COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 41/2000

of 7 January 2000

amending Regulation (EC) No 2782/1999 amending Regulation (EC) No 2420/1999 on the issuing of A1 export licences for fruit and vegetables and fixing export refunds for apples

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 last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 [2], and in particular Article 35(11) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2190/96 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1303/1999 [4], lays down detailed rules for implementing export refunds on fruit and vegetables.

(2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2782/1999 [5] fixes export refunds for apples.

(3) For such refunds, the period of validity of A1 and A2 export licences should be limited to two months.

(4) To safeguard the legitimate expectations of operators who applied for export licences before the date of entry into force of this Regulation, they should be allowed to withdraw their applications.

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The following paragraph is added to Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 2782/1999:

'Without prejudice to the application of Article 4(5) of Regulation (EC) No 2190/96, the period of validity of A1 and A2 export licences shall be two months.'

Article 2

Operators who submitted applications for export licences before the entry into force of this Regulation may withdraw their application at the latest on the day laid down for the issue of export licences and recover the security lodged in full.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of 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, 7 January 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 80.
[3] OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 12.
[4] OJ L 155, 22.6.1999, p. 30.
[5] OJ L 334, 28.12.1999, p. 26.