
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 (“the principal Regulations”). The Regulations make provision (in regulations 3 and 7 and the Schedule) for the enforcement and execution of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 577/97 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2991/94 laying down standards for spreadable fats and of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1898/87 on the protection of designations used in the marketing of milk and milk products, as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1278/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2181/97.

The subject matter of the detailed Commission rules is briefly indicated in column 3 of the substituted Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations. Article 5a of the Commission Regulation contains a transitional provision in respect of trade marks registered in Austria, Finland or Sweden prior to 1st January 1995 and using the sales description “butter”.

These Regulations also make a few technical and drafting amendments (regulations 4(a), 5(a) and 6) and some consequential amendments (regulations 4(b) and 5(b)).

Use of the designation “butter” is also restricted by Article 3 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1898/87 (O.J. No. L182, 3.7.87, p. 36), which is enforced by the Milk and Milk Products (Protection of Designations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1990 (S.R. 1990 No. 103 as amended by S.R. 1991 No. 203).