

the third country directive specifying details for slaughtering and meat processing facilities as well as the regulation banning the use of growth hormones in livestock feeding.

- iv) In this area there is some evidence that the new EC standards could assume an increased role as international standards. This could adversely affect Canadian meat exports to third countries e.g., Japan.

c) Plant Health

Scope

Discussions in Brussels on plant health arrangements after 1992 have not progressed very far; much of the Commission's thinking is still in very general terms and there is a long way to go before the precise shape of the eventual arrangements emerges.

The basis of the present Community regime is that certain plant pests and diseases are prohibited for entry to any Member State. These are referred to as "quarantine" pests. A list of pre-export requirements designed to prevent transmission of these pests and diseases is laid down in Community legislation and the exporting plant health authority issues certificates to give the importing authority assurance that these requirements have been complied with. They apply to all planting material and a wide range of plant products, wood and wood products, fruit, seeds, vegetables and cut flowers.

In its approach to regulating trade through, a system of plant health certificates, the Community is generally following the regulatory pattern ("plant passport") adopted for international trade under the International Plant Protection Convention. The move to a single internal Community market means, however, the removal of barriers to trade at the frontiers between Member States. This does not mean the removal of all regulation of trade, for plant health or for other purposes. It does mean, however, that regulation of trade will be seen on a Community-wide rather than a national basis.

In 1987, the Commission set out for the Council of Ministers its thinking on the strategy for developing plant health controls within a single market. It described the objective as to reconcile the establishment of free circulation of plants and plant material with the prevention of the introduction or spread of harmful organisms into areas where they are not established. To facilitate free circulation of