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Π

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration

(Case COMP/M.6489 — Saint-Gobain/Trakya/Sisecam/JV)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 91/01)

On 21 March 2012, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/competition/ mergers/cases/). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm) under document number 32012M6489. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates (1)

27 March 2012

(2012/C 91/02)

1 euro =

	Currency	Exchange rate		Currency	Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,3333	AUD	Australian dollar	1,2681
PY	Japanese yen	110,57	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,3233
OKK	Danish krone	7,4357	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	10,3525
GBP	Pound sterling	0,83590	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,6203
EK	Swedish krona	8,8935	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,6744
HF	Swiss franc	1,2056	KRW	South Korean won	1 511,85
SK	Iceland króna	_,	ZAR	South African rand	10,1035
JOK	Norwegian krone	7,5710	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	8,3974
GN	ũ	1,9558	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,5125
	Bulgarian lev		IDR	Indonesian rupiah	12 208,57
ZK	Czech koruna	24,603	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,0746
IUF	Hungarian forint	291,80	PHP	Philippine peso	57,260
.TL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	RUB	Russian rouble	38,6650
VL	Latvian lats	0,6984	THB	Thai baht	40,946
LN	Polish zloty	4,1367	BRL	Brazilian real	2,4271
ON	Romanian leu	4,3725	MXN	Mexican peso	16,8782
RY	Turkish lira	2,3809	INR	Indian rupee	67,6980

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

COURT OF AUDITORS

Special Report No 2/2012 'Financial instruments for SMEs co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund'

(2012/C 91/03)

The European Court of Auditors hereby informs you that Special Report No 2/2012 'Financial instruments for SMEs co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund' has just been published.

The report can be accessed for consultation or downloading on the European Court of Auditors' website: http://www.eca.europa.eu

A hard copy version of the report may be obtained free of charge on request to the Court of Auditors:

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V

(Announcements)

OTHER ACTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Publication of an application pursuant to Article 6(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 510/2006 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs

(2012/C 91/04)

This publication confers the right to object to the application pursuant to Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 510/2006 (¹). Statements of objection must reach the Commission within six months from the date of this publication.

SINGLE DOCUMENT

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 510/2006 'PÂTÉ DE CAMPAGNE BRETON' EC No: FR-PGI-0005-0879-23.05.2011 PGI (X) PDO ()

1. Name:

'Pâté de Campagne Breton'

2. Member State or Third Country:

France

3. Description of the agricultural product or foodstuff:

3.1. Type of product:

Class 1.2. Meat products (cooked, salted, smoked, etc.)

3.2. Description of product to which the name in (1) applies:

Pâté de Campagne Breton' is a pure pork pâté made from pigmeat and pig offal. It must contain the following meat ingredients: skinned throats (≥ 25 %), liver (≥ 20 %), cooked rinds (≥ 5 %) and fresh onions (≥ 5 %). The meat ingredients and the onions must be fresh.

Pâté de Campagne Breton' is composed of several large, coarsely minced pieces distributed uniformly throughout a slice. Its colour is darkish, its texture firm and it has a pronounced taste of meat, liver and onions.

In addition to the ingredients obligatorily present in 'Pâté de Campagne Breton', non-meat ingredients represent a maximum of 15 % of the total mass used, onions excluded: water (in all its forms), broth

 \leq 5 %, sugars (saccharose, dextrose, lactose) \leq 1 %, fresh whole eggs, fresh egg whites \leq 2 % by weight of dry matter/stuffing, flour, starches \leq 3 %, ascorbic acid and sodium ascorbate (max. 0,03 % of the total mass used), jelly and pig's G gelatin, salt: \leq 2 %, pepper: \leq 0,3 %, other spices (nutmeg, garlic, shallot, parsley, thyme, laurel), ciders and apple-based spirits (eau-de-vie, lambig, etc.), Chouchen, sodium or potassium nitrite, plain caramel for the browning.

The following ingredients, taken together, must not exceed 1,7 % of the total mass used: jelly and pig's G gelatin, nutmeg, garlic, shallot, parsley, thyme, laurel, ciders and apple-based spirits (eau-de-vie, lambig, etc.), Chouchen, sodium or potassium nitrite.

During production, the diameter of the chopped pieces is determined according to the size of the pâtés in order to achieve a satisfying appearance, regardless of the slice size:

- For packaging sizes ≥ 200 g => diameter of pieces ≥ 8 mm;
- For packaging sizes ≤ 200 g => diameter of pieces ≥ 6 mm.

