II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DIRECTIVE 92/71/EEC

of 2 September 1992

determining the percentage of consignments that could be subject to phytosanitary inspection, documentary and identity checking, when introduced into a Member State from another Member State

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 77/93/EEC of 21 December 1976 on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community [1], as last amended by Commission Directive 92/10/EEC [2], and in particular Article 11 (3), third subparagraph and Article 11 (3a) thereof,

Whereas, at present, in addition to providing for checks by consignor Member States, Directive 77/93/EEC allows checks by Member States of destination;

Whereas, moreover, the provisions of Directive 77/93/EEC stipulate that the percentage of phytosanitary inspections to be carried out shall be lower than 33 % and shall be gradually reduced to reach zero by the time that Member States have brought into effect the new checking arrangements in compliance with the provisions intended for the completion of the internal market; whereas in respect of documentary and identity checks, the provisions also stipulate that the percentage of consignments subject to such checks shall be determined and gradually reduced to reach zero by the time that Member States have brought into effect the new checking arrangements in compliance with the provisions intended for the completion of the internal market;

Whereas, in the interest of the free movement of plants, plant products or other objects within the Community, which is an element essential to agricultural productivity and contributes to the proper functioning of the common agricultural policy, the percentage of the abovementioned phytosanitary inspections should be reduced, whilst a decision should be taken in respect of the percentage of consigments that could be subject to occasional documentary and identity checks, and a better balance established, in the matter of checks and inspections between the consignor Member State and the Member State of destination, with greater responsibility being placed on the former;

Whereas the conditions provided for in this Directive are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plant Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The Member states shall ensure that from 15 October 1992:

(a) the percentage of official phytosanitary inspections referred to in Article 11 (3), third subparagraph of Directive 77/93/EEC, to be carried out when consignments are introduced into a Member State from another Member State, shall be lower than 10;

(b) the percentage of consignments subject to occasional documentary and identity checks referred to in Article 11 (3a) of the said Directive shall be lower than 10.

[1] OJ No L 26, 31. 1. 1977, p. 20.
[2] OJ No L 70, 17. 3. 1992, p. 27.