NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Information communicated by Member States regarding State aid granted under Commission Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid to small and medium-sized enterprises active in the production of agricultural products and amending Regulation (EC) No 70/2001

(2008/C 210/04)

XA Number: XA 133/08

Member State: Italy

Region: Marche

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving individual aid: Sostegno ad investimenti realizzati dalle cooperative agricole e dalle cooperative sociali che operano nel settore agricolo e forestale

Legal basis:

— L.R. n. 07/2005, art. 4, comma 2

— Deliberazione della Giunta regionale delle Marche n. 93 del 28.1.2008 — «Programma annuale 2008 della legge regionale 23 febbraio 2005, N. 7 — Promozione della cooperazione per lo sviluppo rurale» — Paragrafo 1 dell'allegato

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:

The amount committed in the regional budget for 2008 for implementing the measures planned under this aid scheme totals EUR 150 000 together with any amount left over from the implementation of the 2006 working programme.

Thereafter this amount will be determined by the respective annual budget laws

Maximum aid intensity:

The gross aid intensity must not exceed 40 % of eligible expenses (50 % in less-favoured areas).

The investment for which funding is awarded may not exceed EUR 50 000.

The maximum amount of aid granted to an individual enterprise must not exceed EUR 400 000 over any period of three financial years, or EUR 500 000 if the enterprise is located in a less favoured area or in an area referred to in Article 36(a)(i), (ii) or (iii) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, as designated by Member States in accordance with Articles 50 and 94 thereof

Date of implementation: Starting from 2008 and in any event following confirmation by the Commission that it has received this summary information

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 31.12.2013

Objective of aid: Pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006, this aid scheme is intended for/aimed at SMEs to cut production costs, improve and diversify production activities, enhance product quality, protect and improve the environment and animal hygiene and health conditions

Beneficiaries:

1. B-type social cooperatives entered in the official register of social cooperatives established by Regional Law No 34 of 18 December 2001 operating in the agricultural sector,

2. agricultural cooperatives and consortia thereof qualified as professional farmers (*IAP*)

Sector(s) concerned: Agriculture

Name and address of granting authority: Regione Marche

Website:

www.agri.marche.it/Aree tematiche/aiuti di stato/Sostegno ad investimenti realizzati dalle cooperative agricole e dalle cooperative sociali che operano nel settore agricolo e forestale.pdf

Other information:

Eligible expenditure and aid beneficiaries will be established on the basis of the methods and priorities indicated in paragraph 1 of the Annex to Decision of the Regional Executive No 93 of 28 January 2008 — 2008 Annual Programme — of Regional Law No 7 of 23 February 2005 concerning the promotion of cooperation for rural development ('Programma annuale 2008 della legge regionale 23 febbraio 2005, N. 7 — Promozione della cooperazione per lo sviluppo rurale'), which is the legal basis for the aid scheme. Its final text will be transmitted to the Commission immediately after its approval.

Furthermore, we guarantee that any aid concerning the forestry sector will only be implemented through Regulation (EC) No 1998/2006 of 15 December 2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty to *de minimis* aid, and that aid to agrifood and agroindustrial cooperatives are excluded, as specifically provided for in the abovementioned Draft Decision of the Regional Executive, which is the legal basis of the present aid scheme

XA Number: XA 156/08

Member State: Italy

Region: Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta

Title of aid scheme: Conservazione di paesaggi e fabbricati rurali tradizionali

Legal basis: Art. 51 del titolo III (Disciplina degli interventi regionali in materia di agricoltura e di sviluppo rurale. Modificazioni alle leggi regionali 16 novembre 1999, n. 36, e 28 aprile 2003, n. 18) della legge regionale 12 dicembre 2007, n. 32 «Disposizioni per la formazione del bilancio annuale e pluriennale della Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta (Legge finanziaria per gli anni 2008/2010). Modificazioni di leggi regionali.» e successive modificazioni e integrazioni

Planned annual expenditure under the scheme: EUR 7 million

Maximum aid intensity:

Considering that the region as a whole is a 'mountain area', within the meaning of Article 36(a)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the maximum aid intensity is as follows:

(a) 50 % of eligible expenses to conserve the heritage features of productive assets on farms, including design costs and fees, where the investment entails an increase in the production capacity of the farm. This limit may be increased by a further 10 percentage points if the initiative is carried out by young farmers within a five year period after setting-up;

(b) 75 % of eligible expenses to conserve the heritage features of productive assets on farms, including design costs and fees, provided the investment does not entail any increase in the production capacity of the farm;

(c) 100 % of additional expenses caused by the use of traditional material needed to preserve the architectural features of buildings, where the investment entails an increase in the production capacity;

(d) 100 % of eligible expenses to conserve the heritage features of archaeological or historic interest that are not productive assets on farms and for related design costs and fees. Where work is carried out by the beneficiary or its collaborators themselves on farm, aid may only be granted up to EUR 10 000 a year.

