

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/SVK/9
28 November 1997

(97-5242)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Central Agricultural Inspecting and Testing Institute
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Ware potatoes
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Phytoquarantine Measures for Imports of potatoes, issued on the basis of the Law of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 285/95 coll. (7 pages, available in English)
5.	Description of content: The basis of the measure is to exclude using ware potatoes for planting with regard to potential danger of introducing harmful organisms - namely bacterial ring rot of potatoes (<i>Clavibacter michiganensis</i> , spp. <i>sepedonicum</i>). From this aspect the measure specifies the requirements for imported potatoes and for the place of origin. The measure excludes potatoes from regions with occurrence of <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> in specified forecrops. Requirements for storage and package places are also specified. In case of importing plant potatoes from countries with occurrence of <i>Clavibacter michiganensis</i> or <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> , relevant laboratory tests must be carried out. It is required to submit the phyto-certificate from the country of origin. It is also required to treat the potatoes against germination by an approved product. The measure further specifies the inspection and relevant proceedings.
6.	Objective and rationale: Protection of national territory from harmful quarantine organisms (<i>Clavibacter michiganensis</i> and <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i>), which do not occur in Slovakia.
7.	Nature of the urgent problem(s): Safeguard against quarantine pest organisms.
8.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:

9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: (a) Law No. 285/95 of the Slovak Republic on plant health care; (b) the measure was notified to all importers of relevant commodities, neighbour countries, EU and EPPO bodies.
10.	Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): 10 September 1997. The importers were informed on 20 August 1997. Comments concerning the measure are welcome.
11.	Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments: National enquiry point [X] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: