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## Information and Notices

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## IV

(Notices)

## NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates <sup>(1)</sup>

27 September 2021

(2021/C 392/01)

1 euro =

Currency			Exchange rate		
Currency			Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,1698	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,4812
JPY	Japanese yen	129,74	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	9,1054
DKK	Danish krone	7,4360	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,6711
GBP	Pound sterling	0,85420	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,5840
SEK	Swedish krona	10,1738	KRW	South Korean won	1 382,04
CHF	Swiss franc	1,0850	ZAR	South African rand	17,6179
ISK	Iceland króna	150,10	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	7,5609
NOK	Norwegian krone	10,0655	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,5028
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	16 673,16
CZK	Czech koruna	25,443	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,8991
HUF	Hungarian forint	358,13	PHP	Philippine peso	59,881
PLN	Polish zloty	4,5955	RUB	Russian rouble	84,9955
RON	Romanian leu	4,9495	THB	Thai baht	39,276
TRY	Turkish lira	10,3471	BRL	Brazilian real	6,2187
AUD	Australian dollar	1,6129	MXN	Mexican peso	23,5043
			INR	Indian rupee	86,4025

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

# Commission notice on current State aid recovery interest rates and reference/discount rates applicable as from 1 October 2021

(Published in accordance with Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>)

(2021/C 392/02)

Base rates calculated in accordance with the Communication from the Commission on the revision of the method for setting the reference and discount rates (OJ C 14, 19.1.2008, p. 6.). Depending on the use of the reference rate, the appropriate margins have still to be added as defined in this communication. For the discount rate this means that a margin of 100 basispoints has to be added. The Commission Regulation (EC) No 271/2008 of 30 January 2008 amending Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 foresees that, unless otherwise provided for in a specific decision, the recovery rate will also be calculated by adding 100 basispoints to the base rate.

Modified rates are indicated in bold.

Previous table published in OJ C 340, 24.8.2021, p. 3.

From	To	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	UK
1.10.2021	...	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	<b>1,03</b>	-0,45	<b>0,03</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	<b>1,46</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,18</b>	-0,45	1,75	-0,01	-0,45	-0,45	0,17
1.9.2021	30.9.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	<b>0,82</b>	-0,45	0,04	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	<b>1,22</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,15	-0,45	1,75	<b>-0,01</b>	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,17</b>
1.7.2021	31.8.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	<b>0,60</b>	-0,45	0,04	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	<b>0,93</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,15	-0,45	1,75	0,01	-0,45	-0,45	0,15
1.6.2021	30.6.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	0,50	-0,45	0,04	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	0,80	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,15	-0,45	1,75	0,01	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,15</b>
1.5.2021	31.5.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	0,50	-0,45	0,04	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	0,80	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,15	-0,45	1,75	<b>0,01</b>	-0,45	-0,45	0,11
1.4.2021	30.4.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	<b>0,50</b>	-0,45	0,04	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	0,80	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,15	-0,45	<b>1,75</b>	-0,02	-0,45	-0,45	0,11
1.3.2021	31.3.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	0,44	-0,45	<b>0,04</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	0,80	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,15</b>	-0,45	2,07	-0,02	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,11</b>
1.2.2021	28.2.2021	-0,45	-0,45	0,00	-0,45	0,44	-0,45	<b>0,05</b>	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	0,22	0,80	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,19</b>	-0,45	2,07	<b>-0,02</b>	-0,45	-0,45	<b>0,12</b>
1.1.2021	31.1.2021	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,44</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,06</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,22</b>	<b>0,80</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,23</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>2,07</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>-0,45</b>	<b>0,15</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 140, 30.4.2004, p. 1.



## V

*(Announcements)*PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION  
POLICY

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.10375 — ArcelorMittal/Condesa Tubos)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure***(Text with EEA relevance)*

(2021/C 392/03)

1. On 13 September 2021, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- ArcelorMittal Aceralia Basque Holding, S.L. ('ArcelorMittal', Spain), a subsidiary of ArcelorMittal, S.A. ('ArcelorMittal Group', Luxembourg)
- Condesa Tubos, S.L. ('Condesa Tubos', Spain).

ArcelorMittal acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Condesa Tubos.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for ArcelorMittal and the ArcelorMittal Group: mining, manufacturing and distribution of various steel products to the automotive, construction, energy, packaging, appliances, and mining and by-products industries.
- for Condesa Tubos: manufacture of different types of small welded carbon steel tubes in three sites in Spain and one site in Germany.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(2)</sup> it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.10375 — ArcelorMittal/Condesa Tubos

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: [COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu)

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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**Prior notification of a concentration****(Case M.10247 — CVC/ Cooper)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2021/C 392/04)

1. On 17 September 2021, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- CVC Capital Partners SICAV-FIS S.A. ('CVC', Luxembourg),
- Cooper Consumer Health S.A.S. and its subsidiaries ('Cooper', France).

