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REGULATION (EEC) No 1599/71 OF THE COUNCIL

of 20 July 1971

laying down additional conditions with which imported wines for direct human consumption have to comply

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 816/70[1] of 28 April 1970 laying down additional provisions for the common organisation of the market in wine, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2612/70,[2] and in particular Article 28 (1) (b) thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas Article 28 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 provides that, except for liqueur wines and sparkling wines, imported wines covered by item 7 of Annex II to that Regulation may be released for direct human consumption only if they comply with conditions to be adopted;

Whereas imported wine should comply with the quality criteria of its country of origin; whereas to ensure that it is of a quality comparable to that of Community wines it is necessary, without prejudice to provisions of Member States which are consistent with Community law, for imported wines to satisfy in addition certain requirements of Community law for a given wine-growing zone;

Whereas maximum levels for certain components of imported wines should be fixed similar to those laid down in the provisions existing in Member States;

Whereas, so that the application of Community provisions may be supervised, imported wines should be accompanied by an analysis report which enables them to be identified, thus facilitating their movement within the Community; whereas, to this end, the analysis report should cover the most important components of the wine;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Except for liqueur wines and sparkling wines, wine imported into the Community may not be released for direct human consumption unless, in addition to the conditions set out in Article 28 (1) (a) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70, it complies with the additional conditions set out in Article 2.

Article 2

The additional conditions referred to in Article 1 are as follows:

1. Imported wine shall satisfy the provisions governing production and release for direct human consumption in the third country in which it originates. Proof that this condition has been fulfilled shall be provided by a certificate issued by an agency, appearing on a list to be drawn up, in the third country where the wine originates.

2. Imported wine shall not have the characteristics of a product which has been the subject of oenological practices not permitted by Community provisions:

   (a) on the production and release for direct human consumption of comparable Community wines;

   (b) applicable to one of the wine-growing zones defined in Annex III to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 deemed comparable as regards production conditions in the third countries.

3. The volatile acidity of imported wine shall be less than 19 milli-equivalents per litre.

4. Save where derogation is made for certain wines to be determined, possessing special characteristics, the total sulphur dioxide content of imported

[1] OJ No L 99, 5.5.1970, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 281, 27.12.1970, p. 6.

wine shall be less than 208 mg per litre for red wines, 250 mg per litre for dry white wines and 300 mg per litre for sweet white wines.

5. Imported wine shall be accompanied by an analysis report:

(a) prepared by an official laboratory recognised by the third country in which the wine originates and appearing on a list to be approved;

(b) containing the information set out in Article 3 (1).

A decision may, however, be made to exempt certain quantities from this obligation.

Article 3

1. The analysis report shall contain information on the following points.

(a) density

(b) total alcoholic strength

(c) actual alcoholic strength

(d) total dry matter

(e) total acidity

(f) volatile acidity

(g) citric acid content

(h) total sulphur dioxide content

(i) presence of hybrids.

2. The identification of consignments which are the subject of an analysis report and the determination of points to be analysed shall be carried out in accordance with conditions to be determined.

Article 4

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall be applicable from 1 January 1972.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 July 1971.

For the Council

The President

L. NATALI