

This volume is part of the research project of national research (PRIN 2002) "European rules and regulations in the Common Agricultural Policy and in food law" from 2002/2003. The authors are from the University della Tuscia - Viterbo.

EUROPEAN FOOD LAW

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ISBN 978-88-12-30432-9

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CEDAM

CASA EDITRICE-DOTT. ANTONIO MILANI

2012

This volume is part of the research project of national interest (PRIN 2008) "European rules and institutions in the Common agricultural policy and in food law" prot. 2008M2C4NR_005, unit head Università della Tuscia – Viterbo.

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PROPRIETÀ LETTERARIA RISERVATA

LUIGI COSTANTINO - FERNANDO ALBISINI

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ISBN 978-88-13-30835-3

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Stampato in Italia - Printed in Italy

Rotolito Lombarda - Via Sondrio, 3 - Seggiano di Pioltello (MI)

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CHAPTER XXIV

FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS

Ilaria Trapè – Pamela Lattanzi

SUMMARY: 1. Introduction. – 2. The common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings. – 3. The discipline of additives – 4. The discipline of flavourings. - 5. The discipline of enzymes – 6. The contaminants – 7. Maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs – 8. Maximum residue levels of pesticides and of veterinary medicinal products in foodstuffs of animal origin and migration limit for packaging – 9. Controls, sampling and analytical methods.

1. Introduction

The first decades of the Community food policies have been characterized by a series of measures affecting the regulation of production and trade of food, which only indirectly had proper food purposes (Borghi 2005).

The few Community normative provisions related to food safety needs arose from the conviction that the dangers to the consumer could arise from the use of plant-protection products and pesticides (the first directive on residues of plant-protection products on fruit and vegetables is dated 1976).

Community standards are flanked by numerous national rules on production and trade in food not included in Annex I to the Treaty, requiring harmonization, very difficult to achieve due to the unanimity required by the system for approving directives of approximation.