

COMMISSION DECISION

of 9 March 1988

on health protection measures concerning blue tongue in respect of Canada

(88/212/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine animals and swine and fresh meat from third countries ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Directive 87/64/EEC ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Whereas Commission Decision 83/494/EEC ⁽³⁾ provides that Member States shall authorize the importation of bovine animals from Canada under certain conditions;

Whereas, however, it is laid down in Article 6 of Directive 72/462/EEC that Member States shall not authorize the importation of bovine animals unless they come from third countries which have been free, for the previous 12 months, in particular in respect of blue tongue;

Whereas Article 7 of Directive 72/462/EEC provides that prohibitions laid down by Article 6 of the said Directive can be limited to a part of the territory of the third country;

Whereas it has been noted that blue tongue has occurred in the Okanagan Valley region of British Columbia, Canada; whereas this region has particular geographical and climatic characteristics which confine this disease to an area within the region;

Whereas it has been established by means of official serological surveys for many years that the disease has been confined to the Okanagan Valley region;

Whereas the remainder of Canada may be considered to be free of blue tongue;

Whereas the veterinary authorities of Canada have given satisfactory assurances that bovine animals which have at any time been in the infected region will not be exported to the Community;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:—

Article 1

By way of derogation from Article 1 of Decision 83/494/EEC, Member States shall not authorize the importation of bovine animals from that part of the territory of Canada described in the Annex.

Article 2

The following is hereby added to the health certificate given in Annex A to Decision 83/494/EEC:

'Bovine animals conforming to Commission Decision 88/212/EEC of 9 March 1988 on health protection measures concerning blue tongue in respect of Canada'.

Article 3

The application of Articles 1 and 2 shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 29 of Directive 72/462/EEC by 31 December 1988 at the latest.

This review shall be made on the basis of information which shall be made available by the Canadian authorities.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 9 March 1988.

For the Commission

Frans ANDRIESEN

Vice-President

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 28.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 34, 5. 2. 1987, p. 52.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 273, 6. 10. 1983, p. 37.

*ANNEX***Okanagan valley area of British Columbia**

From a point on the Canada/United States border

120° 15' longitude, 49° latitude

northerly to a point

119° 35' longitude, 50° 30' latitude

north easterly to a point

119° longitude, 50° 45' latitude

southerly to a point on the Canada/United States border

118° 15' longitude, 49° latitude.
