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COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 174/1999

of 26 January 1999

laying down special detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 as regards export licences and export refunds in the case of milk and milk products

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laying down special detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 as regards export licences and export refunds in the case of milk and milk products

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1587/96 [2], and in particular Articles 13(3), 16a(1) and 17(9) and (14) thereof,

1. Whereas Commission Regulation (EC) No 1466/95 of 27 June 1995 laying down special detailed rules of application for export refunds on milk and milk products [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2184/98 [4], has been substantially amended several times; whereas, since further amendments are to be made, it should be recast in the interests of clarity and efficiency;

2. Whereas under the Agriculture Agreement concluded during the Uruguay Round of the GATT trade negotiations [5] (hereinafter referred to as the 'Agriculture Agreement'), export refunds on agricultural products, including milk products, are limited within each 12-month period starting from 1 July 1995 to a maximum quantity and a maximum value; whereas, in order to ensure compliance with those limits, the issue of export licences should be monitored; whereas procedures must also be adopted for allocating the quantities which may be exported with a refund;

3. Whereas Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 lays down general rules for granting of export refunds in the milk and milk products sector, in order, in particular, to permit the monitoring of the value and quantity limits for refunds; whereas detailed rules for the application of those arrangements should be laid down;

4. Whereas, by way of derogation from Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 of 27 November 1987 laying down common detailed rules for the application of the system of export refunds on agricultural products [6], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2334/98 [7], cases where a refund may be granted without presentation of an export licence should be defined and the maximum time that products may remain under customs control should be specified;

5. Whereas special provisions should be adopted for the milk and milk products sector, in particular with regard to licences, by way of derogation from 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 [8], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1044/98 [9]; whereas, in addition, the tolerance permitted by that Regulation as regards the quantity of goods exported compared with the quantity indicated on the licence should be reduced and, in order to ensure effective controls on limits, there should be no refunds paid on quantities exceeding what is indicated on the licence; whereas the

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[1] OJ L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
[2] OJ L 206, 16. 8. 1996, p. 21.
[3] OJ L 144, 28. 6. 1995, p. 22.
[4] OJ L 275, 10. 10. 1998, p. 21.
[5] OJ L 336, 23. 12. 1994, p. 1.
[6] OJ L 351, 14. 12. 1987, p. 1.
[7] OJ L 291, 30. 10. 1998, p. 15.
[8] OJ L 331, 2. 12. 1988, p. 1.
[9] OJ L 149, 20. 5. 1998, p. 11.

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securities to be lodged when licence applications are submitted should be sufficient to prevent speculative applications;

6. Whereas the term of validity of export licences should be fixed; whereas that term should vary according to the products concerned, with a shorter term for products where there is a higher risk of speculation;

7. Whereas, in order to ensure accurate checking of products exported and to minimise the risk of speculation, the possibility of changing the product for which a licence has been issued should be restricted;

8. Whereas Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 lays down rules for the use of export licences with advance fixing of the refund for the exportation of products with a 12-digit code other than that shown in Section 16 of the licence; whereas this provision becomes applicable in a specific sector only if product categories as referred to in Article 13a of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 and product groups as referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 have been defined;

9. Whereas for the milk and milk product sector, product categories are already defined with reference to the categories provided for in the Agriculture Agreement; whereas in the interests of sound management this use of categories should be retained and Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 applied on the basis only of defined product groups;

10. Whereas in the milk sector refund rates are highly differentiated, notably according to fat content; whereas, so that this arrangement will not be called into question while at the same time the proportionality objective of Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 is respected, the product groups should be narrowly defined and for certain products the validity of export licences should extend to products that in fat content are immediately adjacent in CN code to the product for which a refund has been fixed in advance;

11. Whereas, to enable traders to participate in invitations to tender opened by third countries without affecting the restrictions as regards volume, a system of provisional licences should be introduced giving successful tenderers the right to a full licence;

12. Whereas, in order to ensure effective monitoring of licences issued, which depends on the notification of information to the Commission by the Member States, a waiting time should be provided for before licences are issued; whereas, in order to ensure the smooth operation of the arrangements and, in particular, an equitable allocation of the quantities available within the limits laid down by the Agriculture Agreement, various management measures should be laid down and, in particular, provision should be made for the issue of licences to be suspended and for a reduction coefficient to be applied to the quantities applied for;

13. Whereas the refund rate should be determined for products eligible for export refunds in the context of food-aid operations;

14. Whereas, to ensure that licences are correctly used, for certain exports with refunds the country of destination should be defined as a compulsory destination as referred to in Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87;

15. Whereas experience has shown that the number of applications for export licences for particular cheese varies according to destination; whereas, in order that special measures can be applied according to the destination indicated on licence applications, destination zones should be fixed and the destination zone indicated on export licences made obligatory for products falling within CN code 0406;

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16. Whereas the method for fixing the refund on milk products containing added sugar, the price of which is determined by the price of the ingredients, should be laid down according to the percentage of the ingredients contained therein; whereas, however, to facilitate the management of refunds for these products, and particularly measures to ensure compliance with commitments regarding exports in the context of the Agriculture Agreement, a maximum quantity should be fixed for sucrose incorporated for which a refund may be granted; whereas 43 % by weight of whole product is representative of the sucrose content of such products;

