

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/EEC/193

3 March 2003

(03-1227)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Commission of the European Communities. Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General Directorate E – Food Safety: Plant Health, Animal Health and Welfare, International questions
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Meat of bovine animals, fresh or chilled (0201), Meat of bovine animals, frozen (0202), Meat of sheep or goats, fresh, chilled or frozen (0204), Edible offal of bovine animals fresh, chilled or frozen (0206), Meat of bovine animals and edible meat offal, salted, in brine, dried or smoked; edible flours and meals of meat or meat offal (0210 20), Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof, fresh, chilled frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked (0504), Raw material for the manufacture of animal feedingstuffs (CN 0210.90). Bones and horn-cores, unworked, defatted, simply prepared (but not cut to shape), treated with acid or degelatinised; powder and waste of these products (0506), Fats of bovine animals, sheep or goats, other than those of heading 1503 (1502), Sausages and similar products, of meat, meat offal or blood; food preparations based on these products (1601), Other prepared or preserved meat, meat offal or blood (1602), Flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, unfit for human consumption; greaves (2301), Gelatine (including gelatin in rectangular (including square) sheets, whether or not surface-worked or coloured) and gelatine derivatives; isinglass; other glues of animal origin, excluding casein glues of heading 3501 (3503).
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: EC member States and third countries exporting the products concerned to the European Communities.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Proposal for a Commission Regulation amending Annexes III, X and XI to Regulation (EC) no 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards monitoring programmes, rapid tests and specified risk material. (Doc.SANCO/3920/2002 – Available in English – 23 pages)
6.	Description of content: The proposal amends <i>inter alia</i> the list of specified risk material, which is extended to include tonsils of bovine animals of all ages and the ileum of sheep and goats of all ages. Special provisions are laid down for the harvesting of bovine tongue. The Commission expects comments on: Annex XI (list of specified risk material).

<p>In its opinion on TSE infectivity distribution in ruminant tissues, adopted on 7-8 November 2002, the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) recommended that tonsils of bovine animals of any age should be regarded as posing a risk of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). The ileum is added to the list of specified risk material based on the precautionary principle.</p> <p>Further Background: In notification G/SPS/N/EEC/133 Rev.1 Add.1 (27 March 2002) the EC informed of another proposal ending in <i>Commission Regulation 1494/2002 of 21 August 2002 amending Annexes III, VII and XI to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council as regards monitoring of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, eradication of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, removal of specified risk materials and rules for importation of live animals and products of animal origin</i> (OJ L225, 22/08/2002 pp:03 – 10).</p>
<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests</p>
<p>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</p>
<p>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: European Commission Document SANCO/3920/2002 (Available in all EC languages. When adopted it will be published at the Official Journal available at: http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption: 16 April 2003</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: 1 May 2003</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: Sixty (60) days after the date of notification Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EC notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>
<p>13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EC enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>