REGULATION (EEC) No 2263/74 OF THE COMMISSION

of 30 August 1974

introducing, in respect of the 1974/75 milk year, private storage aid for pecorino romano cheese

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 (1) 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 662/74 (2), and in particular Articles 9 (3) and 28 thereof;

Whereas, under Council Regulation (EEC) No 508/71 (3) of 8 March 1971 laying down general rules on private storage aid for long-keeping cheeses, where there is a serious imbalance of the market which could be eliminated or reduced by seasonal storage, private storage aid may be granted for cheeses which are manufactured from sheep's milk and require at least six months for maturing;

Whereas the market in pecorino romano cheese, which is traditionally exported largely to the United States, is particularly hard hit by the abolition of the refund on exports to that destination; whereas abolition of the refund is provoking a sharp drop in prices and a marked increase in stocks; whereas seasonal storage should therefore be introduced with a view to improving the situation and allowing producers to find other outlets for their cheese;

Whereas detailed rules for granting private storage aid for this type of cheese should be laid down; whereas contracts should contain provisions calculated to ensure that the system functions properly and that its operation can be effectively checked;

Whereas, in order that it may keep the operation of this measure under review, the Commission must be informed regularly of the quantities of cheese covered by storage contracts;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the remainder of the 1974/75 milk year aid shall be granted in respect of the private storage of pecorino romano cheese manufactured in the Community which satisfies the requirements of Articles 2 and 3.

Article 2

1. Storage contracts may be concluded where the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) the batch of cheese to which the contract relates must comprise at least 2 metric tons;

(b) the cheese must have been manufactured at least 90 days before the date specified in the contract as being the date of commencement of storage, and after 1 January 1974;

(c) the cheese must have undergone tests which established that it satisfies the condition laid down in (b) and that it is of first quality;

(d) the storer shall undertake:

— to keep the cheese during the entire period of storage in premises where the maximum temperature is $+6^{0}$C;

— not, during the term of the contract, to alter the composition of the batch covered by the contract without authorization from the intervention agency;

— to keep stock records and to inform the intervention agency each week of the cheeses put into and withdrawn from storage during the previous week.

2. Contracts may not be concluded before the cheese has been put into storage.

3. Contracts may not be concluded for periods extending beyond 31 March 1975.

Article 3

1. Aid shall be granted only for cheese put into storage during the period 1 September to 31 December 1974.

2. No aid shall be granted in respect of storage for less than 90 days.

3. The maximum aid payable shall be an amount corresponding to 180 days' storage, such storage to be terminated before 1 April 1975.

(1) OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
(2) OJ No L 85, 29. 3. 1974, p. 51.
(3) OJ No L 58, 11. 3. 1971, p. 1.

Article 4

1. The amount of aid shall be 1·29 units of account per metric ton per day.

2. The period on which calculation of aid is to be based shall run from the date on which the batch of cheese to which the contract relates was put into storage.

Article 5

The intervention agency shall take the measures necessary to ensure that checks are kept on the batches covered by storage contracts. It shall in particular make provision for the cheeses comprised in those batches to be marked.

Article 6

Member States shall communicate to the Commission on or before the Tuesday of each week particulars as to the following :

(a) the quantities of cheese for which storage contracts have been concluded during the preceding week ;

(b) any quantities in respect of which the authorization referred to in the second indent of Article 2 (d) has been given.

Article 7

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 September 1974.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 August 1974.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI