REGULATION (EEC) No 537/73 OF THE COMMISSION

of 20 February 1973

fixing for the first part of the 1973 marketing year the reference prices for cucumbers

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, pursuant to Article 23 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72, reference prices valid for the whole Community are to be fixed at the beginning of the marketing year in respect of the whole marketing year ;

Whereas cucumbers are produced in such quantities in the Community that reference prices should be fixed for them ;

Whereas cucumbers harvested during a given crop year are marketed from January to December ; whereas for the present marketing year information currently available makes it impossible to fix reference prices only for the period until the month of June ; whereas, since the quantities marketed in January represent only a small portion of the tonnage marketed over the year as a whole, the reference price should be fixed only for the period from February ;

Whereas pursuant to Article 23 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 the reference prices are to be equal to the arithmetic mean of producer prices in each Member State plus an amount representing the costs of transporting Community products from production areas to Community marketing centres ; whereas the trend of average basic prices and buying-in prices should also be taken into account ;

Whereas, to take seasonal variations into account, the year should be divided into several periods and a reference price fixed for each of those periods ;

Whereas the producer prices are to correspond to the average of the prices recorded during the three years prior to the date for fixing the reference price for a home-grown product with defined commercial characteristics, on the representative market or markets situated in the production areas where prices are lowest, for the products or varieties which represent a considerable proportion of production marketed throughout the whole year which satisfy specified requirements as regards quality and market preparation ; whereas, when the average of prices recorded on each representative market is being calculated, prices which could be considered excessively high or excessively low in relation to normal price fluctuations on that market are to be disregarded ;

Whereas Community-produced cucumbers marketed between now and June will be grown mainly under glass ; whereas the reference price for the first part of the year must therefore be fixed for a product of that type ; whereas cucumbers imported from certain third countries during the same period will be obtained from end-of-year open crops ; whereas, although these cucumbers may be classed in Class I, their quality and price are not comparable with those of products grown under glass ; whereas the prices for cucumbers not grown under glass should therefore be adjusted by a conversion factor ;

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 beginning of the 1973 marketing year, the reference prices for cucumbers (subheading No ex 07.01 P of the Common Customs Tariff), expressed in units of account per 100 kg net of packed products of Class I, of all sizes, shall be as follows :

February	51·6
March	45·6
April	35·0
May	28·8
June	18·2

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

2. For the purpose of calculating the entry prices, the prices for cucumbers, not grown under glass, imported from third countries, shall, after deduction of customs duties, be multiplied by 1·30.

Article 2

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

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

Done at Brussels, 20 February 1973.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI