



Notification Number: 2003/128/F

Draft Order suspending the introduction into France of bees, beehives, queens with their attendants and beekeeping material from third countries.

Date received : 09/04/2003

End of Standstill :

Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - SG(2003) D/50734

Directive 98/34/EC

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2003/0128/F

Does not open the delays.

(MSG: 200300734.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2003 0128 F EN 10-07-2003 09-04-2003 F NOTIF 10-07-2003

2. Member State

FRANCE

3. Department Responsible

Secrétariat Général du Comité Interministériel pour les Questions de
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3. Originating Department

Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation, de la pêche et des affaires rurales
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cédex 15

4. Notification Number



2003/0128/F - C00A

5. Title

Draft Order suspending the introduction into France of bees, beehives, queens with their attendants and beekeeping material from third countries.

6. Products Concerned

Bees (*Apis mellifera*), beehives, queens with or without attendants and beekeeping material

7. Notification Under Another Act

Notification within the framework of another Community text: Council Directive 91/496/EEC.

8. Main Content

This draft suspends the introduction into France of bees (*Apis mellifera*), bee hives, queens with their attendants and beekeeping material from third countries. However, these products may be imported into France from third countries on condition that an additional certificate is produced, certifying the absence of small hive beetles (*Aethina tumida*, belonging to the Nitidulidae family) and Kashmir virus on their territory.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

This draft Order prevents the introduction into France of small hive beetles (*Aethina tumida*, belonging to the Nitidulidae family), a destructive parasite of bee colonies from South Africa, whose geographical distribution, according to our information, now extends to the United States of America and Australia. Furthermore, the French authorities have judged it necessary to take additional protection measures to combat the spread of the Kashmir virus that affects bees, whose geographical distribution at the moment seems to be limited to the territory of New Zealand.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

? Council Directive 91/496/EEC laying down the principles governing the organization of veterinary checks on animals entering the Community from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC and 90/675/EEC, and particularly Article 18 thereof,
? Council Directive 92/65/EC of 13 July 1992 laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A(I) to Directive 90/425/EEC,
? 2000/462/EC: Commission Decision of 12 July 2000 concerning the health certification for imports of bees/hives, queens and their attendants from third countries,
? the Rural Code and in particular Articles L 236-1 and L 236-12 thereof,
? The Customs Code and in particular Article 38 thereof,
? the Order of 6 June 1994 on the health conditions for the import of live animals, products of animal origin and animal foodstuffs or foodstuffs of animal origin from third countries,

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

Yes, a safeguard clause laid down in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of Council Directive 91/496/EEC in the absence of a decision from the European Commission, in order to protect health in the beekeeping sector (parasite that destroys beehives). This measure must be taken urgently given that in France,



beekeepers import the products cited by the draft Order at the start of spring when beehive activity resumes.

12. Grounds for the Emergency

In the absence of harmonised measures taken at Community level and in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of Council Directive 91/496/EEC, import of the products cited in this Order may not be authorised on French territory.

13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

Impact study, not carried out. This Order covers the health protection of French livestock.

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT and SPS aspects:

TBT Aspect

No

This draft is not a technical regulation or a conformity assessment procedure pursuant to Annex 1 to the TBT Agreement.

SPS Aspect

No

David O'Sullivan
Secretary-General
European Commission

sent to :

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