17. Whereas Article 8(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 provides that refunds may be granted for ingredients of Community origin in processed cheese manufactured under the inward processing arrangements; whereas certain special rules are needed to ensure that this specific measure operates properly and can be effectively checked;

18. Whereas, under the Agreement concluded between the European Community and Canada approved by Council Decision 95/591/EC [1] export licences issued by the European Community must be presented for cheese qualifying for preferential terms on import into Canada; whereas the detailed rules for issuing such licences should be laid down; whereas, to ensure that the quantities of cheese imported into Canada under the import quota correspond to the quantities for which licences have been issued, the licences duly stamped by the Canadian authorities should be returned to the competent bodies of the Member States and the data on exports should be forwarded by the Member States to the Commission;

19. Whereas, in the framework of the consultations with Switzerland on the implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round, it has been agreed to apply a set of measures providing in particular for a reduction in the customs duties on certain Community cheeses imported into Switzerland; whereas the Community origin of such products should be guaranteed; whereas, to that end, export licences should be compulsory for all cheese exported under these arrangements, including cheese on which export refunds are not payable; whereas licences should be issued subject to presentation by the exporter of a declaration certifying the Community origin of the product;

20. Whereas the Community has the option of designating which importers may import Community cheeses into the United States under the additional quota arising from the Agriculture Agreement; whereas this would allow the Community to maximise the value of the quota; whereas a procedure should therefore be laid down for designating importers on the basis of the allocation of export licences for the products concerned;

21). 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:

CHAPTER I

General arrangements for export refunds

Article 1

1. Exports from the Community of products listed in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 for which an export refund is requested shall be subject to the presentation of an export licence, except in the cases referred to in Article 2. The refund to be paid shall be the rate

[1] OJ L 334, 30. 12. 1995, p. 25.

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valid on the day the application for the export licence or, where relevant, the provisional licence, is submitted.

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2. Section 7 of licence applications and licences shall show the country of destination and the code number of the country or territory of destination, as indicated in the country nomenclature for the external trade statistics of the Community and statistics of trade between Member States, drawn up by the Commission on the basis of Article 21(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1172/95 (*).

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3. Licence applications which, within the meaning of Article 15 of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, were lodged on a Thursday, shall be deemed to have been submitted on the next working day.

Article 2

Refunds shall be granted only on presentation of an export licence.

By way of derogation from Article 2a of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87, however, no licence shall be required:

(a) where the refund for an export declaration, calculated on the basis of the refund applicable on the first day of the month of export, is not more than EUR 60;

(b) in the cases referred to in Articles 34, 38, 42, 43 and 44(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87.

For the purposes of point (a) of the second paragraph, where several separate codes in the nomenclature for refunds, as laid down by Commission Regulation (EC) No 3846/87 ([1]), or the Combined Nomenclature are entered in an export declaration, the particulars relating to each code shall be deemed to constitute a separate declaration.

Article 3

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No refund shall be granted on exports of cheese where the free-at-frontier price prior to application of the refund in the Member State of export is less than EUR 230/100 kg. 'Free-at-frontier price' means the ex-works price plus a flat-rate amount of EUR 3/100 kg.

Where an export refund has been applied for, section 22 of licences shall contain the words 'minimum free-at-frontier price, as referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999, complied with'.

At the request of the competent authorities, applicants shall supply any further information and substantiation which the authorities consider necessary to ensure compliance with the free-at-frontier price when the customs formalities are conducted and shall accept, where applicable, any checks by those authorities of the accounts within the maeaning of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4045/89 ([2]).

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However, the first paragraph shall not apply to cheese falling within code 0406 90 33 9919 of the nomenclature for refunds.

Article 4

1. The four product categories for the purposes of the Agriculture Agreement shall be those set out in Annex I hereto.

2. The second paragraph of Article 13a of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 shall not apply to the products referred to in Article 1(1) of this Regulation.

(*) OJ L 118, 25.5.1995, p. 10.
([1]) OJ L 366, 24. 12. 1987, p. 1.
([2]) OJ L 388, 30.12.1989, p. 10.

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3. Without prejudice to the application of Article 5(3) of this Regulation, the product groups within the meaning of point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 shall be those set out in Annex II.

Article 5

1. Section 16 of licence applications and licences shall show the 12-digit product code of the nomenclature for refunds. Licences shall be valid for that product alone except in the cases specified in paragraphs 2 and 3.

2. For products falling within CN codes 0401, 0402, 0403, 0404, *0405* and 2309, licence holders may on request obtain a change of the code in Section 16 of the export licence to another code in the same category, as referred to in Annex I, where the refund is identical. Such requests must be lodged before completion of the formalities referred to in Article 3 or 25 of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87.

3. By way of derogation from point (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87, export licences with advance fixing of the refund shall also be valid for exportation of a product with a 12-digit code other than that entered in Section 16 of the licence if the two products are adjacent in one of the groups laid down in Annex II or both are in group 23.

4. In cases referred to in paragraph 3, refunds shall be calculated in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 2a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87.

