



SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PROPAGATING MATERIAL AND PLANTS OF FRUIT GENERA AND SPECIES

10 OCTOBER 2018

Chairperson: Ms D. Charels

With the exception of Bulgaria, Portugal, Romania, and the United Kingdom all Member States were present.

1. Discussion on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Council Directive 2008/90/EC to extend the derogation relating to import conditions for fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants intended for fruit production from third countries

(doc. SANTE/10665/2018) (Legal base: Article 12(2) of Council Directive 2008/90/EC)

The Commission explained the background of the envisaged amendment. Several Member States asked to extend the authorisation until 31 December 2022. Commission agreed but stressed that the establishment of equivalence at EU level pursuant to Article 12(1) of Directive 2008/90/EC should not be postponed beyond 31 December 2022.

The Commission replied to the question from Slovenia regarding the free marketing of propagating material and fruit plants imported by a Member State pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 12(2) of Directive 2008/90/EC that the imported material and fruit plants shall not be subject to any marketing restrictions in the other Member States.

2. Discussion on a draft Commission Implementing Directive amending Commission Implementing Directive 2014/96/EU as regards the requirements for the labelling of fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants

(Legal base: Article 7 of Commission Implementing Directive 2014/96/EU)

The proposed amendment introduces the mandatory use of coloured labels in the case of propagating material of the pre-basic, basic, and certified categories. Belgium asked for the application dates of the amended Implementing Directive 2014/96/EU and Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 to coincide. Several Member States expressed their preference for the combined use of the plant passport and label for each category of propagating material, including CAC material. The Commission promised to look into this. All Member States were in favour of flexible requirements with regard to the labelling of CAC material whereby the use of a supplier's document and/or label should be allowed. Germany asked for a harmonisation of terms between the different legal texts and stated that the term 'supplier' should be replaced by 'operator'.

3. State of play regarding use of coloured labels

The Commission showed the examples of labels provided by 9 Member States. Seven of those Member States already use the optional coloured official labels foreseen in Article 2(4) of Implementing Directive 2014/96/EU.

4. EU variety register: Fruit Reproductive Material Information System (FRUMATIS)

The Commission clarified that all national lists have to be resubmitted by making use of the updated 2018 FRUMATIS template. Member States that had not yet done so were asked to resubmit their national lists by 14 November 2018. By the end of this year an updated variety register will be published on the basis of those national lists. The Commission presented the progress of the work on the semantic FRUMATIS application. In January 2019 Member States will be asked to test the semantic FRUMATIS application in the acceptance environment and to provide feedback to the Commission.

5. Discussion on Annex III List of Union regulated non-quarantine pests and the respective plants for planting, the categories, and the thresholds, as referred to in Article 3 of Commission Implementing Regulation establishing uniform conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council on protective measures against pests of plants

(Legal base: Article 37(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031)

The Commission clarified that risk management measures for Regulated Non Quarantine pests (RNQPs) will be laid down in a separate Annex of the Commission Implementing Regulation mentioned above. The Commission explained that the listed RNQPs are not restricted to fruit species regulated in Annex I to Council Directive 2008/90/EC but may also originate from Council Directive 2000/29/EC. The Commission could consider including those non-regulated fruit species in Directive 2008/90/EC. The Commission explained that all RNQPs currently listed in Commission Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU will have to be removed from that Implementing Directive. Italy mentioned that the Implementing Regulation under discussion will be directly applicable whereas the amended Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU will have to be transposed by Member States. Some Member States noted that a threshold may concern mother plants, a lot, traded propagating material, a holding, or a production field. The Commission asked Member States to comment on Annex III by 14 November 2018. The Commission stressed that the Commission Regulation under discussion will be voted in the PAFF committee on plant health and strongly recommended the certification experts to liaise with their plant health colleagues. Several Member States noted that it is difficult to comment on thresholds without accompanying risk management measures. The Commission announced that a new meeting for all plant reproductive material sectors will be organised on 29 November 2018. The aim of this meeting will be to have an exchange of views on thresholds and risk management measures.

6. Common EU approach on import of fruit propagating material and fruit plants from third countries

The Commission reported on the progress of the working group.