REGULATION (EEC) No 3232/73 OF THE COMMISSION

of 29 November 1973

fixing the reference prices for mandarins, satsumas, clementines, tangerines and other similar hybrid citrus fruits by the 1973/74 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 [1] of 18 May 1972 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2745/72 [2], and in particular Article 27 (1) thereof;

Whereas, under Article 23 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72, reference prices for the whole Community are to be fixed each year before the beginning of the marketing year;

Whereas the importance of mandarin production in the Community is such that a reference price must be fixed for that product, operative also for satsumas, clementines, tangerines and other similar hybrid citrus fruits;

Whereas the period during which mandarins harvested during a given crop year are marketed extends from November to the following March; whereas the quantity put on the market during March represents only a small percentage of that marketed over the whole marketing year; whereas that month should therefore be disregarded and the reference price fixed for the period running from 1 November to 28 February of the following year;

Whereas Article 23 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 provides that reference prices for mandarins, satsumas, clementines, tangerines and other similar hybrids are to be based on the arithmetic mean of producer prices in each Member State, average fluctuations in basic prices and purchasing prices in each Member State, average fluctuations in basic prices and purchasing prices also being taken into account;

Whereas the fixing of a single reference price valid for the whole marketing year appears to be the solution most suited to the particular nature of the Community market in the product in question;

Whereas the producer prices correspond to the average of the prices recorded during the three years prior to the date of fixing the reference price for an indigenous product under its trade description on the representative market or markets situated in the production areas where prices are lowest, for products or varieties representing a considerable proportion of the production marketed for part of the year or throughout the whole year and satisfying given requirements as to packaging; whereas for each representative market the average of the prices must be established disregarding prices which appear excessively high or low as compared with normal fluctuations on that market;

Whereas only mandarins imported from third countries are directly comparable, as regards their value in trade, with Community products and whereas for the other varieties and hybrids the conversion factor should be determined according to their respective trade values and applied, in calculating the entry price, to the prices of such products imported from third countries.

Whereas the Management Committee for Fruit and Vegetables has not delivered an opinion within the time limit set by its Chairman,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. For the 1973/74 marketing year, the reference price for fresh mandarins, satsumas, clementines, tangerines and other similar hybrid citrus fruits (subheading ex 08.02 B of the Common Customs Tariff), expressed in units of account per 100 kg net of packed products of Quality Class I of all sizes, shall from 1 November to 28 February be 18·8.

2. In calculating the entry price, the prices for products other than mandarins, imported from third countries, shall after deduction of customs duties, be adjusted by a conversion factor of

— 0·75 for clementines (excluding monreales),

— 1·00 for monreales, satsumas, tangerines and other similar hybrid citrus fruits.

Article 2

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

[1] OJ No L 118, 20. 5. 1972, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 291, 28. 12. 1972, p. 147.

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

Done at Brussels, 29 November 1973.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI