REGULATION (EEC) No 3303/73 OF THE COMMISSION

of 6 December 1973

fixing the reference prices for sweet oranges for 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 sweet orange production in the Community is such that a reference price must be fixed for that product ;

Whereas the period during which oranges harvested during a given crop year are marketed extends from October to the following June ; whereas the quantity put on the market during October and November and during the following May and June represents only a small percentage of that marketed over the whole marketing year ; whereas the reference price should therefore be fixed only for a period running from 1 December to 30 April of the following year ;

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

Whereas, since the varieties of sweet oranges are not comparable as regards their value in trade, they should be classed in three groups ;

Whereas the solution best suited to the particular nature of the Community market for the product in question would be to fix for each group a single reference price for the whole marketing year ;

Whereas the producer prices in each Member State 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, for the purpose of calculating the entry prices, the varieties imported from third countries of which the entry prices are respectively to be compared with the prices fixed for Groups I, II and III must be specified ; whereas, moreover, certain varieties imported from third countries are not directly comparable, as regards their value in trade, with Community groups of varieties ; whereas, therefore, on the basis of their respective trading values, conversion factors should be fixed and applied, in calculating the entry price, to the prices for these varieties imported from third countries, so as to make them comparable with Community groups of varieties ;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the Opinion of the Management Committee for Fruit and Vegetables,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

1. For the 1973/74 marketing year, the reference prices for fresh sweet oranges (subheading ex 08.02 A I of the Common Customs Tariff), expressed in units of account per 100 kg net of each of the varieties

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

of Groups I, II and III for Class I products, of all sizes, packed, shall be :

Group I : from 1 December to 31 March : 18·0

Group II : from 1 January to 30 April : 15·5

Group III : from 1 December to 30 April : 8·6

2. The groups of varieties referred to in paragraph 1 shall consist of the following varieties :

Group I : Moro and Tarocco

Group II : Sanguinello

Group III : Biondo comune

3. The entry prices of imported products shall be compared :

(a) with the price fixed for Group I, as regards the Moro and Tarocco varieties ;

(b) with the price fixed for Group III, as regards Biondo comune (Blanca comuna, Blonde commune), Grano de Oro (Imperial, Sucrena), Baladi, Pera, Macetera, Pineapple, Blood oval (Doblefina, Double fine), Portuguese Blood, Sanguina redonda (Entrefina) the Surinam varieties and the Ordinary Blood variety with the exception of Navel Blood (Double fine improved, Washington Blood, Large Blood) and Maltese Blood ;

(c) as regards varieties not listed under (a) and (b) :

— for the month of December, with the price for Group I,

— for the period from 1 January to 30 April, with the price fixed for Group II.

4. In calculating the entry price referred to in paragraph 3, the prices for products imported from third countries shall, after deduction of customs duties, be adjusted :

— for products listed in paragraph 3 (b), by the conversion factor 0·76 ;

— for products to which the first indent of paragraph 3 (c) applies, by the conversion factor 1·20 ;

— for products to which the second indent of paragraph 3 (c) applies, by the conversion factor 1·00.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 December 1973.

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

Done at Brussels, 6 December 1973.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI