COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 12 November 1997

on marking and use of pigmeat in application of Article 9 of Council Directive 80/217/EEC concerning the Netherlands

(Text with EEA relevance)

(97/764/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 80/217/EEC of 22 January 1980 introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever [1], as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden, and in particular Article 9, paragraph 6 (g) thereof,

Whereas in 1997 outbreaks of classical swine fever in the Netherlands were declared by the Dutch Veterinary Authorities;

Whereas in accordance with Article 9 (1) of Directive 80/217/EEC, a surveillance zone was immediately established around outbreak sites;

Whereas a surveillance zone for outbreaks confirmed in RVV Kringen Weert and Nijmegen in 1997 was established;

Whereas all pig holdings in the established surveillance zone have been subject to a regular inspection by a veterinarian and blood samples for laboratory examination have been collected;

Whereas Dutch Veterinary Authorities have implemented a computerized geographical information system able to identify the precise geographical location of all pig holdings in the surveillance zone;

Whereas in the last two months the epidemiological situation concerning classical swine fever in the southern area of the surveillance zone established in RVV Kringen Weert and Nijmegen has considerably improved;

Whereas the provisions for the use of a health mark on fresh meat are given in Council Directive 64/433/EEC [2] on health conditions for the production and marketing of fresh meat as last amended by Directive 95/23/EC [3];

Whereas the Netherlands have submitted a request for the adoption of a specific solution concerning marking and use of pigmeat coming from pigs kept on holdings situated in an established surveillance zone and slaughtered subject to a specific authorization issued by the competent authority;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. Without prejudice for the provisions of Council Directive 80/217/EEC, in particular, Article 9 (6), the Netherlands are authorized to apply the mark described in Article 3 (1) (A) (e) of Directive 64/433/EEC to pigmeat obtained from pigs originating from holdings situated south of latitude 51°36′ North in the surveillance zone established in RVV Kringen Weert and Nijmegen in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 (1) of Directive 80/217/EEC on the condition that the pigs in question:

(a) originate from a holding to which, following the epidemiological inquiry, no contact has been established with an infected holding;

(b) originate from a holding which for a period of at least 30 days has been subject to a regular inspection, by a veterinarian. The inspection has included all pigs kept on the holding.

[1] OJ L 47, 21. 1. 1980, p. 11.

[2] OJ 121, 29. 7. 1964, p. 2012/64.

[3] OJ L 243, 11. 10. 1995, p. 7.

(c) have been subject to protection measures established in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 (6) (f) and (g) of Directive 80/217/EEC;

(d) originate from a holding where in the 30 days previous to the slaughter serological tests for detection of classical swine fever based on a randomized sampling procedure have been carried out that assure that a prevalence of 2 % or more is detected with a confidence of 95 %;

(e) have been included in a programme for monitoring body temperature and clinical examination. The programme shall be carried out as given in Annex I;

(f) have been slaughtered within 12 hours of arrival at the slaughterhouse.

2. The Netherlands shall ensure that a certificate as given in Annex II is issued in respect of meat referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 2

Pigmeat which complies with the conditions of Article 1 (1) and enters into intra-Community trade must be accompanied by the certificate referred to in Article 1 (2).

Article 3

The Netherlands shall ensure that abattoirs designated to receive the pigs referred to in Article 1 (1) do not on the same day accept pigs for slaughter other than the pigs in question.

Article 4

The Netherlands shall provide Member States and the Commission with:

(a) the name and location of slaughterhouses designated to receive pigs for slaughter referred to in Article 1 (1);

(b) a monthly report which contains information on:

— the area to which the provisions of Article 1 apply,

— the number of pigs slaughtered at the designated slaughterhouses,

— identification system and movement controls applied to slaughter pigs, as required in accordance with Article 9 (6) (f) (i) of Directive 80/217/EEC,

— instructions issued concerning the application of the programme for monitoring body temperature referred to in Annex I.

Article 5

This Decision is applicable until 31 December 1997.

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 12 November 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX I

MONITORING OF BODY TEMPERATURE

The programme for monitoring body temperature and clinical examination referred to in Article 1 (1) (e) shall include the following:

1. Within the 24-hour period before loading a consignment of pigs intended for slaughter, the competent veterinary authority shall ensure that the body temperature of a number of pigs of the said consignment is monitored by an official veterinarian inserting a thermometer into the rectum. The number of pigs to be monitored for temperature shall be as given below:

Number of pigs in consignment	Number of pigs to be monitored
0 to 25	all
26 to 30	26
31 to 40	31
41 to 50	35
51 to 100	45
101 to 200	51
200 +	60

At the time of examination, the following information shall be recorded for each pig on a table issued by the competent veterinary authorities: number of eartag, time of examination and temperature.

In cases where the examination shows a temperature of 40 °C or above, the official veterinarian shall immediately be informed. A disease investigation shall be initiated and take into account the provisions of Article 4 of Council Directive 80/217/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever.

2. Shortly (0 to 3 hours) before loading of the consignment examined as described under 1 above, a clinical examination shall be carried out by an official veterinarian designated by the competent veterinary authorities.

3. At the time of loading of the consignment of pigs examined as described under 1 and 2 above, the official veterinarian shall issue a health document, which shall accompany the consignment to the designated slaughterhouse.

4. At the slaughterhouse of designation the results of the temperature monitoring shall be made available to the veterinarian who performs the *ante-mortem* examination.

ANNEX II

CERTIFICATE

for fresh meat referred to in Article 1 (1) of Commission Decision 97/764/EC

No (1): .....

Place of loading: .....

Ministry: .....

Department: .....

I. **Identification of meat**

Meat of pigs

Nature of cuts: .....

Number of cuts or packages: .....

Net weight: .....

II. **Origin of meat**

Address and veterinary approval number of the approved slaughterhouse:

.....

.....

III. **Destination of meat**

The meat will be sent

from: .....
(place of loading)

to: .....
(place of destination)

by the following means of transport (2): .....

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

(1) Serial No issued by the official veterinarian.
(2) In the case of rail trucks and lorries, state the registration number and in the case of boats, name and, where necessary, the number of the container.

IV. **Health attestation**

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, certify that the meat described above was obtained under the conditions governing production and control laid down in Directive 64/433/EEC and is in conformity with the provisions of Commission Decision 97/764/EC on marking and use of pigmeat in application of Article 9 of Council Directive 80/217/EEC.

Done at ....., on .....

.....

(name and signature of the official veterinarian)