

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/N/BEL/15  
12 December 2001

(01-6307)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: French

## NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

<b>1. Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>BELGIUM</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Ministry of Small Firms and Traders and Agriculture DG 4 WTC III – Boulevard Simon Bolivar 30 – 8 <sup>th</sup> floor B – 1000 Brussels TP: +32 2 208 38 65 TF: +32 2 208 38 66 <b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</b>
<b>3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], other:</b>
<b>4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Organic fertilizers, organic soil ameliorators and culture substrates containing animal by-products.
<b>5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> Royal Order amending the Royal Order of 7 January 1998 on trade in fertilizers, soil ameliorators and culture substrates.
<b>6. Description of content:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Article 1 specifies which firms are required to be licensed in the fertilizer, soil amelioration and culture substrates sector.</li><li>- Articles 2, 6, and 7 and Annex II set forth the mandatory health standards for all animal by-products used in the manufacture of organic fertilizers.</li><li>- Articles 3, 4 and 5 lay down the following labelling requirement: "Contains animal protein. Prohibited for use on grassland".</li></ul> <b>Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:</b> <p>Some organic fertilizers are made from animal by-products; moreover, survival in the soil of agents responsible for transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) cannot be excluded; it is therefore necessary to specify the sanitary rules applicable to such products in order to control the spread of the disease.</p>
<b>8. Relevant documents:</b>
<b>9. Proposed date of adoption:</b> } <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> } 60 days
<b>10. Final date for comments:</b>
<b>11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [ X ] or address, telephone and fax numbers and E-mail and Web site addresses, if available, of another body:</b>