CVC acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Cooper.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of securities.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- CVC manages investment funds and platforms,
- Cooper produces and markets various self-care products used for diagnosis, prevention, treatment and enhancements.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

Case M.10247 CVC/ Cooper

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.10379 — HDT Automotive Solutions/Veritas)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 392/05)

1. On 17 September 2021, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- HDT Automotive Solutions LLC ('HDT', USA), controlled by ARDIAN Holding S.A.S. ('ARDIAN', France),
- 'Veritas Group', comprised of Veritas Aktiengesellschaft, Veritas Sachsen GmbH, Veritas Thüringen GmbH, (all from Germany, together 'Veritas Germany'), and Veritas Austria GmbH (Austria), Veritas Dunakiliti Kft. (Hungary), Veritas Automotive d.o.o. (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Veritas Otomotiv Sanayi Ltd. Sti. (Turkey), Veritas Automotive Systems (Kunshan) Co., Ltd., (China), Automotive Veritas de México S.A. de C.V., (Mexico), Veritas Servicios S.A. de C.V., (Mexico) (together 'Veritas International Subsidiaries').

HDT acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Veritas Group.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of assets and shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for HDT: Manufacture and supply of valve body devices, precision tubula assemblies and die casting products for the automotive industry to OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers,
- for Veritas Group: Supply of fluid technology, including fuel systems, emission systems, air cooling and fluid cooling; and polymer based components, including sealing & damping or other polymer solutions, to OEMs.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(2)</sup> it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.10379 — HDT Automotive Solutions/Veritas

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

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## OTHER ACTS

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Publication of an application for approval of an amendment, which is not minor, to a product specification pursuant to Article 50(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs**

(2021/C 392/06)

This publication confers the right to oppose the amendment application pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(1)</sup> within three months from the date of this publication.

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE PRODUCT SPECIFICATION OF TRADITIONAL SPECIALITIES GUARANTEED WHICH IS NOT MINOR

**Application for approval of an amendment in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012**

**‘HEUMILCH’/‘HAYMILK’/‘LATTE FIENO’/‘LAIT DE FOIN’/‘LECHE DE HENO’**

**EU No: TSG-AT-1035-AM01 – 25 February 2021**

**1. Applicant group and legitimate interest**

Name of the group: ARGE Heumilch Österreich  
Address: Grabenweg 68  
6020 Innsbruck  
ÖSTERREICH  
Telephone: +43 512345245  
Email address: office@heumilch.at

Statement on the legitimate interest of the group:

The application for an amendment is being submitted by the producer group that submitted the application for registration of ‘Haymilk’.

The indication of the designation ‘Haymilk’ in the languages of countries with a tradition of producing ‘Haymilk’ constitutes a commitment to the traditional production method and the traditional speciality guaranteed. In doing so, it helps strengthen the protected designation ‘Haymilk’, which also benefits the applicant group.

**2. Member State or Third Country**

Austria

**3. Heading in the product specification affected by the amendments**

- ☒ Name of product  
☐ Description of product

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

- ☐ Method of production
- ☐ Other [to be specified]

#### 4. Type of amendment(s)

- ☒ Amendment to product specification of registered TSG not to be qualified as minor in accordance with the fourth subparagraph of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012.

#### 5. Amendments

*Addition of the Slovenian designation for 'Haymilk':*

In point '3.1. Names to be registered' (in the product specification following the template in Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014, now point 1. 'Name(s) to be registered'), the Slovenian designation for 'Haymilk' has been added:

'Heumilch' (de)/'Haymilk' (en)/'Latte fieno' (it)/'Lait de foin' (fr)/'Leche de heno' (es)/'Seneno mleko' (sl)

Reason: As 'Haymilk' is produced in Slovenia following the traditional production method set out in the product specification, the Slovenian designation should also be protected.

#### PRODUCT SPECIFICATION OF A TRADITIONAL SPECIALITY GUARANTEED

**'Heumilch'/'Haymilk'/'Latte fieno'/'Lait de foin'/'Leche de heno'/'Seneno mleko'**

**EU No: TSG-AT-1035-AM01 – 25 February 2021**

**'Austria'**

#### 1. Name(s)

'Heumilch'/'Haymilk'/'Latte fieno'/'Lait de foin'/'Leche de heno'/'Seneno mleko'

#### 2. Type of product

Class 1.4. Other products of animal origin (eggs, honey, various dairy products except butter, etc.)

