COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 2948/78
of 14 December 1978
introducing 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 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1761/78 [2], and in particular Articles 9 (3) and 28 thereof,

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 508/71 of 8 March 1971 laying down general rules on private storage aid for long-keeping cheeses [3] permits the granting of private storage aid for sheep's-milk cheeses requiring at least six months for maturing where a serious market imbalance could be eliminated or reduced by seasonal storage ;

Whereas the market in Pecorino Romano cheese is at present disturbed by the existence of substantial stocks ; whereas seasonal storage should therefore be introduced to improve the situation and allow producers time to find outlets for their cheese ;

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

Whereas, in order that it may follow developments, the Commission must be regularly informed 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

Aid shall be granted until 31 July 1979 in respect of the private storage of Pecorino Romano cheese manufactured in the Community and satisfying the requirements of Articles 2 and 3.

Article 2

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

(a) the quantity of cheese to which the contract relates must not be less than two tonnes ;

(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 1978 ;

(c) the cheese must have undergone tests which show that it meets 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 + 16 °C,

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

— to keep stock accounts and to inform the intervention agency each week of the quantity of cheese put into and withdrawn from storage during the previous week.

2. The storage contract must be :

— concluded in writing showing the date on which storage begins,

— concluded after the cheese has been put into storage and not later than 40 days after the date of entry into storage stated in the contract.

Article 3

1. Aid shall be granted only for cheese put into storage during the period 1 January to 31 March 1979.

2. No aid shall be granted in respect of storage for less than 60 days.

3. The maximum aid payable shall be an amount corresponding to 120 days storage, such storage to be terminated before 1 August 1979.

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[1] OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
[2] OJ No L 204, 28. 7. 1978, p. 6.
[3] OJ No L 58, 11. 3. 1971, p. 1.

Article 4

1. The amount of aid shall be 1·49 units of account per tonne per day.

2. The period on which the calculation of aid is based shall run from the date on which the quantity of cheese to which the contract relates was put into storage until the day on which it was removed from storage.

3. The amount of aid in units of account shall be that applying on the first day of storage under contract. It shall be converted into national currency at the rate applicable on the last day of storage giving entitlement to aid.

4. Aid shall be paid not later than 90 days from the last day of storage giving entitlement to aid.

Article 5

The intervention agency shall take the necessary measures to ensure that checks are kept on the quantities covered by storage contracts. It shall in particular make provision for the marking of the cheeses covered by the contract.

Article 6

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

(a) the quantities of cheese for which storage contracts have been concluded during the previous 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 the third 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, 14 December 1978.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President