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► **B**                      **COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 481/2012**  
**of 7 June 2012**  
**laying down rules for the management of a tariff quota for high-quality beef**  
(OJ L 148, 8.6.2012, p. 9)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
► <b><u>M1</u></b>	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 238/2013 of 15 March 2013	L 74	24	16.3.2013
► <b><u>M2</u></b>	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1585 of 19 September 2017	L 241	1	20.9.2017



**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU)  
No 481/2012  
of 7 June 2012  
laying down rules for the management of a tariff quota for  
high-quality beef**

*Article 1*

**Subject matter and scope**

1. This Regulation lays down rules for the management of an annual Union tariff quota for high-quality beef provided for in Regulation (EC) No 617/2009, hereinafter referred to as ‘the tariff quota’. The tariff quota period, volume and duty shall be as set out in Annex I to this Regulation.

2. This Regulation shall apply to high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef that fulfils the requirements laid down in Annex II.

For the purposes of this Regulation, ‘frozen meat’ means meat with an internal temperature of – 12 °C or lower when it enters the customs territory of the European Union.

*Article 2*

**Management of the tariff quota**

1. The tariff quota shall be managed on a first-come, first-served basis in accordance with Articles 308a and 308b and Article 308c(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93. No import licences shall be required.

2. The tariff quota shall be managed as a parent tariff quota under order number 09.2201 with four quarterly sub-tariff quotas under order number 09.2202.

The benefit from the tariff quota can be granted only by applying for order number 09.2202 referring to the sub-tariff quotas.

3. The drawings on the sub-tariff quotas until 30 September, 31 December and 31 March shall be stopped respectively on the fifth working day of the Commission in November, February and May. Their unused balances shall be added to the quantities for the quarterly sub-tariff quotas starting respectively on 1 October, 1 January and 1 April. No unused balance at the end of a quota year shall be transferred to another quota year.

**▼B***Article 3***Certificates of authenticity**

1. In order to benefit from the tariff quota, a certificate of authenticity issued in the third country concerned, together with a customs declaration for release for free circulation for the goods concerned, shall be presented to the Union's customs authorities.
2. The certificate of authenticity referred to in paragraph 1 shall be established in accordance with the model set out in Annex III.
3. On the reverse side of the certificate of authenticity it shall be stated that the meat originating in the exporting country fulfils the requirements laid down in Annex II.
4. A certificate of authenticity shall be valid only if it is duly completed and endorsed by the issuing authority.
5. A certificate of authenticity shall be considered to have been duly endorsed if it states the date and place of issue and if it bears the stamp of the issuing authority and the signature of the person or persons empowered to sign it.
6. The stamp may be replaced by a printed seal on the original of the certificate of authenticity and any copies thereof.

**▼M1**

7. The validity of a certificate of authenticity shall be three months from the date of its issue.

**▼B***Article 4***Issuing authorities in third countries**

1. The issuing authority referred to in Article 3 shall:
  - (a) be recognised as such by the competent authority of the exporting country;
  - (b) undertake to verify entries in the certificates of authenticity.
2. The following information shall be notified to the Commission:
  - (a) the name and address, if possible including e-mail and internet address, of the authority or authorities recognised to issue the certificates of authenticity referred to in Article 3;
  - (b) specimen of the stamps used by the issuing authority or authorities;
  - (c) the procedures and criteria followed by the issuing authority or authorities in order to establish whether the requirements laid down in Annex II are fulfilled.

**▼B***Article 5***Third country notifications**

When the requirements laid down in Annex II are fulfilled, the Commission shall publish the name of the issuing authority or authorities concerned in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union* or by any other appropriate means.

*Article 6***On-the-spot checks in third countries**

The Commission may request the third country to authorise representatives of the Commission to carry out, where required, on-the-spot checks in that third country. Those checks shall be performed jointly with the competent authorities of the third country concerned.

*Article 7***Repeal**

Regulation (EC) No 620/2009 is repealed.

