COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 1918/93

of 12 July 1993

opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for heifers and cows, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the European Economic Community undertook, within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), to open an annual Community tariff quota of 20 000 head at a duty of 6 % for heifers and cows, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds; whereas, in an exchange of letters with Austria dated 21 July 1972, the Community undertook unilaterally to increase the size of the tariff quota from 20 000 to 30 000 head and to lower the quota duty from 6 to 4 %; whereas, subsequently, this quota was increased unilaterally to 38 000 head; whereas according to the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria concerning agriculture of 14 July 1986, which was approved by Decision 86/555/EEC [1], the volume of this tariff quota was raised to 42 600 head as from 1 July 1986; whereas the abovementioned tariff quota should therefore be opened for the period 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1994 at a duty of 4 % for a quantity of 42 600 head; whereas a check should be carried out to ascertain that the imported animals have not been slaughtered within a certain period;

Whereas it is, in particular, necessary to ensure equal and continuous access for all Community importers to the abovementioned quota, and the uninterrupted application of the quota duties, to all imports of the animals in question until the quota is exhausted;

Whereas the decision for the opening, in the execution of its international obligations, of tariff quotas should be taken by the Community; whereas, to ensure the efficiency of a common administration of these quotas, there is no obstacle to authorizing the Member States to draw from the quota-volumes the necessary quantities corresponding to actual imports; whereas, however, this method of administration requires close cooperation between the Member States and the Commission and the latter must in particular be able to monitor the rate at which the quotas are used up and inform the Member States accordingly;

Whereas, since the Kingdom of Belgium, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg are united within and jointly represented by the Benelux Economic Union, any measure concerning the administration of the quantities levied by that economic union may be carried out by any one of its members,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. From 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1994, the duty applicable to the import into the Community of the animals designated hereafter shall be suspended at the level and within the limits of the Community tariff quota indicated.

Order No	CN code (a)	Description	Quota volume	Quota duty (%)
09.0001	ex 0102 90 05 ex 0102 90 29 ex 0102 90 49 ex 0102 90 59 ex 0102 90 69	Cows and heifers other than those intended for slaughter, of the following mountain breeds: grey, brown, yellow and mottled Simmental breed and mottled Pintzgau breed	42 600 head	4

(a) Taric codes in Annex II.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation, the animals referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered not intended for slaughter if they are not slaughtered within four months of the date of the acceptance of the entry for release for free circulation.

Derogations may, however, be granted in the event of *force majeure* duly attested by a local authority certificate setting out the reasons for the slaughter.

Article 2

1. The quota volume referred to in Article 1 (1) shall be further divided into two parts.

The first part, 80 % of the total, i.e. 34 080 head, shall be reserved for established importers who are able to furnish proof of having imported animals of the breeds specified in the tariff quota in question during the previous three years.

[1] OJ No L 328, 22. 11. 1986, p. 57.

The second part, of 20 %, i.e. 8 520 head, shall be reserved either for importers who undertake, when making an application, to keep the imported cattle in premises of which they have the use or for importers who have been conducting business in live bovine animals for a period of at least one year and are listed in a public register of the Member State or who can provide proof, recognized by the competent authority, of such conduct.

2. The 34 080 head shall be assigned to the various importers pro rata, in proportion to the scale of their previous imports over the three years under consideration or to the quantities applied for if they are less than previous imports while the 8 520 head shall be assigned to applicants pro rata, in proportion to the entitlement applied for by the importers. In the latter case :

(a) applications for quantities greater than 50 head shall be automatically reduced to that number ;

(b) applications which would give rise to a certificate of participation covering a quantity of less than five head shall not be taken into account ;

(c) quantities which have not been assigned, owing to the minimum five head limitation shall be assigned by drawing lots (with a figure of five head).

3. Any quantities of one of the parts of the tariff quota referred to in paragraph 1 not applied for shall be automatically transferred to the other part.

Article 3

1. Applications to import under each part of the tariff quota, accompanied, where appropriate, by proof of previous imports, shall be made to the competent authorities in the Member States, in accordance with the procedures laid down and the deadline set by those authorities, by means of the document of release for free circulation, which shall be cancelled by the said authorities after being submitted as proof.

