

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE OLIVE OIL (MARKETING STANDARDS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2006

2006 No. 3367

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1 These Regulations update the references in the Olive Oil (Marketing Standards) Regulation 2003 (SI 2003/2577 “the 2003 Regulations”) to reflect the latest changes to the related European Community legislation.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

3.1 None

4. Legislative Background

4.1 Commission Regulation 865/2004 replaced Regulation 136/66 (on the common organisation for fats and oils) and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1019/2002 on marketing standards for olive oil regulating the Community market in olive oils and establishing marketing standards for olive oil. The Olive Oil (Marketing Standards) (Amendments) Regulations 2006 ensure that the references in the 2003 Regulations to the related Community legislation are up to date.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

5.1 This instrument applies to Great Britain.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

7.1 The 2003 Regulations provide for the enforcement of EU legislation establishing marketing standards for the retail sale of olive oil.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1019/2002 provides for a system designating certain optional references i.e.. fruity, bitter, sweet etc., based on the results of a method of organoleptic analysis provided for in Annex XII to Regulation (EEC) No. 2568/91.

To expand the very small number of attributes listed, the International Olive Oil Council has developed an evaluation method to include more exhaustive vocabulary for extra virgin olive oil with a designation of origin status. The date has been extended to allow work on virgin olive oil without a designation of origin status to be completed.

8. Impact

8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

9. Contact

Sian Oliver-Gay at the Department for Food and Rural Affairs Tel: 0207 238 1033 or e-mail: sian.oliver-gay@defra.gsi.gov.uk can answer any queries regarding the instrument.