Where the aid is granted as an interest subsidy or in the form of a subsidised loan, the gross grant equivalent is calculated using the appropriate IT programme, which applies the reference rate as periodically determined by the Commission

Date of implementation: As from the publication of the registration number of the request for exemption on the website of the Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development

Duration of scheme: Under the scheme, aid may be granted until 31 December 2013 and for six months thereafter

Objective of aid:

This investment aid scheme is intended for the following objectives:

(a) to preserve access to high-mountain land for traditional transhumance;

(b) to preserve and improve the natural environment, hygiene conditions and animal welfare standards;

(c) to enhance production quality;

(d) to reduce production costs;

(e) to regenerate the historic, architectural and environmental heritage of agricultural value;

(f) to increase the production of alternative and renewable energy.

The following costs are eligible under the measure:

(a) operations to conserve the heritage features of archaeological, historic or environmental interest that are not productive assets on farms;

(b) operations to conserve the heritage features that are productive assets on farms;

(c) design costs and fees relating to the operations specified in points (a) and (b) above.

Reference to Community legislation: Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006

Sector(s) concerned: All agricultural sectors

Name and address of the granting authority:

Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta — Assessorato Agricoltura e risorse naturali — Dipartimento Agricoltura — Loc. Grande Charrière, 66 — I-11020 Saint-Christophe (Aosta)

Website:

http://www.regione.vda.it/gestione/sezioni_web/allegato.asp?pk_allegato=1287

XA Number: XA 157/08

Member State: Italy

Region: Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta

Title of aid scheme: Investimenti nelle aziende agricole

Legal basis: Art. 50 del titolo III (Disciplina degli interventi regionali in materia di agricoltura e di sviluppo rurale. Modificazioni alle leggi regionali 16 novembre 1999, n. 36, e 28 aprile 2003, n. 18) della legge regionale 12 dicembre 2007, n. 32 «Disposizioni per la formazione del bilancio annuale e pluriennale della Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta (Legge finanziaria per gli anni 2008/2010). Modificazioni di leggi regionali.» e successive modificazioni e integrazioni

Planned annual expenditure under the scheme: EUR 10 000 000

Maximum aid intensity:

Considering that the region as a whole is a 'mountain area' within the meaning of Article 36(a)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the maximum aid intensity is as follows:

(a) 50 % of eligible expenditure;

(b) 60 % of eligible expenditure for investments made by young farmers within five years of setting up;

(c) 75 % of eligible expenditure for the extra costs for applying specific rules for the protection and improvement of the environment, the improvement of hygiene conditions of livestock enterprises or the welfare of farm animals, to comply with new Community minimum requirements or go beyond Community minimum requirements in force; this percentage may not be applied for investments entailing an increase in production capacity.

The maximum aid intensity per beneficiary is EUR 500 000 per three financial years.

Where the aid is granted as an interest subsidy or in the form of a subsidised loan, the gross grant equivalent is calculated using the appropriate IT programme, which applies the reference rate as periodically determined by the Commission

Date of implementation: As from the publication of the registration number of the request for exemption on the website of the Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development

Duration of scheme: Aid may be granted under the present scheme until 31 December 2013 and for six months thereafter

Objective of aid:

The investment aid scheme is intended to support small and medium-sized agricultural holdings for the following secondary objectives:

(a) to reduce production costs;

(b) to enhance production quality;

(c) to preserve and improve the natural environment, hygiene conditions and animal welfare standards;

(d) to increase the production of alternative and renewable energy.

The following costs are eligible under the measure:

(a) purchase of equipment and machinery, including computer equipment, to improve, increase and protect agricultural production, up to their market value;

(b) construction, acquisition and improvement of immovable property;

(c) design expenses and fees and other general expenses related to points (a) and (b) above;

(d) purchase of land other than that intended for building up to 10 % of the eligible investment expenditure;

(e) construction of biogas production plants intended for self-consumption.

Aid must not be granted in respect of the following:

(a) the purchase of production rights, animals or annual plants;

(b) the planting of annual plants;

(c) drainage works or irrigation equipment and irrigation works, unless such investment leads to a reduction of previous water use of at least 25 %;

(d) simple replacement investments;

(e) the manufacture of products which imitate, or can be substituted for, milk and milk products.

Reference to Community legislation: Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006

Sector(s) concerned: All agricultural sectors

Name and address of the granting authority:

Regione autonoma Valle d'Aosta — Assessorato Agricoltura e risorse naturali — Dipartimento Agricoltura — Loc. Grande Charrière, 66 — I-11020 Saint-Christophe (Aosta)

Website:

http://www.regione.vda.it/gestione/sezioni_web/allegato.asp?pk_allegato=1287

XA Number: XA 158/08

Member State: United Kingdom

Region: Wales

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving individual aid: Wales Foot and Mouth Disease Compensation Scheme

Legal basis: Section 1 of the Welsh Development Agency Act 1975

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:

Year	Expenditure
2008	GBP 9 200 000

Maximum aid intensity: The aid will be limited to losses caused by disease for which an outbreak has been formally recognised by public authorities and will not exceed 100 % of the costs associated with dealing with the requirements of the scheme

Date of implementation: 11 April 2008

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Payment under the scheme will take the form of a headage based receipt to sheep producers in the Wales Less Favoured Area. The scheme will operate for the period it would take the Welsh Assembly Government to pay all eligible producers, estimated to be by June 2008. The UK authorities will notify the Commission when the scheme has closed

Objective of aid:

The proposed Scheme aims to offer a degree of compensation to sheep farmers in the Less Favoured Area of Wales for income losses arising from animal movement and export restrictions imposed across GB as a consequence to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in England. The aid will be limited to small and medium sized sheep producers in the Less Favoured Area. This area represents 80 per cent of the agricultural area of Wales.