Article 6

Export licences shall be valid from the day of issue, within the meaning of Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, until:

(a) the end of the sixth month following issue in the case of products falling within CN code 0402 10;

(b) the end of the fourth month following issue in the case of products falling within CN code 0405;

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(c) the end of the fourth month following issue in the case of products falling within CN code 0406;

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(d) the end of the fourth month following issue for the other products referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68;

(e) the date by which the obligations arising from invitations to tender pursuant to Article 8(1) must be fulfilled and by the end of the eighth month following issue of the full licence referred to in Article 8(3) at the latest.

Article 7

By way of derogation from Articles 27(5) and 28(5) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87, the period during which the products referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 may remain covered by the arrangements provided for in Council Regulation (EEC) No 565/80 [1] shall be equal to the remainder of the term of validity of the export licence.

Article 8

1. In the case of an invitation to tender issued by a public body in a third country as referred to in Article 44(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, except for invitations to tender concerning products falling within CN code 0406, traders may apply for a provisional export licence for the quantity covered by their tender subject to the lodging of a

[1] OJ L 62, 7. 3. 1980, p. 5.

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security. The security for provisional licences shall be equal to 75 % of the rate fixed in accordance with Article 9.

Traders shall furnish proof that the body is public or subject to public law.

2. Provisional licences shall be issued on the fifth working day following that on which the application is lodged, provided that the special measures referred to in Article 10(3) have not been adopted in the meantime.

3. By way of derogation from Article 44(5) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, the period for submitting the information referred to in that paragraph shall be 60 days. Before the end of that period, traders shall apply for the full export licence, which shall be issued on presentation of proof that they have been awarded a contract.

On presentation of proof that the tender has been rejected or that the quantity awarded by the contract is less than indicated on the provisional licence, the whole or part of the security shall be released as appropriate.

4. Licence applications referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be made in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88.

5. The provisions of this chapter, with the exception of Article 10, shall apply to full licences.

Article 9

The security referred to in Article 14(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 shall be equal to the percentage of the refund fixed for each product code applicable on the day the export licence application is lodged, as follows:

(a) 5 % for products covered by CN code 0405;

(b) l5 % for products covered by CN code 0402 10;

(c) 30 % for products covered by CN code 0406;

(d) 20 % for other products.

The amount of the refund referred to in the first paragraph shall be that calculated for the total quantity of the product concerned except for milk products containing added sugar.

For milk products containing added sugar, the amount of the refund referred to in the first paragraph shall be equal to the total quantity of the whole product concerned, multiplied by the refund rate applicable per kilogram of milk product.

Article 10

1. Export licences shall be issued on the fifth working day following the day on which applications are submitted, provided that the quantities for which licences have been applied for have been communicated in accordance with Article 6(1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 210/69 [1] and that the special measures referred to in paragraph 3 have not been adopted in the meantime.

2. A decision may be taken to adopt one or more of the special measures provided for in paragraph 3 where:

(a) the issue of the licences applied for appears likely to result in an overrun in the budget resources available or in the exhaustion of the maximum quantities which may be exported with refund during the 12-month period in question or in a shorter period to be determined pursuant to Article 11;

or

(b) the issue of the licences applied for does not allow the continuity of exports to be guaranteed during the rest of the period concerned.

[1] OJ L 28, 5. 2. 1969, p. 1.

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For the purposes of the first subparagraph, account shall be taken, as regards the product in question, of:

(a) the seasonal nature of trade, the market situation and in particular the trend in prices on the market and the export conditions resulting therefrom;

(b) the need to prevent speculation from distorting competition between traders.

3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, the Commission may decide, for the product or products in question:

(a) to suspend the issue of licences for a maximum of five working days;

(b) to apply an allocation coefficient to the quantities requested. Where a coefficient of less than 0,4 is applied to the quantities requested, applicants may, within three working days of publication of the decision fixing the coefficient, request the cancellation of their licence application and the release of their security.

Furthermore, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 30 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68, the Commission may decide:

(a) to suspend the issue of licences for the product or products concerned, without prejudice to the first indent of (a), for a period exceeding five working days;

(b) at the end of the period of suspension, to fix refunds by invitation to tender for products falling within CN codes 0402 10 19, 0405 10 90, 0405 90 10, 0405 90 90 and 0405 10 19. The relevant licences shall then be issued.

4. Licence applications submitted during the period of suspension shall not be admissible.

Article 11

Where the total quantity covered by the licence applications submitted is such that there is a risk of early exhaustion of the maximum quantities which may be exported with refund during the 12-month period in question, the Commission may decide, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 30 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68, to allocate those maximum quantities over periods to be determined.

Article 12

1. Where the quantity exported exceeds that shown on the licence, no refund shall be payable on the overrun.

To that end, Section 22 of licences shall contain the words: ‘Payment of the refund restricted to the quantity shown in Sections 17 and 18’.

2. By way of derogation from the provisions of Articles 8(5) and 33(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 on tolerances for quantities exported, the following rates shall apply:

(a) the rate provided for in Article 8(5) shall be 2 %;

(b) the rate provided for in Article 33(2), first and second subparagraphs, shall be 98 %;

(c) the rate provided for in Article 33(2), third subparagraph, shall be 2 %.

Article 44(9)(c) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 shall not apply.

Article 13

1. Article 10 shall not apply to the issuing of export licences for food-aid supplies in accordance with Article 10(4) of the Agriculture Agreement.