These authorities shall transmit to the Commission, not later than 31 July 1993 the data thus collected, and in particular :

— the number of applicants and the number of head applied for by each category of importer,

— the average of previous imports furnished by each applicant in respect of the 34 080 head reserved for established importers.

2. The Commission shall notify the Member States, by 6 August 1993, of the quantities to be assigned to each applicant, in the form, where necessary, of a percentage of the amount originally applied for, or of that applicant's previous imports.

3. On the basis of the data referred to in paragraph 2, Member States shall issue applicants with certificates specifying the number of head to which they are entitled. The period of validity of the certificates may not go beyond 30 June 1994.

The entitlement certificates, a model of which is annexed to this Regulation, shall be issued upon provision of a security of ECU 20 per head, which shall be released once the certificates have been returned, complete with the customs stamps acknowledging the import of the animals, to the issuing authority.

An entitlement certificate shall not be transferable and shall entitle the bearer to benefit from the tariff quota only when made out in the same name as the entry for release for free circulation which accompanies it.

The rules laid down in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 of 16 November 1988 laying down common detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2101/92 [2], for the release of the security for the import certificates or its conversion into revenue shall apply to the security referred to in the second subparagraph.

4. Quantities which have not been the subject of the issue of entitlement certificates by 31 March 1994 shall be finally reassigned under the procedure described in the foregoing paragraphs to importers who have applied for certificates in respect of their whole entitlements.

To this end, Member States shall notify the Commission by 10 April 1994 of the quantities which have not been the subject of the issue of entitlement certificates by 31 March 1994, and furnish the data specified in the second subparagraph of paragraph 1. The Commission shall set the new percentages for entitlements in each category and shall transmit them by not later than 15 April 1994 to the Member States, which shall then issue the entitlement certificates to the applicants under the conditions set out in paragraph 3, with a period of validity not extending beyond 30 June 1994.

Article 4

1. Member States shall take all measures necessary to ensure that access to the tariff quota in question is restricted to cattle as specified in Article 1 (1).

[1] OJ No L 331, 2. 12. 1988, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 210, 25. 7. 1992, p. 18.

2. They shall ensure importers equal and continuous access to the tariff quota in question.

3. Depletion of the said quota shall be measured on the basis of imports submitted for customs clearance under cover of entries for release for free circulation.

Article 5

Member States and the Commission shall cooperate closely to ensure that the provisions of this Regulation are observed.

Article 6

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

It shall apply with effect from 1 July 1993.

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

Done at Brussels, 12 July 1993.

For the Council

The President

Ph. MAYSTADT

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

ANNEX I

ENTITLEMENT CERTIFICATE No

COMMUNITY TARIFF QUOTAS FOR

— Cows and heifers other than those intended for slaughter of certain mountain breeds

— Bulls, cows and heifers other than those intended for slaughter of certain Alpine breeds

1. Holder (Name, complete address and Member State)	2. Issuing authority
NOTES A. This certificate is valid in all Member States of the Community. B. This certificate must be attached to the entry for release for free circulation, and the entry must itself be drawn up in the name of the holder of this certificate. C. The customs office concerned should write off the quantities released for free circulation and return this certificate to the holder or the holder's representative. D. The holder must return this certificate to the issuing authority to obtain release of the guarantee.	3. This certificate is valid until and including day | month | year Place and date of issue: Signature and stamp of issuing authority:

4. Description of animals	5. CN code
	6. Number of head in figures
7. Number of head in words	

8. WRITING OFF BY CUSTOMS OFFICES (in column 9, indicate in part 1 the quantity available, and in part 2 the quantity written off)

9. Number of head in figures	10. Number of head in words for the quantity written off	11. Number and date of acceptance of the entry for release for free circulation	12. Name, Member State, signature and stamp of the customs office
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			

ANNEX II

Taric codes

Order No	CN code	Taric code
09.0001	ex 0102 90 05	0102 90 05 * 20
		* 40
	ex 0102 90 29	0102 90 29 * 20
		* 40
	ex 0102 90 49	0102 90 49 * 20
		* 40
	ex 0102 90 59	0102 90 59 * 11
		* 19
		* 31
		* 39
	ex 0102 90 69	0102 90 69 * 10
		* 30