

RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY

Lancaster House, Hampshire Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7YH

16 October 2015

NOTICE TO TRADERS 22/15

Private Storage Aid: Butter

Introduction

- 1 The European Commission has adopted proposals to provide additional assistance to the dairy sector following the ban on imports of certain dairy products from the EU into Russia.
- 2 Private Storage Aid (PSA) for Butter opened from September 2014.

Scheme rules

- 3 You must be VAT registered in the Member State in which you are making your application and you must submit a copy of your VAT registration certificate.

Your application must meet the scheme rules.

Each application must be for a minimum of 1 tonne and the whole lot must be entered into PSA on the same day. Amounts above the minimum, need not be in whole tonnes.

Your application will only apply to products fully placed in storage.

The packaging should be marked with the production batch number, net weight and indicate the place and date of manufacture.

You must either mark contract numbers and the date of entry into the scheme on each individual unit or record this information in a store register.

The butter must not have been subject to a previous PSA storage contract.

Your store must have been approved by Agency inspectors. There must be a suitable room for tempering and sampling cartons.

Specific conditions for Butter

- 4 Butter must have been produced during the 60 days preceding the day of application, be of homogenous composition and quality and produced in a single factory.

Bulk butter must be put into packages of 25 kg in containers which are clean, free of odour and of a quality and strength suitable for storage of butter.

Butter in retail packs must be packed to a standard size in cardboard cartons.

Butter may be unsalted or salted and must have a composition of:

- Minimum butterfat content by weight of 80%
- Maximum milk solids non-fat content by weight of 2%
- Maximum water content by weight of 16%

It must have been produced from cream obtained directly and exclusively from cows' milk produced in the Union.

You must keep the butter in the scheme for at least 90 days and no more than 210 days.

The Commission may reduce or extend these storage periods if the market situation changes.

Storage aid is:

- 18.93€ per tonne of storage for fixed storage costs
- 0.28€ per tonne per day of contractual storage

Storing in another Member State

- 5 We will supply confirmation of origin if you want to store butter under private storage arrangements in another Member State. Please refer to Commission Regulation (EC) 826/2008 as amended.

We will not sample butter destined for storage under the scheme in another Member State. This is carried out where storage is undertaken.

Applying for this scheme

- 6 Before applying for this scheme please read 'Scheme Leaflet Number 1' which can be found on Gov.uk.

You must submit a 'Storage Contract for Private Storage Aid' and a 'Notification of Package Numbers' form. Copies of both forms are on Gov.uk.

You must assign a unique contract number in the following format:

PSB/trader number/four digits starting 0001

Your contract numbers should run sequentially.

Regulatory Background

- 7 The regulations applicable are Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 947/2014 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 826/2008, as amended.

You can access the Official Journals electronically by visiting the Commission's website <http://www.eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>. We are not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the Europa website. While every care has been taken in producing this guidance, the regulations as published are definitive.

Questions

- 11 If you have any questions or would like more information about this notice, please contact the Operations team 0191 226 5851 or 0191 226 5064

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