2. The rate of refund applicable to national food-aid supplies shall be that applying on the day the Member State opens the invitation to tender for the supply of food aid.

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Article 14

The country of destination referred to in Article 1(2) shall be a compulsory destination for the purposes of Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 for licences issued pursuant to Article 8 of this Regulation.

Article 15

1. For licences issued for products falling within CN code 0406, the following words shall be entered in Section 20 of applications and licences:

'Licence valid for zone ... as defined in Article 15(3) of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999'

The zone indicated shall be the zone, as defined in paragraph 3, to which the country of destination indicated in Section 7 of licence applications and licences belongs.

2. The zone as referred to in paragraph 1 shall be a compulsory destination for the purposes of Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87.

No refund shall be paid where the actual destination is in a zone other than that indicated in the licence application and in the licence.

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3. The zones referred to in paragraph 1 shall be as follows:

— Zone I: destination codes 053 to 070 (inclusive) and 091 to 096 (inclusive),

— Zone II: destination codes 072 to 083 (inclusive),

— Zone III: destination code 400,

— Zone IV: all other destination codes.

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Article 16

1. For milk products containing added sugar, the refund shall be equal to the sum of the following components:

(a) a component representing the quantity of milk product;

(b) a component representing the quantity of added sucrose, up to a maximum of 43 % by weight of whole product.

However, the component referred to in (b) shall apply only if the added sucrose has been produced from sugar beet or cane harvested in the Community.

2. The component referred to in paragraph 1(a) shall be calculated by multiplying the basic amount of the refund by the milk product content of the whole product.

The basic amount referred to in the first subparagraph shall be the refund on one kilogram of milk product contained in the whole product.

3. The component referred to in paragraph 1(b) shall be calculated by multiplying the sucrose content of the whole product, up to a maximum of 43 %, by the basic amount of the refund applicable on the day the licence application is submitted for the products listed in Article 1(1)(d) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 ([1]).

However, the sucrose component shall not be taken into account where the basic amount of the refund for the milk product content referred to in the second subparagraph of paragraph 2 is zero.

([1]) OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

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4. For the purposes of paragraph 1(b), sucrose shall be treated as sucrose produced from beet or cane harvested in the Community if it has been:

(a) imported into the Community under Protocol 8 on sugar annexed to the ACP-EEC Lomé Convention [1], or the Agreement on cane sugar between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India [2];

(b) obtained from products imported under the provisions referred to in (a).

Article 17

1. Export licence applications for milk and milk products exported as products falling within CN code 0406 30 in accordance with the third indent of Article 8(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87 shall be accompanied by the authorisation granted by the competent authorities to use the customs arrangements in question.

2. Section 20 of licence applications and licences shall contain a reference to this Article.

3. The Member States shall take the necessary steps under the arrangements referred to in paragraph 1 to identify and check the quality and quantity of products referred to in that paragraph for which a refund has been applied for and to apply the provisions on entitlement to the refund.

CHAPTER II

Specific arrangements

Article 18

1. An export licence shall be required for all exports of cheese to Canada under the quota referred to in the Agreement concluded between the European Community and Canada.

2. Licence applications and licences shall show:

(a) in Section 7, the words ‘CANADA — 404’;

(b) in Section 15, the six-digit description of the goods in accordance with the Combined Nomenclature for products falling within CN codes 0406 10, 0406 20, 0406 30 and 0406 40 and the eight-digit description for products falling within CN code 0406 90. Section 15 of applications and licences may contain no more than six products thus described;

(c) in Section 16, the eight-figure CN code and the quantity in kilograms for each of the products referred to in Section 15. The licence shall be valid only for the products and quantities so designated;

(d) in Sections 17 and 18, the total quantity of products referred to in Section 16;

(e) in Section 20, the following words:

‘Cheeses for direct export to Canada. Article 18 of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999. Quota for ... (year)’

or, as the case may be,

‘Cheeses for export directly/via New York to Canada. Article 18 of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999. Quota for ... (year)’.

Where cheese is transported to Canada via European third countries, such countries must be indicated instead of, or with, a reference to New York;

(f) in Section 22, the words ‘without export refund’.

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[1] OJ L 229, 17. 8. 1991, p. 3.
[2] OJ L 190, 23. 7. 1975, p. 36.

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3. Licence applications shall be admissible only where applicants:

(a) declare in writing that all material falling within Chapter 4 of the Combined Nomenclature and used in the manufacture of products covered by their application has been produced entirely within the Community;

(b) undertake in writing to provide, at the request of the competent authorities, any further substantiation which the latter consider necessary for the issuing of licences and to accept, where applicable, any checks by those authorities on the book-keeping and manufacturing conditions of the products concerned.

4. Licences shall be issued immediately after applications are submitted. At the request of applicants, a certified copy of the licence shall be issued.

5. Licences shall be valid from their date of issue within the meaning of Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 until 31 December following that date.

However, licences may be issued from 20 December and shall be valid from 1 January until 31 December of the following year provided the words 'quota for ... (year)' in Section 20 of licence applications and licences refer to the following year.

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6. Export licences presented to the competent authority for attribution and endorsement in accordance with Article 22 of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 may be used for one export declaration only. Licences shall be exhausted once the export declaration has been presented.

