COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2147/2002
of 2 December 2002
amending Regulation (EC) No 1455/1999 laying down the marketing standard for sweet peppers

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 545/2002 [2], and in particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1455/1999 [3], amended by Regulation (EC) No 2706/2000 [4], laid down provisions on the presentation and the marking of packages of sweet peppers.

(2) In order to ensure transparency on the world market, account should be taken of the recent modifications of the standard for sweet peppers recommended by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, which stipulates that packages containing peppers of different colours shall not necessarily contain the same number of sweet peppers of each colour provided packages show an appropriate marking. In addition, it is appropriate to lay down that consumer packages may not only contain sweet peppers of different colours but also sweet peppers of different types.

(3) The provisions concerning marking need to be clarified on several points, in particular with regards to the labelling of consumer packages containing sweet peppers of different types and colours.

(4) It is therefore necessary to amend Regulation (EC) No 1455/1999.

(5) In order to apply the provisions of the present Regulation, the traders have to proceed to certain technical adaptations, in particular with regard to their packing facilities. The application of the present Regulation shall therefore start after a period of a sufficient length after the date of its entry into force.

(6) 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 Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1455/1999 is amended according to the Annex to the present Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply from the first day of the third month following its entry into force.

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

Done at Brussels, 2 December 2002.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 84, 28.3.2002, p. 1.
[3] OJ L 167, 2.7.1999, p. 22.
[4] OJ L 311, 12.12.2000, p. 35.