COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 624/76

of 19 March 1976

fixing the reference price for tomatoes for the 1976 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 of 18 May 1972 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2482/75 (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;

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

Whereas tomatoes harvested during a given crop year are marketed from January to December; whereas the quantities harvested from January to March and during the last 10 days of December are so small that there is no need to fix reference prices for the whole year; whereas reference prices should therefore be fixed only for the period from 1 April up to and including 20 December;

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 cost of transporting Community products from the production areas to Community marketing centres; whereas the trend of average basic prices and buying-in prices must 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 these periods;

Whereas producer prices are to correspond to the average of the prices recorded on the representative market or markets situated in the production areas where prices are lowest, during the three years prior to the date on which the reference price is fixed, for a home-grown product with defined commercial characteristics, being a product or variety representing a substantial proportion of the production marketed over the year or over part thereof and satisfying specified requirements as regards 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 up to 10 July Community-produced tomatoes are grown mainly in greenhouses; whereas the reference prices for the first part of the marketing year must therefore be fixed for a product of that type; whereas tomatoes imported from certain third countries during the same period will have been grown in the open; whereas, although such tomatoes may be classed in Class I, their quality and price are not comparable with those of products grown in greenhouses; whereas the prices for tomatoes not grown in greenhouses should therefore be adjusted by a conversion factor;

Whereas, from October to December inclusive, tomatoes imported from certain third countries are cultivated in greenhouses; whereas a conversion factor should also be applied to the prices of these tomatoes to make them comparable with the reference prices calculated during this period on the basis of prices of Community products cultivated in the open;

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 1976 marketing year, the reference prices for tomatoes (subheading 07.01 M 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:

— April	97·15;
— May	72·77;
— 1 June to 10 July	53·10;
— 11 July to 31 August	18·03;
— September	19·67;
— 1 October to 20 December	22·43.

(1) OJ No L 118, 20. 5. 1972, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 254, 1. 10. 1975, p. 3.

2. For the purpose of calculating the entry price :

(a) the prices for tomatoes not produced in greenhouses, imported from third countries, shall, after deduction of customs duties, be multiplied, by a conversion factor of 1·80 from 1 April to 10 July.

(b) the price for tomatoes produced in greenhouses and imported from third countries shall, after deduction of customs duties, be multiplied by a conversion factor of 0·55 from 1 October to 20 December.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 April 1976.

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

Done at Brussels, 19 March 1976.

For the Commission

P. J. LARDINOIS

Member of the Commission