Titular holders of export licences shall ensure that a certified copy of the licence is presented to the competent Canadian authority when the import licence is applied for.

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7. By way of derogation from Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, licences shall not be transferable.

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8. Before the end of July for the preceding six-month period and before the end of January for the previous quota year, the competent authority of the Member State shall notify the Commission, in accordance with Annex IV, of the number of licences issued and the quantity of cheese concerned.

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9. Chapter I shall not apply.

Article 19

1. An export licence shall be required for exports to Switzerland of the cheeses listed in Annex III, which are eligible for an exemption from or a reduction in customs duties on import into that country.

2. Section 20 of licence applications and licences shall contain the words 'Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999'.

Licences issued under this Article shall be valid only for the exports referred to in paragraph 1.

3. Licence applications shall be admissible only where applicants:

(a) declare in writing that all material falling within Chapter 4 of the Combined Nomenclature and used in the manufacture of products covered by their application has been produced entirely within the Community;

(b) undertake in writing to provide, at the request of the competent authorities, any further substantiation which the latter consider necessary for the issuing of licences and to accept, where applicable, any checks by those authorities of the book-keeping and manufacturing conditions of the products concerned.

4. Chapter I shall apply to exports covered by refunds applications.

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5. In the case of exports not covered by refund applications, Section 22 of licence applications and licences shall contain the words 'Without export refund'.

Licences shall be issued as soon as possible after applications are submitted.

Licences shall be valid from their date of issue within the meaning of Article 21(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 until the following 30 June.

However, licences may be issued from 20 June and shall be valid from 1 July until 30 June of the following year provided the words 'quota for…(following year)' appear in Section 20 of licences applications and licences.

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6. With the exception of Article 5(1), the provisions of Chapter I shall not apply to the exports referred to in paragraph 5.

For cheeses not included in the nomenclature for refund however, the eight-figure code of the Combined Nomenclature shall be entered in Section 16 of licence applications and licences.

7. Certified copies of licences shall be issued to applicants on request.

Article 20

1. In accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 30 of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68, the Commission may decide that export licences for products falling within CN code 0406 for export to the United States of America as part of the additional quota under the Agriculture Agreement and the tariff quotas originally resulting from the Tokyo Round and granted to Austria, Finland and Sweden by the United States in Uruguay Round list XX shall be issued in accordance with paragraphs 2 to 11.

2. Traders may apply, within a period to be determined, for a provisional export licence for the export of the products referred to in paragraph 1 during the following calendar year subject to the lodging of a security equal to 50 % of the rate fixed in accordance with Article 9.

Traders shall at the same time indicate:

(a) the designation of product group covered by the United States quota in accordance with Additional Notes 16 to 23 and 25 in Chapter 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States of America (most recent version);

(b) the product names in accordance with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States of America (most recent version);

(c) the quantity of products for which provisional licences are being sought which they have exported to the United States during the preceding three calendar years. To this end, the trader whose name appears on the relevant export declaration shall be regarded as the exporter;

(d) the name and address of the importer in the United States designated by the applicant;

(e) whether the importer is a subsidiary of the applicant.

In addition, applications shall be accompanied by a certificate from the designated importer stating that he is eligible under the rules in force in the United States on the issue of import licences for the products referred to in paragraph 1 as part of the quota.

3. Where applications for provisional licences are submitted in respect of a quantity of products in excess of one of the quotas referred to in paragraph 1 for the year in question, the Commission may:

(a) allocate provisional licences taking into account the quantity of the same products exported to the United States by the applicant in the past;

and/or

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(b) allocate provisional licences in preference to applicants whose designated importers are subsidiaries;

and/or

(c) apply a reduction coefficient to the quantities for which application is made.

4. Where applying a reduction coefficient would mean allocating provisional licences for quantities of less than 5 tonnes, the Commission may allocate licences by drawing lots.

5. Where applications are submitted for provisional licences for quantities of product not exceeding the quotas referred to in paragraph 1 for the year concerned, the Commission may allocate the remaining quantities to applicants in proportion to the quantities applied for.

6. Section 20 of provisional licences as referred to in the first subparagraph of paragraph 2 shall include the following:

'Provisional export licence referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 20(2) of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999: not valid for exports'.

7. The names of importers designated by traders to whom provisional licences are issued shall be forwarded to the competent United States authorities.

8. In the case where an import licence for the quantities concerned is not allocated to the importer designated by an operator, in circumstances which do not cast doubt on the sincerity of the attestation referred to in the third subparagraph of paragraph 2, the trader may be authorised by the Member State to designate another importer provided that the latter appears on the list communicated to the competent authorities of the United States of America, in accordance with paragraph 7. The Member State shall inform the Commission as soon as possible of the change of designated importer and the Commission shall notify the change to the competent authorities of the United States.

9. Securities shall be released in whole or in part for rejected applications or for quantities in excess of those allocated.

10. Before the end of the year for which provisional licences are issued, the trader shall apply for the full licence, even in the case of part quantities, which shall be issued forthwith. The following words shall be entered in Section 20 of the application for the full licence and in the licence itself:

'For export to the United States of America: Article 20 of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999'.

▼M1

The full licences issued shall be valid only for exports as referred to in paragraph 1

11. Chapter I, with the exception of Article 10, shall apply to full licences. However, the term of validity of licences as provided for in Article 6 may not extend beyond the end of the year concerned.

