

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2428/2000**of 31 October 2000****granting Portugal a derogation for the 2000/01 marketing year from Articles 1(1) and 20(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of production aid for olive oil**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation No 136/66/EEC of 22 September 1966 on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2702/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1638/98 of 20 July 1998 amending Regulation No 136/66/EEC on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats ⁽³⁾, and in particular Article 2(4) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84 of 17 July 1984 laying down general rules on the granting of aid for the production of olive oil and of aid to olive oil producer organisations ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1639/98 ⁽⁵⁾, and in particular Article 19 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 1 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 of 30 October 1998 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of production aid for olive oil for the 1998/99, 1999/2000 and 2000/01 marketing years ⁽⁶⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1273/1999 ⁽⁷⁾, stipulates that olive growers must lodge crop declarations before 1 December of each marketing year.

(2) Article 20(1) of that Regulation stipulates that producer organisations or, where appropriate, associations thereof must submit their members' crop declarations and any amendments thereto to the competent agency of the Member State concerned before 1 January of each marketing year.

(3) The geographical information system (GIS) in Portugal should be operational so that it can directly register crop declarations some weeks after 1 December 2000. It is necessary for the time limit for the lodging of crop

declarations by olive growers or by producer organisations and associations thereof for the 2000/01 marketing year to be postponed so that the Portuguese authorities can input the declarations into the GIS as they are lodged and deal immediately with any adjustments that are necessary. In view of the importance of the GIS for improving control operations, the time limits for lodging crop declarations for the 2000/01 marketing year in Portugal should therefore be postponed from 1 December 2000 to 31 January 2001 in the case of olive growers and from 1 January 2001 to 28 February 2001 in the case of producer organisations and associations thereof.

(4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Oils and Fats,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

By derogation from Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 olive growers in Portugal are hereby authorised to lodge crop declarations for their olive trees in production and the olive groves they manage as at 1 November of the marketing year in respect of which the declaration is made, no later than 31 January 2001 for the 2000/01 marketing year.

Article 2

By derogation from Article 20(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 producer organisations or, where appropriate, associations thereof in Portugal are hereby authorised to lodge members' crop declarations and any amendments thereto no later than 28 February 2001 for the 2000/01 marketing year.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply from 1 November 2000.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 172, 30.9.1966, p. 3025/66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 327, 21.12.1999, p. 7.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 32.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 208, 3.8.1984, p. 3.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 38.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 293, 31.10.1998, p. 50.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 151, 18.6.1999, p. 12.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 31 October 2000.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission
