COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 548/98

of 10 March 1998

on the issue of import licences for garlic originating in China

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 of 28 October 1996 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables [1], as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2520/97 [2],

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 903/97 of 21 May 1997 concerning a protective measure applicable to imports of garlic from China [3], and in particular Article 1(3) thereof,

Whereas pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1859/93 [4], as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1662/94 [5], the release for free circulation in the Community of garlic imported from third countries is subject to presentation of an import licence;

Whereas Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 903/97, restricts the issue of import licences for garlic originating in China to a maximum monthly quantity in the case of applications lodged from 1 June 1997 to 31 May 1998;

Whereas, given the criteria laid down in Article 1(2) of that Regulation and the import licences already issued, the quantity applied for on 5 March 1998 is in excess of the maximum monthly quantity given in the Annex to that Regulation for the month of March 1998; whereas it is therefore necessary to determine to what extent import licences may be issued in response to these applications; whereas the issue of licences in response to applications lodged after 5 March 1998 and before 3 April 1998 should be refused,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Import licences applied for on 5 March 1998 pursuant to Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 1859/93 for garlic falling within CN code 0703 20 00 originating in China shall be issued for 0,05242 % of the quantity applied for, having regard to the information available to the Commission on 9 March 1998.

For the abovementioned products applications for import licences lodged after 5 March 1998 and before 3 April 1998 shall be refused.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 March 1998.

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

Done at Brussels, 10 March 1998.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ L 297, 21. 11. 1996, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 346, 17. 12. 1997, p. 41.
[3] OJ L 130, 22. 5. 1997, p. 6.
[4] OJ L 170, 13. 7. 1993, p. 10.
[5] OJ L 176, 9. 7. 1994, p. 1.