The objective complies with Article 10(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006 where the aid must be limited to losses caused by diseases for which an outbreak has been formally recognised by public authorities

Eligible costs:

The underlying justification for the scheme is the assessment that movement restrictions imposed in Wales as a consequence of the foot and mouth disease outbreak in England has caused economic loss to the Welsh sheep sector of some GBP 19,6 million.

The proposed scheme will not exceed GBP 9,2 million. Aid will take the form of a payment of GBP 2 per sheep in the Less Favoured Area (LFA) of Wales. The payment rate has been calculated to avoid the risk of over-compensation of eligible sheep producers

Sector(s) concerned: Sheep producers in the Less Favoured Area of Wales that fit the criteria of small and medium sized enterprises

Name and address of the granting authority:

Welsh Assembly Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ
United Kingdom

Contact:

Mrs Terri Thomas
Tel. (44-029) 20 82 51 76
E-mail: terri.thomas@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Website:

http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/disease/footandmouth/fmdcompensationscheme/?lang=en

Signed and dated on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK competent authority)

XA Number: XA 178/08

Member State: Netherlands

Region: —

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving individual aid: Terra Madre Nederland 2008

Legal basis: Artikel 21.13 van de Wet tot vaststelling van de begrotingsstaten van het Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit (IXV) voor het jaar 2008

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: EUR 0,03 million of individual aid

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: 12 May 2008

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Until 31 December 2008

Objective of the aid: *Ad hoc* aid for a fair for small and medium-sized primary agricultural holdings

Sector(s) concerned: Small and medium-sized primary agricultural holdings (NACE Code: A — Agriculture, nature and forestry)

Name and address of the granting authority:

Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit
Postbus 20401
2500 EK Den Haag
Nederland

Website:

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116,1640848&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_document_id=110888&p_node_id=1042294&p_mode=BROWSE

Other information: The aid scheme complies with Article 15(2)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006. The aid is granted to the Association 'Slow Food Convivia in Nederland' and is not directly paid to producers. The objective of the fair is for all small and medium-sized agricultural holdings to exchange knowledge related to the (production of) typical local products by means of conferences and round-table discussions

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XA Number: XA 189/08

Member State: Finland

Region: Finland

Title of aid scheme or name of company receiving individual aid:

TSE-valvontaohjelma (TSE-testikustannusten korvaaminen nautojen, lampaiden ja vuohien osalta)

Program för övervakning av TSE, transmissibla spongiforma encefalopatier (ersättning för kostnader för TSE-test av nötkreatur, får och getter)

Legal basis:

Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

Maa- ja metsätalousministeriön asetus nautojen BSE-taudin vastustamisesta (6/EEO/2007)/Jord- och skogsbruksministeriets förordning om bekämpning av BSE i nötkreatur (6/VLA/2007)

Maa- ja metsätalousministeriön asetus lampaiden ja vuohien TSE-tautien vastustamisesta (32/EEO/2006, muut. 7/EEO/2007)/Jord- och skogsbruksministeriets förordning om bekämpning av TSE-sjukdomar hos får och getter (32/VLA/2006, ändrad ved 7/VLA/2007)

Maa- ja metsätalousministeriön asetus Elintarviketurvallisuusviraston maksullisista suoritteista (296/2006)/Jord- och skogsbruksministeriets förordning om Livsmedelssäkerhetsverkets avgiftsbelagda prestationer (296/2006)

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme: The budget for 2008 is EUR 4,17 million. The total budget for 2008-2013 is a maximum of EUR 25 million

Maximum aid intensity: 100 %

Date of implementation: 26 May 2008

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 31 December 2013

Objective of aid:

Limited to specific sectors.

The objective of the aid is to compensate the costs of TSE tests on cattle, sheep and goats in accordance with Article 16(g) of Regulation (EC) No 1857/2006

Sector(s) concerned:

NACE code

A 01.21 — Farming of cattle, dairy farming

A 01.22 — Farming of sheep, goats, horses, asses, mules and hinnies

Name and address of the granting authority:

Elintarviketurvallisuusvirasto Evira
Mustialankatu 3
FI-00790 Helsinki

Website:

http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kokoelma/2006/20060050.pdf

http://wwwb.mmm.fi/el/laki/d/default.html

Other information:

Aid intensity is 100 %, but a maximum of EUR 34,50/test.

The estimated costs of the aid scheme in 2008 are EUR 4,17 million (120 800 tests). The total budget for 2008-2013 is a maximum of EUR 25 million.

The aid does not involve direct payments to producers