#### 3. Grounds for registration

##### 3.1. Whether the product:

- ☒ results from a mode of production, processing or composition corresponding to traditional practice for that product or foodstuff;
- ☐ is produced from raw materials or ingredients that are those traditionally used.

Haymilk production is the most natural form of milk production. The milk comes from animals on traditional, sustainable dairy farms. The key difference between standard milk and haymilk, and haymilk's traditional character, stems from the fact that as in the earliest form of milk production, animals are not fed fermented fodder. Since the 1960s, and due to mechanisation, the industrialisation of farming has increasingly relied upon the production of silage (fermented fodder), thus reducing fresh-fodder farming. Moreover, regulations forbid the use of animals and feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation. The feeding procedure is adapted to match seasonal changes: in the 'green-feeding period', animals are fed fresh grass and foliage and some hay and forms of feed permitted under point 4.2; in the winter period, animals are fed hay, or other forms of feed permitted under point 4.2.

##### 3.2. Whether the name:

- ☐ has been traditionally used to refer to the specific product;
- ☒ identifies the traditional character or specific character of the product.

#### 4. Description

##### 4.1. *Description of the product to which the name under point 1 applies, including its main physical, chemical, microbiological or organoleptic characteristics showing the product's specific character (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)*

Cow's milk in accordance with the applicable legislation.

##### 4.2. *Description of the production method of the product to which the name under point 1 applies that the producers must follow including, where appropriate, the nature and characteristics of the raw materials or ingredients used, and the method by which the product is prepared (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)*

Haymilk is produced according to traditional production conditions that comply with the 'Heumilchregulativ' (regulations on haymilk production). This form of milk is distinguished by rules forbidding the use of fermented fodder, such as silage, and rules forbidding the use of animals and feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation.

'Heumilchregulativ'

'Haymilk' is a form of cow's milk extracted from lactating cows, produced by dairy farmers who have undertaken to comply with the following criteria. No animals or feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation may be used.

The entire agricultural holding must be managed according to the rules of haymilk production.

- a) A holding can however be divided into clearly defined production units, which do not all have to be managed according to these rules. They must be divided according to distinct production sectors.
- b) If, pursuant to point (a), not all units of the holding are managed according to the rules of haymilk production, the operator must keep the animals used in haymilk production units separate from the animals used in the other units, and keep appropriate records to show the separation.

#### Permitted types of feed

- The animals are mainly fed fresh grass, leguminous plants and foliage during the 'green-feeding period', and hay in the winter period.
- The following are included and permitted as further roughage: green rapeseed, green maize, green rye and fodder beets, as well as hay, lucerne and maize pellets and similar types of feed.
- Roughage must make up at least 75 % of the yearly ration of dry feed.
- The following cereal crops are also permitted, in their conventional marketed form and in composites with bran, pellets, etc.: wheat, barley, oats, triticale, rye and maize.
- The following may also be used as feed: beans, field peas, lupins, oleaginous fruits, and extraction meal or cakes.

#### Forbidden types of feed

- The following types of feed are prohibited: silage (fermented fodder), moist hay and fermented hay.
- Animals may not be fed by-products from breweries, distilleries, fruit pressing, or other by-products from the food industry, such as wet brewer's grains or wet cuttings. Exception: dry cuttings and molasses as a by-product of sugar manufacturing, and dry protein feed produced during grain processing.
- Lactating animals may not be fed any form of wet fodder.
- Animals may not be fed products of animal origin (milk, whey, meat-and-bone meal, etc.), except for young cows, which may be fed milk and whey.
- Animals may not be fed garden waste, fallen fruit, potatoes or urea.

#### Fertilisation conditions

- The use of sewage sludge, sewage sludge products, or compost from municipal treatment plants, with the exception of green compost, is prohibited on all areas agriculturally exploited by the milk supplier.



- Milk suppliers must wait at least three weeks after manure spreading before use of land to graze livestock.

#### Use of chemical auxiliary substances

- Only the selective use of synthetic chemical pesticides under the expert supervision of agronomic specialists, and the targeting of specific sites in any of the green fodder areas of the dairy farm is permitted.
- Permitted fly sprays may be used in dairy stalls only when the lactating cows are absent.

#### Delivery prohibitions

- Milk may not be delivered as 'haymilk' within ten days after calving.
- When cows that have been fed silage (fermented fodder) are used, there must be a waiting period of at least 14 days.
- As regards alpine animals on their farms which have been fed silage (fermented fodder), either they must be fed silage-free food for 14 days before they are driven up to alpine pastures, or their milk can be classed as 'haymilk' only once they have spent 14 days on alpine pastures (owned by the haymilk supplier). No silage may be produced or used as feed on the alpine pasture.