Article 20a

1. The following provisions shall apply to exports to the Dominican Republic of milk powder imported into that country at a reduced rate of duty under the quota, for 12 month periods commencing on 1 July, as referred to in the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the European Community and the Dominican Republic and approved by Council Decision 98/486/EC [1].

2. Exports as referred to in paragraph 1 shall be subject to the presentation to the competent authorities of the Dominican Republic of a certified copy of the export licence issued in accordance with this

[1] OJ L 218, 6.8.1998, p. 45.

▼M1

Article and a duly endorsed copy of the export declaration for each consignment.

3. When export licences are issued, priority shall be given to milk powder falling within the following product codes from the nomenclature of export refunds:

— 0402 10 19 9000,

— 0402 21 11 9900,

— 0402 21 19 9900,

— 0402 21 91 9200,

— 0402 21 99 9200.

Products covered by applications must have been produced entirely within the European Community. At the request of the competent authorities, applicants shall supply any further substantiation which the authorities consider necessary for the issuing of licences and shall accept, where applicable, any checks by those authorities of the bookkeeping and manufacturing conditions of the products concerned.

4. The quota referred to in paragraph 1 shall be of 22 400 t per 12-month period commencing on 1 July. The quota shall be divided into two parts:

(a) the first part, equal to 80 % or 17 920 t, shall be distributed among Community exporters who can prove that they have exported products as referred to in paragraph 3 to the Dominican Republic during each of the three calendar years prior to the period for submission of applications;

(b) the second part, equal to 20 % or 4 480 tonnes, shall be reserved for applicants other than those referred to at (a) who can prove, at the time they submit their application, that they have been engaged for at least 12 months in trade with third countries in the milk products listed in Chapter 4 of the tariff and statistical nomenclature and the common customs tariff and are registered in a Member State for VAT purposes.

5. Applications for export licences may not cover more, per applicant, than:

— for the part referred to in paragraph 4(a), a quantity equal to 110 % of the total quantity of products referred to in paragraph 3 exported during one of the three calendar years prior to the period for submission of applications,

— for the part referred to in paragraph 4(b), a total maximum quantity of 600 t.

Applicants who fail to comply with this ceiling shall have their applications rejected.

6. (a) To be accepted, only one export licence application may be submitted per product code in the nomenclature for refunds and all applications must be lodged at the same time with the competent authority of a single Member State;

(b) Export licence applications shall be admissible only where applicants, at the time they present their applications:

— lodge a security calculated in accordance with Article 9 on the basis of the refund rate referred to in paragraph 8,

— for the part referred to in paragraph 4(a), indicate the quantity of products referred to in paragraph 3 that they have exported to the Dominican Republic during one of the three calendar years prior to the period referred to in paragraph 4(a) and are able to prove this to the satisfaction of the competent authority of the Member State concerned. To this end the trader whose name appears on the relevant export declaration shall be regarded as the exporter,

— for the part referred to in paragraph 4(b), are able to prove to the satisfaction of the competent authority of the Member State concerned that they fulfil the conditions laid down.

▼M1

7. Licence applications shall be lodged from 1 to 10 April each year for the quota relating to the period 1 July to 30 June the following year.

However, for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, licence applications shall be lodged from 1 to 10 August 1999.

For the purposes of Article 1(1), all applications lodged before the deadline shall be deemed to have been lodged on the first day of the period for submission of licence applications.

8. The refund rate for products intended for export to the Dominican Republic under the quota referred to in paragraph 1 shall be:

— 70 %, for products covered by CN code 0402 10, and

— 85 %, for products covered by CN codes 0402 21 and 0402 29,

of the rate fixed by the Commission in accordance with Article 17(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 on the first day of the period referred to in paragraph 7.

9. Licence applications and licences shall contain:

(a) in section 7, the words 'Dominican Republic, 456';

(b) in sections 17 and 18 of the application, the quantity to which the application relates;

(c) in section 20 of the application:

— the words 'Article 20a of Regulation (EC) No 174/1999'

— the words 'tariff quota for… (year)'.

Licences issued under this Article shall give rise to an obligation to export to the destination indicated in section 7.

10. Not later than the fifth working day following expiry of the period for lodging licence applications, Member States shall notify the Commission, in accordance with the model in Annex V, for each of the two parts of the quota and for each product code of the nomenclature for refunds, of the quantities covered by licence applications or, where applicable, that no applications have been lodged.

All notifications, including notifications of nil applications, shall be made by telex or fax on the working day stipulated.

Before issuing licences, the Member States shall verify in particular that the information referred to in paragraphs 3 to 5 is correct.

If the information provided by a trader to whom a licence has been issued is found to be incorrect, the licence shall be cancelled and the security forfeited.

11. The Commission shall decide as quickly as possible to what extent applications notified to it may be granted and shall inform the Member States of its decision.

If all the quantities covered by licence applications for both parts of the quota exceed one or other of the quantities referred to in paragraph 4, the Commission shall fix allocation coefficients. If application of the allocation coefficient results in a quantity per applicant of less than 20 t, applicants may withdraw their applications. In such cases, they shall notify the competent authority within three working days of publication of the Commission's decision. The security shall be released immediately. The competent authority shall notify the Commission, within eight working days of publication of the decision, of the quantities for which applications have been withdrawn and for which the security has been released.