The pieces are then mixed with the fine stuffing consisting of the minced meat and non-meat ingredients. The fats may be scalded and added warm to the stuffing. The stuffing is then packed and cooked in the oven or aseptically canned (packed in a metal can, a glass bowl or a jar).

In the case of products that are presented fresh, the preparation is covered with a fresh pig's caul and cooked in the oven in order to obtain a characteristic crust. The preserved pâtés are browned in the oven until a brown crust forms and then set and sterilised.

3.3. Raw materials (for processed products only):

For meat raw materials: 'Pâté de Campagne Breton IGP' is made from pigmeat from breeds entered in the herd books or herd breeding records kept by the Pork Selection Bodies approved by the French Ministry for Agriculture. Animals of the same breeds bred under selection or cross-breeding schemes whose aims are compatible with those of the French herd book are also eligible.

This registration criterion makes it possible to exclude from supply sources animals that carry unfavourable genetic traits (e.g. susceptibility to stress) and only select those which meet a certain number of quality criteria, as defined by the Pork Selection Bodies, such as, for example, the water and fat content. The breeds thus registered constitute the quality basis of the meats (lean, hard fat, rind, edible parts of the head, heart) used in the production of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'.

The meats used in the production of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' must derive from pig carcasses weighing more than 80 kilogrammes. Carcasses that are too light and of low nutritional and technological quality are excluded.

In order to limit stress, which is detrimental to the quality of meat and fat, there must be a minimum waiting time of two hours between the animal being unloaded at the abattoir and it being slaughtered.

3.4. Feed (for products of animal origin only):

The specification does not mention any special requirements.

3.5. Specific steps in production that must take place in the defined geographical area:

The production of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' is carried out in the geographical area.

3.6. Specific rules concerning slicing, grating, packaging, etc.:

'Pâté de Campagne Breton' is presented:

- either fresh and packed in a terrine, under film or a modified atmosphere or under vacuum, or

- fresh and cut at the place of production, or
- fresh, sliced and packed under film or a modified atmosphere or under vacuum for self-service sale, or
- aseptically canned and packed in a glass bowl, a metal can or a jar.

Its weight varies between 40 g and 10 kg.

3.7. Specific rules concerning labelling:

The labelling must include the following elements: the name of the PGI, 'Pâté de Campagne Breton', the name and address of the certifying body and, if applicable, its certified collective mark pursuant to the rules governing its use as well as the European Union's PGI logo.

4. Concise definition of the geographical area:

The geographical area is the traditional production area of this product. It includes the total areas of the following departments: Côtes-d'Armor, Finistère, Ille-et-Vilaine, Loire-Atlantique and Morbihan.

5. Link with the geographical area:

5.1. Specificity of the geographical area:

Historic Brittany corresponds to the traditional production area of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'. Brittany has a centuries-long charcuterie-making tradition. In the days of Ducal Brittany in the 16th century, Breton families slaughtered their pigs and made their own cured meats.

Bretons have made use of this special feature in the production of a wide variety of charcuterie products, in particular 'Pâté de Campagne Breton', which made it possible to avoid wasting offal and meat leftovers from the cutting of a pig.

5.2. Specificity of the product:

The specificity of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' is based on a specific quality and special know-how as well as on the product's reputation.

A. Specific quality

The liver, the throat, the rind and occasionally the edible parts of the head or the heart were among the ingredients of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'. The liver, which was considered a fine part of the animal, gives the pâté its taste, colour, unctuousness and special flavour. Throats, cooked rinds and onions are three other indispensable traditional ingredients of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton', which also contribute to the product's specific organoleptic characteristics. The onions, found in most traditional Breton recipes, are used for seasoning.

The liver, lean meat and fat used in the product must be minced coarsely. The presence of large pieces of meat has to do with the production methods used formerly. Today, in order to preserve this special feature, charcuterie producers must master the mincing method in order to obtain pieces with a large diameter.

The presence of a caul on top of the pâté, formerly used to shape the filling and protect the product, is still an obligatory feature of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' presented fresh, in order to preserve its traditional appearance.

This makes it possible to obtain specific organoleptic characteristics: a firm and crispy texture, a pronounced taste of meat, cooked pork, liver and onions.

B. Another characteristic: special know-how

The ancient practice was to use the meats immediately after the pig was cut. Formerly, the mechanical tools (meat axes, knives) used to cut the pig and the meats resulted in large pieces and therefore in a coarsely minced pâté de campagne.

