

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2076/2004 of 3 December 2004
adapting for the first time Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003
of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to fertilisers
(EDDHSA and triple superphosphate) (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2076/2004

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2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council
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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council
of 13 October 2003 relating to fertilisers⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 31 (1) and (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 provides that a fertiliser belonging to a type of fertiliser listed in Annex I thereto and complying with the conditions laid down in that Regulation may be designated 'EC FERTILISER'.
- (2) Among the phosphatic fertilisers listed in table A2 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 is Triple superphosphate (TSP) and one of the criteria for its labelling is 'phosphorus expressed as P₂O₅ soluble in neutral ammonium citrate, at least 93 % of the declared content of P₂O₅ being water soluble'.
- (3) The higher the water solubility of the TSP fertiliser, the better is its agronomic efficiency. In the past, European soils were in general deficient in phosphorous and a high minimum value of 93 % water solubility was justified in order to correct this deficiency.
- (4) Today, the situation has changed in that many soils are no longer deficient in phosphorous and while there are soil conditions or crops for which TSP with a minimum of 93 % water solubility is still desirable, TSP with a minimum of 85 % of water solubility will be equally effective for many European soils and crops.
- (5) TSP users should therefore be allowed to choose between a TSP with a minimum water solubility of 85 %, or one with a higher solubility, to suit the local soil and crop requirements. The entry concerning TSP in table A2 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) 2003/2003 should be adapted accordingly.
- (6) Sodium salt of EDDHSA and its condensation products (EDDHSA) have been in use, particularly in Spain, France and Italy for 15 years as an organic chelating agent for

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micro-nutrients. Experience shows that it is an efficient fertilising agent and that it poses no risk to the environment.

- (7) In particular, iron chelated with EDDHSA is used to correct iron shortages and to remedy ferric chlorosis. It is recommended for a large variety of vegetal species, particularly fruit trees such as citrus fruit, apricot, avocado plum and peach; it is also used for grapes, for small bushes and strawberries.
- (8) The elimination of ferric chlorosis and its symptoms ensures green foliage, with good growth and development of the fruit for harvest.
- (9) Concerning the effect on the soil and the environment, EDDHSA undergoes a chemical degradation process in the soil which is relatively slow but which does not create any dangerous substances. Nor does it cause any salinity problems in the soil.
- (10) EDDHSA should therefore be added to the list of authorised organic chelating agents for micro-nutrients in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003.
- (11) Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (12) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

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

Done at Brussels, 3 December 2004.

For the Commission

Günter VERHEUGEN

Member of the Commission

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ANNEX

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 is amended as follows:

- (a) In Table A.2. the entry 2(c) relating to ‘Triple superphosphate’ is replaced by the following:

No	Type designation	Data on method of production and essential ingredients	Minimum content of nutrients (% by weight); Data on the expression of nutrients; Other requirements	Other data on the type designation	Nutrient content to be declared; Forms and solubilities of the nutrients; Other criteria
1	2	3	4	5	6
‘2(c)	Triple superphosphate	Product obtained by reaction of ground mineral phosphate with phosphoric acid and containing monocalcium phosphate as its essential ingredient	38 % P ₂ O ₅ Phosphorus expressed as P ₂ O ₅ soluble in neutral ammonium citrate, at least 85 % of the declared content of P ₂ O ₅ being water-soluble Test sample: 3 g		Phosphorus pentoxide soluble in neutral ammonium citrate Water-soluble phosphorus pentoxide’

- (b) In point E.3.1. the following entry is added:

Sodium salt of:		
ethylenediamine di-(2-hydroxy 5-sulfophenylacetic) acid and its condensation products	EDDHSA	C ₁₈ H ₂₀ O ₁₂ N ₂ S ₂ + n*(C ₁₂ H ₁₄ O ₈ N ₂ S)

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- (1) [OJ L 304, 21.11.2003, p 1](#). Regulation as last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 ([OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1](#)).

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Regulation implicit repeal by [EUR 2019/1009](#) Regulation