Where the total quantity covered by licence applications is less than the quantity available for the period in question, the Commission shall allocate the quantity remaining, on the basis of objective criteria taking account in particular of licence applications for all the products falling within CN codes 0402 10, 0402 21 and 0402 29.

12. Licences shall be issued at the request of the exporter, not earlier than 1 July and not later than 15 February the following year. They shall

▼M1

be issued only to exporters whose licence applications were notified in accordance with paragraph 10.

Member States shall communicate to the Commission before 1 March, in accordance with Annex VI, for both parts of the quota, the quantities for which no licences were issued.

13. Notwithstanding Article 6, export licences shall be valid from their date of issue within the meaning of Article 21(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88 to 30 June thereafter.

14. The security shall be released only on presentation of the proof referred to in Article 33(4) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, or in respect of quantities covered by applications for which no licence could be issued.

Notwithstanding the fifth subparagraph of Article 33(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, the security relating to the quantity not exported shall be forfeit.

15. Notwithstanding Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 3719/88, licences shall not be transferable.

16. Before 1 September each year, the competent authority of the Member State shall report to the Commission, in accordance with Annex VII, broken down by product code of the nomenclature for refunds:

— the quantity allocated,

— the quantity for which licences have been issued,

— the quantity exported

during the previous 12-month period as referred to in paragraph 1.

17. Chapter I shall apply, with the exception of Articles 6 and 10.

▼B

CHAPTER III

Final provisions

Article 21

Regulations (EEC) No 3665/87 and (EEC) No 3719/88 shall apply save as otherwise provided in this Regulation.

Article 22

Regulation (EC) No 1466/95 is hereby repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation.

Regulation (EC) No 1466/95 shall continue to apply to licences issued against applications submitted before the entry into force of the present Regulation.

Article 23

►C1 This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day ◄ following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply from 1 February 1999.

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

▼B

ANNEX I

Product categories laid down in Article 4(1)

Number	Description	CN code
I	Butter, other fats and oils derived from milk and spreads	0405 10 0405 20 90 0405 90
II	Skimmed-milk powder	0402 10
III	Cheese and curd	0406
IV	Other milk products	0401 0402 21 0402 29 0402 91 0402 99 0403 10 11 to 0403 10 39 0403 90 11 to 0403 90 69 0404 90 2309 10 15 2309 10 19 2309 10 39 2309 10 59 2309 10 70 2309 90 35 2309 90 39 2309 90 49 2309 90 59 2309 90 70

▼B

ANNEX II

Product groups set by Article 4(3)

Group No	Milk product code (nomenclature for export refunds)
1	0401 10 10 9000 0401 20 11 9100 0401 20 11 9500 0401 20 91 9100 0401 20 91 9500 0401 30 11 9100 0401 30 11 9400 0401 30 11 9700 0401 30 31 9100 0401 30 31 9400 0401 30 31 9700 0401 30 91 9100 0401 30 91 9400 0401 30 91 9700
2	0401 10 90 9000 0401 20 19 9100 0401 20 19 9500 0401 20 99 9100 0401 20 99 9500 0401 30 19 9100 0401 30 19 9400 0401 30 19 9700 0401 30 39 9100 0401 30 39 9400 0401 30 39 9700 0401 30 99 9100 0401 30 99 9400 0401 30 99 9700
3	0402 21 11 9200 0402 21 11 9300 0402 21 11 9500 0402 21 11 9900 0402 21 91 9100 0402 21 91 9200 0402 21 91 9300 0402 21 91 9400 0402 21 91 9500 0402 21 91 9600 0402 21 91 9700 0402 21 91 9900
4	0402 21 17 9000 0402 21 19 9300 0402 21 19 9500 0402 21 19 9900 0402 21 99 9100 0402 21 99 9200 0402 21 99 9300 0402 21 99 9400 0402 21 99 9500 0402 21 99 9600 0402 21 99 9700 0402 21 99 9900
5	0402 29 15 9200 0402 29 15 9300 0402 29 15 9500 0402 29 15 9900 0402 29 91 9100 0402 29 91 9500
6	0402 29 19 9200 0402 29 19 9300 0402 29 19 9500 0402 29 19 9900 0402 29 99 9100 0402 29 99 9500

▼B

Group No	Milk product code (nomenclature for export refunds)
7	0402 91 11 9110 0402 91 11 9120 0402 91 31 9100 0402 91 51 9000 0402 91 91 9000
8	0402 91 11 9310 0402 91 11 9350 0402 91 11 9370 0402 91 31 9300 0402 91 51 9000 0402 91 91 9000
9	0402 91 19 9110 0402 91 19 9120 0402 91 39 9100 0402 91 59 9000 0402 91 99 9000
10	0402 91 19 9310 0402 91 19 9350 0402 91 19 9370 0402 91 39 9300 0402 91 59 9000 0402 91 99 9000
11	0402 99 11 9110 0402 99 11 9130 0402 99 11 9150 0402 99 31 9110 0402 99 31 9300 0402 99 31 9500 0402 99 91 9000
12	0402 99 11 9310 0402 99 11 9330 0402 99 11 9350 0402 99 31 9150 0402 99 31 9300 0402 99 31 9500 0402 99 91 9000
13	0402 99 19 9110 0402 99 19 9130 0402 99 19 9150 0402 99 39 9110 0402 99 39 9300 0402 99 39 9500 0402 99 99 9000
14	0402 99 19 9310 0402 99 19 9330 0402 99 19 9350 0402 99 39 9150 0402 99 39 9300 0402 99 39 9500 0402 99 99 9000
15	0403 10 11 9400 0403 10 11 9800 0403 10 13 9800 0403 10 19 9800
16	0403 10 31 9400 0403 10 31 9800 0403 10 33 9800 0403 10 39 9800

