COMMISSION DECISION

of 4 September 1991

amending Decision 90/52/EEC authorizing Member States temporarily to take additional measures as regards Denmark against the dissemination of *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*

(91/489/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 77/93/EEC of 21 December 1976 on protective measures against the introduction into the Member States of organisms harmful to plants or plant products [1], as last amended by Commission Directive 91/27/EEC [2], and in particular Article 15 (2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 80/665/EEC of 24 June 1980 on the control of potato ring rot [3], and in particular Article 9 (2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Decision 90/52//EEC of 17 January 1990 authorizing Member States temporarily to take additional measures as regards Denmark against the dissemination of *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* and repealing Decision 88/36/EEC [4], and in particular Article 3 thereof,

Whereas, where a Member State considers that there is an imminent danger of the introduction into its territory of potato ring rot from another Member State, it may temporarily take any additional measures necessary to protect itself from that danger;

Whereas a Member State may also take such measures where another Member State informs it of confirmed contamination by potato ring rot;

Whereas it was well known that potato ring rot had occurred in Denmark for more than 25 years;

Whereas Denmark implemented an eradication programme;

Whereas, in particular, since 1984 the entire potato stock material was renewed by cleaned and healthy material; whereas since 1986 both seed potatoes and ware potatoes may be produced in Denmark only where they derive from such cleaned and healthy stock material;

Whereas, moreover, Denmark set up appropriate production, processing and distribution structures, aimed at preventing reinfections of potatoes produced under the above conditions;

Whereas the results of intensive official surveys, including testing carried out in accordance with the established Community method for the detection and diagnosis of *Corynebacterium sepedonicum,* carried out in Denmark on potatoes harvested there since 1986, justified the conclusion that potatoes produced in Denmark at least since 1986 could be deemed to be free from potato ring rot;

Whereas Denmark informed the other Member States and the Commission that samples of the 1988 ware potato production showed a confirmed contamination by potato ring rot, including those of a consignment introduced into another Member State;

Whereas taking into account that situation the Commission, by Decision 90/52/EEC, authorized the Member States to take additional measures described therein;

Whereas that Decision also stipulated that Member States shall adjust the measures which they adopted with a view to protecting themselves against the introduction or spread of *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*;

Whereas that Decision stipulated that the authorization shall expire on 30 June 1991;

Whereas the Commission and the other Member States were informed that a sample of the 1990 seed potato production of Denmark, taken from a consignment introduced into another Member State, showed a confirmed contamination by *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*;

Whereas the results of intensive official surveys, carried out in Denmark on potatoes harvested in 1990 also showed a confirmed contamination by potato ring rot;

Whereas it has not yet been possible to identify the precise source of contamination;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plant Health,

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[1] OJ No L 26, 31. 1. 1977, p. 20.
[2] OJ No L 16, 22. 1. 1991, p. 29.
[3] OJ No L 180, 14. 7. 1980, p. 30.
[4] OJ No L 36, 8. 2. 1990, p. 23.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Decision 90/52/EEC is hereby amended as follows:

1. in Article 1 (1), '30 June 1991' is replaced by '31 December 1991';
2. in Article 1 (2) (b), '90/52/EEC' is replaced by '91/489/EEC';
3. Article 2 is deleted.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 4 September 1991.

For the Commission

Ray MAC SHARRY

Member of the Commission