

WRITTEN QUESTION P-4382/07
by Giuseppe Castiglione (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Application for PGI registration of balsamic vinegar of Modena

In the Official Journal of the European Union of 6 July 2007¹, an application was published for 'balsamic vinegar of Modena' to be recognised as having protected geographical indication, pursuant to Article 6(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 510/2006².

Under the provisions of Article 5(5), fifth subparagraph, of that regulation, the Member State is required to 'ensure that the version of the specification on which its favourable decision is based is published, and assure electronic access to the specification'.

The fact is that the version of the specification reproduced in the Official Journal of 6 July 2007 has never been published in Italy, nor is it endorsed by all of those who submitted the initial application for registration of the PGI in question.

Has the Commission examined the application for PGI registration of balsamic vinegar of Modena in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 510/2006?

If so, why did it not discover that the specification relating to the application had never been published in Italy?

Is the Commission aware that objections to this application have been lodged with the relevant Italian courts, with the result that pursuit of the application procedure at either national or Community level would constitute a legal impediment?

¹ OJ C 152, 6.7.2007, p. 18

² OJ L 93, 31.3.2006, p. 12