▼**B**

Group No	Milk product code (nomenclature for export refunds)
17	0403 90 11 9000 0403 90 13 9200 0403 90 13 9300 0403 90 13 9500 0403 90 13 9900 0403 90 19 9000
18	0403 90 31 9000 0403 90 33 9200 0403 90 33 9300 0403 90 33 9500 0403 90 33 9900 0403 90 39 9000
19	0403 90 51 9100 0403 90 51 9300 0403 90 53 9000 0403 90 59 9110 0403 90 59 9140 0403 90 59 9170 0403 90 59 9310 0403 90 59 9340 0403 90 59 9370 0403 90 59 9510 0403 90 59 9540 0403 90 59 9570
20	0403 90 61 9100 0403 90 61 9300 0403 90 63 9000 0403 90 69 9000
21	0404 90 21 9100 0404 90 23 9120 0404 90 23 9130 0404 90 23 9140 0404 90 23 9150
22	0404 90 81 9100 0404 90 83 9110 0404 90 83 9130 0404 90 83 9150 0404 90 83 9170
23	0405 10 11 9500 0405 10 11 9700 0405 10 19 9500 0405 10 19 9700 0405 10 30 9100 0405 10 30 9300 0405 10 30 9500 0405 10 30 9700 0405 10 50 9100 0405 10 50 9300 0405 10 50 9500 0405 10 50 9700 0405 10 90 9000 0405 20 90 9500 0405 20 90 9700 0405 90 10 9000 ►**M1** 0405 90 90 9000 ◄

▼B

ANNEX III

Switzerland

Products referred to in Article 19(1)

CN code	Description (Export refund nomenclature)
0406	Cheese and curd:
ex 0406 10 20	- - - - - Ricotta, salted
0406 20	- Grated or powdered cheese, of all kinds
0406 30	- Processed cheese, not grated or powdered
0406 40	- Blue-veined cheese
ex 0406 90	- Other cheese:
0406 90 23	- - - Edam
0406 90 25	- - - Tilsit
0406 90 27	- - - Butterkäse
0406 90 61	- - - - - - - Grana Padano, Parmigiano Reggiano
0406 90 63	- - - - - - - Fiore Sardo, Pecorino
0406 90 69	- - - - - - - Other
0406 90 73	- - - - - - - Provolone
ex 0406 90 75	- - - - - - - Asiago, Caciocavallo, Montasio
0406 90 76	- - - - - - - Danbo, Fontal, Fontina, Fynbo, Havarti, Maribo, Samsø
0406 90 78	- - - - - - - Gouda
ex 0406 90 79	- - - - - - - Esrom, Italico, Saint-Nectaire, Saint-Paulin
ex 0406 90 87	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Idiazabal, Manchego, Roncal, manufactured exclusively from sheep's milk
ex 0406 90	- Elbo, Galantine, Molbo, Mimolette, Tybo
ex 0406 90	- Other cheese, of a fat content of 30 % or more by weight in the dry matter and of a water content by weight in the non-fatty matter exceeding 52 % but not exceeding 67 %

▼M1

ANNEX IV

Canada

Information required under Article 18(8)

Member State: .....

Data for the period from ..... to .....

Trader's name/address	CN code of product (pursuant to Article 18(2))	Licences issued	
		Number of licences	Quantity
			tonnes
	Total		

▼M1

ANNEX V

Dominican Republic

Information required under Article 20a(10)

Member state: .....

applications for the period: .....

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(a)

Name/address of applicant	Reference data exports to the Dominican Republic			Applications	
	Product code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantities exported (t)	Year of export	Product code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantity maximum = 110 % of (3) (t)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Total					

▼M1

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(b)

name/address of applicant	Product code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantity applied for (t)

▼M1

ANNEX VI

Dominican Republic

Information required under Article 20a (12)

Member State: .....

Data relating to the period from ..... to .....

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(a)

Exporter's name and address	Code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantities allocated for which licences were not issued (t)
Total		

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(b)

Exporter's name and address	Code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantities allocated for which licences were not issued (t)
Total		

▼M1

ANNEX VII

Dominican Republic

Information required under Article 20a(16)

Member State: .....

Data relating to the period from: ..... 1 July to 30 June .....

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(a)

Code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantites for which licences were allocated	Quantities for which licences were issued	Quantities exported
	(t)	(t)	(t)
Total			

▼M1

Quota referred to in Article 20a(4)(b)

Code in the refunds nomenclature	Quantities for which licences were allocated	Quantities for which licences were issued	Quantities exported
	(t)	(t)	(t)
Total			