promotion of Agri-foodstuffs. The authorisation requires express acceptance by the applicant.

A register of products authorised to use the certified quality mark shall be established.

The initial authorisation shall be granted for a period of five years, and is renewable for five-yearly periods.

The certified quality mark takes the form of a logo or graphic symbol which appears in the Annex to the Decree.

## **9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

Quality differentiation is the best strategy for the survival of productive activity in developed countries, in a market where competitors able to produce at lower cost continually appear. At the same time, consumers are demanding reliable quality production, making it essential to base any agri-foodstuff quality policy on impartial criteria which must be applied by the certified bodies.

The certified quality mark will be a voluntary system that enables operators to provide information on the differentiated quality of a product and will give consumers a guarantee of specific character supported by the appropriate controls.

## **10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

Decree No 215/1995 of 19 September 1995 on the use of the integrated production guarantee mark.



**11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

No.

**12. Grounds for the Emergency**

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**13. Confidentiality**

No.

**14. Fiscal measures**

No.

David O'Sullivan  
General Secretary  
European Commission