COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 1599/76
of 1 July 1976
derogating in respect of the opening weeks of the 1976/77 marketing year, from the quality standards applicable to certain varieties of dessert apples and pears

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 of 18 May 1972 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 795/76 (2), and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 2 (2) thereof,

Whereas, under the quality standards for dessert apples and pears set out in the Annex to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1641/71 of 27 July 1971 (3), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1833/73 (4), the fruit must be sufficiently ripe to arrive in a satisfactory condition at the place of destination ; whereas one of the criteria for judging the ripeness of dessert apples and pears of certain varieties at the beginning of the marketing year is that they must be sufficiently large ; whereas, since the minimum size laid down in the relevant quality standard is not large enough to meet that requirement, it should be fixed for a certain period at a higher level ;

Whereas the need for this derogation from the minimum size laid down in the quality standards may not arise everywhere in the Community ; whereas the Member States should therefore be empowered not to apply the derogation or to re-apply the standard earlier than the dates fixed in the Regulation ;

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. By way of derogation from Title III of the quality standards for dessert apples and pears and subject to paragraph 2 below, the minimum size required of fruit of the 1976 harvest marketed in the Community shall be :

(a) for apples of the James Grieve variety, 70 mm up to and including 29 August 1976 and 65 mm from 30 August to 12 September 1976 inclusive ;

(b) for apples of the Golden Delicious variety, 65 mm up to and including 12 September 1976 ;

(c) for apples of the Gravenstein variety, 70 mm up to and including 29 August 1976 ;

(d) for apples of the Cox's Orange Pippin variety, 65 mm up to and including 19 September 1976 ;

(e) for apples of the Worcester pearmain variety, 60 mm up to and including 5 September 1976 ;

(f) for pears of the Dr Jules Guyot variety 60 mm up to and including 8 August 1976 and 55 mm from 9 August up to and including 21 August 1976 ;

(g) for pears of the Alexandrine Douillard variety, 60 mm up to and including 19 September 1976 ;

(h) for pears of the Beurré Hardy variety, 60 mm up to and including 3 October 1976.

However Member States may, in the light of conditions peculiar to their home production, decide not to apply this derogation in respect of dessert apples and pears harvested in their territory and marketed in the Community, or to bring forward the date on which the derogation shall cease to apply. They shall without delay inform the other Member States and the Commission of such decision.

2. The standards shall remain applicable in trade in dessert apples and pears with third countries.

Article 2

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

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

Done at Brussels, 1 July 1976.

For the Commission
P. J. LARDINOIS
Member of the Commission

(1) OJ No L 118, 20. 5. 1972, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 93, 8. 4. 1976, p. 6.
(3) OJ No L 172, 31. 7. 1971, p. 1.
(4) OJ No L 185, 7. 7. 1973, p. 17.