COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1459/2003

of 18 August 2003

fixing, for the marketing year 2003/2004, the minimum price to be paid to producers for unprocessed dried figs and the amount of production aid for dried figs

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 of 28 October 1996 on the common organisation of the markets in processed fruit and vegetable products [1], as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 453/2002 [2], and in particular Article 6b(3) and Article 6c(7) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 2(1)(c) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 449/2001 of 2 March 2001 laying down detailed rules for applying Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 as regards the aid scheme for products processed from fruit and vegetables [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1426/2002 [4], lays down the dates of the marketing year for dried figs.

(2) The criteria for fixing the minimum price and the amount of the production aid are laid down respectively by Articles 6b and 6c of Regulation (EC) No 2201/96.

(3) Article 1 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1573/1999 of 19 July 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 as regards the characteristics of dried figs qualifying for aid under the production aid scheme [5] lays down the criteria which products must meet to benefit from the minimum price and payment of the aid.

(4) The minimum price and the production aid for the marketing year 2003/2004 should therefore be determined.

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the marketing year 2003/2004:

(a) the minimum price for unprocessed dried figs referred to in Article 6b of Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 shall be EUR 878,86 per net tonne from the producer;

(b) the production aid for dried figs referred to in Article 6c of Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 shall be EUR 264,83 per net tonne.

Article 2

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

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

Done at Brussels, 18 August 2003.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 29.
[2] OJ L 72, 14.3.2002, p. 9.
[3] OJ L 64, 6.3.2001, p. 16.
[4] OJ L 206, 4.8.2002, p. 4.
[5] OJ L 187, 20.7.1999, p. 27.