COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 80/2003

of 17 January 2003

amending Regulation (EC) No 175/2001 as regards certain mixtures of certain varieties of walnuts in shell, officially defined by the producing country

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 1881/2002 [2], and in particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 175/2001 of 26 January 2001 laying down the marketing standard for walnuts in shell [3] allows, across all quality classes, walnuts of several varieties to be mixed in the same package, providing the mixture is officially defined by the producing country.

(2) The French authorities have informed the Commission that they have officially defined several mixtures of varieties, called 'Noix de Grenoble' and 'Noix du Périgord', applicable to both fresh and dry walnuts. The United States authorities have informed the Commission that they have defined a mixture of varieties called 'California walnuts', applicable to dry nuts.

(3) Notwithstanding the existence of other mixtures of walnut varieties officially defined elsewhere, the characteristics of these mixtures should be detailed in Regulation (EC) No 175/2001, in order to avoid any discrepancies in its interpretation and application.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 175/2001 should be amended to this effect.

(5) The Management Committee for fresh Fruit and Vegetables has not delivered an opinion within the time limit set by its chairman,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Annex to Regulation (EC) No 175/2001 shall be amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following 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, 17 January 2003.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 285, 23.10.2002, p. 13.
[3] OJ L 26, 27.1.2001, p. 24.