*Article 8***Transitional measures**

Licence applications submitted in accordance with Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 620/2009 during the first seven days of June 2012 shall be rejected on the date of entry into force of this Regulation. The securities lodged in relation with those applications shall be released.

*Article 9***Entry into force and application**

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

It shall apply from 1 July 2012.

However, Article 8 shall apply from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

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

▼ M2

## ANNEX I

**Tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef**

Order No	CN code	Description of goods	Tariff quota period	Tariff quota volume (in tonnes net weight)	Tariff quota duty
Period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018					
09.2201 <sup>(1)</sup>	ex 0201	Meat of bovine animals, fresh, chilled or frozen, that fulfils the requirements laid down in Annex II	From 1 July to 30 June	45 711	Zero
	ex 0202			of which:	
09.2202	ex 0206 10 95		From 1 July to 30 September	12 050	
09.2202	ex 0206 29 91		From 1 October to 31 December	11 161	
09.2202			From 1 January to 31 March	11 250	
09.2202			From 1 April to 30 June	11 250	
Periods from 1 July 2018					
09.2201 <sup>(1)</sup>	ex 0201	Meat of bovine animals, fresh, chilled or frozen, that fulfils the requirements laid down in Annex II	From 1 July to 30 June	45 000	Zero
	ex 0202			of which:	
09.2202	ex 0206 10 95		From 1 July to 30 September	11 250	
09.2202	ex 0206 29 91		From 1 October to 31 December	11 250	
09.2202			From 1 January to 31 March	11 250	
09.2202			From 1 April to 30 June	11 250	

<sup>(1)</sup> In accordance with Article 2(2), the benefit from the tariff quota can be granted only by applying for order number 09.2202 referring to the sub-tariff quotas.

*ANNEX II***Requirements for goods under the tariff quota referred to in Article 1**

1. Beef cuts are obtained from carcasses of heifers and steers<sup>(1)</sup> less than 30 months of age which have only been fed a diet, for at least the last 100 days before slaughter, containing not less than 62 % of concentrates and/or feed grain co-products on a dietary dry matter basis, that meets or exceeds a metabolisable energy content greater than 12,26 mega joules per one kilogram of dry matter.
2. The heifers and steers that are fed the diet described in point 1 shall be fed, on average, no less than 1,4 % of live body weight per day on a dry matter basis.
3. The carcass from which beef cuts are derived are evaluated by an evaluator employed by the national government who bases the evaluation, and a resulting classification of the carcass, on a method approved by the national government. The national government evaluation method, and its classifications, must evaluate expected carcass quality using a combination of carcass maturity and palatability traits of the beef cuts. Such an evaluation method of the carcass shall include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of the maturity characteristics of colour and texture of the longissimus dorsi muscle and bone and cartilage ossification, as well as an evaluation of expected palatability traits including a combination of the discrete specifications of intramuscular fat and firmness of the longissimus dorsi muscle.
4. The cuts shall be labelled in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>(2)</sup>.
5. The indication 'High Quality Beef' may be added to the information on the label.

<sup>(1)</sup> ► **M1** For the purposes of these requirements, heifers and steers are 'bovine animals', as defined in point 1 of Part IV of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007, which correspond, respectively, to categories E and C, as defined in Part A of Annex V to that Regulation. ◀

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 204, 11.8.2000, p. 1.

▼ B

## ANNEX III

1. Exporter (name and address)	2. Certificate No	ORIGINAL	
4. Consignee (name and address)	3. Issuing authority		
6. Means of transport			
7. Marks, numbers, number and kind of packages; description of goods	8. Gross weight (kg)	9. Net weight (kg)	
10. Net weight (in words)			
11. CERTIFICATION BY THE ISSUING AUTHORITY  I hereby certify that the beef described in this certificate complies with the specification shown overleaf.  <div style="text-align: right;">Place: ..... Date: .....</div>  <div style="text-align: right;">Signature and stamp (or printed seal) .....</div>			

To be completed either by typewriter or by hand in block capitals.