'Pâté de Campagne Breton' used to be cooked in the baker's or village's bread oven, in open dishes called 'plats sabots' or 'casse à pâté' or in receptacles. Cooking in a dry oven in open dishes causes the sugars to caramelise and provokes reactions that contribute to the brown colour of the crust. Prior to cooking, the pâté was also covered with a pig's caul intended to smoothen, shape and protect the preparation. It prevented the stuffing from running out and the product from drying. 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' owes its specificities to its production method, which has been passed on from generation to generation in the charcuterie trade and is officially recognised, as shown by the fact that a special definition of it is included in the Code des usages de la Charcuterie, de la Salaison et des Conserves de Viandes, under the category 'Pâté de campagne supérieur'.

C. A reputation

In line with the tradition of family-based production, the cottage-industry production of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' has been maintained over the years. In olden times, this home-made dish was prepared after the 'Fest an oc'h', a feast held in connection with the sacrifice of pigs.

True to its reputation, 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' has an important place in the inventory of France's culinary heritage.

For more than 30 years, Brittany's industrial sectors have worked together to perpetuate the reputation and specificity of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'. It is a charcuterie product that is appreciated by distributors and consumers alike.

Brittany's fish canning industry developed strongly at the end of the 19th century. Soon these companies started preserving other foods too by canning them aseptically. In fact, 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' was canned aseptically for the first time several decades ago. Nowadays, consumers appreciate both fresh and aseptically canned 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'.

5.3. Causal link between the geographical area and the quality or characteristics of the product (for PDO) or a specific quality, the reputation or other characteristic of the product (for PGI):

'Pâté de Campagne Breton' derives from a long tradition of pig breeding and from the processing of pigs in their breeding place. Very early on, Brittany's agricultural system started focusing on breeding, in particular on the breeding of pigs in each holding.

In this way producers learned to process all of the pieces of meat at their disposal. As production started immediately after the animal was cut, the freshness of the product was guaranteed at a time when meat preservation methods were limited.

Traditionally, all the edible parts of the pig were used, which gave the product a particular texture and taste. The use of livers, considered a fine part of the pig at the beginning of the 20th century, soon became one of the principal characteristics of 'Pâté de Campagne Breton', giving it a rosy colour and a very specific taste.

Producers made use of the extensive range of vegetables grown locally by introducing onions to 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'. The presence of onions contributes to the product's particular taste, because during cooking, the fruity taste of the onions comes to the fore and complements the meaty taste perfectly.

'Pâté de Campagne Breton' results from the know-how of the producers, who have succeeded in giving the product special characteristics. In addition to the ingredients used, the coarse mincing of the meat pieces makes it easy to identify the product when it is sliced. The brown crust is linked definitively to the product through a traditional cooking process in communal ovens.

As regards the pâté's reputation, a number of works classify 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' as a traditional Breton product or give its recipe. Several Breton guides, such as 'Le Finistère gourmand 1997/1998', contain references to the many Breton specialities and give praise in particular to 'Pâté de Campagne Breton'. Similarly, the 'Terroir de Bretagne' guide praises the Breton charcuterie tradition: '(...) Forty, even fifty, kilos of "Pâté de Campagne Breton" are produced every week by a countryside charcuterie-maker. Each producer protects carefully his own recipe, although all adhere to the following basic proportions. 1/3 offal and 2/3 throat (...)'. 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' is mentioned in a number of old and new cookbooks:

- Gastronomie bretonne d'hier et d'aujourd'hui (S. Morand, 1965);
- Les cuisines de France Bretagne (M. Raffael et D. Lozambard, 1990);
- Tout est bon dans le cochon (J. C. Frentz, C. Vence, 1988);
- L'inventaire du patrimoine culinaire de la France, Bretagne Produits du terroir et recettes traditionnelles (CNAC, 1994);
- Le bottin gourmand 1996;
- La France des saveurs, Gallimard 1997;
- Vivre ici, hors Bretagne 1994.

Therefore the product's reputation is well linked to its name and attributable to the geographical area.

These elements together make it very easy to distinguish 'Pâté de Campagne Breton' from other pâtés and guarantee a typical production anchored in the product's region of origin.

Reference to publication of the specification:

(Article 5(7) of Regulation (EC) No 510/2006)

https://www.inao.gouv.fr/fichier/CDCIGPPatedecampagnebretonQCE12102011.pdf

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