Notification Number: 2008/105/F

Decree on the conditions of use of the value-enhancing indications 'fermier' [farm], 'produit de la ferme' [farm produce] or 'produit à la ferme' [farm-produced] for eggs of the Gallus gallus variety

Date received : 14/03/2008

End of Standstill : 16/06/2008 (15/09/2008)

Issue of comments by : Commission
Issue of detailed opinion by : Commission

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - SG(2008) D/50528

Directive 98/34/EC

Translation of the message 001 Notification: 2008/0105/F

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje 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 késéseket - Ma' jiftaħx il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Мääräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 200800528.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2008 0105 F EN 16-06-2008 14-03-2008 F NOTIF 16-06-2008

2. Member State

F

3. Department Responsible

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3. Originating Department

Ministère de l'agriculture et de la pêche Direction générale des politiques économique, européenne et internationale Bureau des signes de qualité et de l'agriculture biologique 3 rue Barbet de Jouy 75349 Paris 07 SP

4. Notification Number

2008/0105/F - C50A

5. Title

Decree on the conditions of use of the value-enhancing indications 'fermier' [farm], 'produit de la ferme' [farm produce] or 'produit à la ferme' [farm-produced] for eggs of the Gallus gallus variety

6. Products Concerned

The products affected by the text are eggs of the Gallus gallus variety

7. Notification Under Another Act

8. Main Content

The basic Law on agriculture of 5 January 2006 lists the designation 'produits fermiers' [farm produce], and the designations 'montagne' [mountain] and 'produits pays' [local produce], in a category identified under the heading 'value-enhancing indications', for which conditions of use must be defined. The conditions of use of the term 'fermier' [farm] have already been defined for cheeses (Decree 2007-628 of 27 April 2007 on cheeses and cheese products) and for poultrymeat (Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1538/91 of 5 June 1991 introducing detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1906/90 on certain marketing standards for poultry).

The aim of the notified draft text is to lay down conditions that must be met in order to use the term 'fermier' [farm] for eggs. The producer must own the laying hens. The laying hens must be reared in the open air using traditional methods, and the number of hens permitted is capped. This traditional method shall be based on the method for obtaining eggs (feeding of hens, conditions on collecting and grading, conditions relating to the poultry house).

Before using the term 'fermier' [farm], each producer must make a declaration to the prefecture. Penalties for failure to comply with the rules laid down in this text shall be defined in a second text published at the same time.

No aspect of this measure shall apply to products from other Member States and placed on sale in France under the designation 'fermier' [farm].

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

This draft text responds to a strong demand from French consumers, who are keen to have clarification on the definition of the term 'fermier' [farm] used for eggs. Furthermore, this designation is intended to supplement the tools of the French policy of enhancing the value of agricultural and food products and to allow access to as many as possible. The issue is to ensure consumers are not misled about 'farm eggs', while taking account of the most widespread practices in the sector, which will make it possible to guarantee genuine authenticity.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

The option to lay down, by Decree, conditions on the use of the term 'produits fermiers' [farm products] is laid down in Article L. 640-2 of the Rural Code.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

NO

12. Grounds for the Emergency

-

13. Confidentiality

NO

14. Fiscal measures

a) NO

15. Impact assessment

'Fermier' [farm] eggs bought in France may make up between 5% and 10% of the total egg market. No specific impact assessment, however, has yet been carried out.

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect (Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade)

- a) NO
- iii) The draft does not have a significant effect on international trade.

SPS aspect (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)

- a) NO
- b)
- i) The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure pursuant to Annex A to the SPS Agreement.
- iii) The draft does not have a significant effect on international trade.

Catherine Day Secretary-General European Commission

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Représentation Permanente de la France

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market for goods Prevention of Technical Barriers

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market for goods Prevention of Technical Barriers

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