#### Prohibition of genetically modified food and feed

- In order to preserve the traditional production of haymilk, no animals or feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation may be used.

#### Other regulations:

- No silage (fermented fodder) may be produced or stored.
- No film-wrapped round bales of any type may be produced or stored.
- No moist hay or fermented hay may be produced.

### 4.3. *Description of the key elements establishing the product's traditional character (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)*

#### Specific character

Haymilk is different from standard cow's milk on account of its special production conditions pursuant to point 4.2 of the 'Heumilchregulativ'.

Studies by Dr Ginzinger et al. of the Bundesanstalt für alpenländische Milchwirtschaft (Federal Agency for alpine dairy farming) in Rotholz, in 1995 and 2001, showed that 65 % of the silage-milk samples analysed had over 1 000 clostridia spores per litre. Analysis of milk delivered to a large cheese manufacturer showed that 52 % of the samples had over 10 000 clostridia spores per litre. Studies showed that 85 % of the silage-free haymilk samples analysed had fewer than 200 spores per litre, and 15 % of the samples contained between 200 and 300 spores per litre. Haymilk has a particularly low level of clostridia spores on account of special feeding methods. When hard cheese is manufactured from raw haymilk, there are fewer major problems regarding holes and flavour.

As part of the research project on 'the influence of silage on milk quality', the taste of milk from animals that had and had not been fed on silage was analysed (Ginzinger and Tschager, Bundesanstalt für alpenländische Milchwirtschaft, Rotholz, 1993). 77 % of the examined milk samples from hay-fed animals did not have taste problems. As regards milk samples from silage-fed animals (standard milk), only 29 % of the sampled milk was free from taste problems. There was also a significant difference between tests on milk from delivery lorry tanks. 94 % of the tests on silage-free haymilk had no taste problems. However, the proportion of silage-milk samples free from taste problems was only 45 %.

A thesis study at the University of Vienna (by Schreiner, Seiz and Ginzinger, 2011) proved that haymilk has approximately double the content of omega-3 fatty acids and conjugated linoleic acids when compared to standard milk, on account of the feeding based on roughage and pasture associated with that form of milk.

### Traditional character

Haymilk production and processing is as old as the tradition of dairy farming (dating back to around the 5th century BCE). In the Middle Ages, in the foothills of the Alps and the Tyrolean mountains, cheese was already being produced from haymilk on 'Schwaighöfe' (small-scale Alpine dairy farms). The word 'Schwaig' comes from Middle High German and denotes a special form of settlement and, in particular, farming in the Alpine region. 'Schwaighof' farms were often established as permanent settlements by land-owners and their cattle stock was primarily used for dairy farming (particularly for cheese production). They have existed in the Tyrol and Salzburg since the twelfth century. In the mountainous areas, haymilk was originally linked to the production of hard cheese from raw milk. As early as around 1900, laws (milk regulations) were already passed regarding silage-free milk suitable for the production of hard cheese. In Austria, such laws formed the basis of the 'Milchregulative' (milk regulations) of the provinces of Vorarlberg, the Tyrol and Salzburg around 1950. In 1975 these 'Milchregulative' were harmonised and adopted by the Austrian dairy farming body as the rules on milk suitable for the production of hard cheese (see: '*Bestimmungen über die Übernahme von hartkäsetauglicher Milch*' (rules on milk suitable for producing hard cheese), Österreichische Milchwirtschaft Heft 14, Beilage 6 Nr. 23c, 21 July 1975). The former dairy farming authority in Austria regulated certain production areas known as 'silage-free zones' up until 1993, in order to preserve the raw material 'haymilk' (also known as 'silage-free milk' and 'milk suitable for the production of hard cheese') for cheese manufacturers reliant on raw milk. In 1995, the silage-free zone for haymilk was further protected by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Water and Environment Management in its 'non-use of silage measure', contained in the 'special guidelines to promote an environmentally friendly, extensive form of agriculture that protects natural living space' (the Austrian programme for environmentally friendly agriculture, known as 'ÖPUL').

In alpine regions animals have always traditionally been fed according to the haymilk criteria. There are documents and certificates dating from 1544 charting alpine cheese production for the Wildschönauer Holzalpe alpine pasture in the Tyrol.

Since the start of the 1980s, some haymilk farmers have also been farming according to organic/ecological criteria.

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**Publication of an application for approval of an amendment, which is not minor, to a product specification pursuant to Article 50(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs**

(2021/C 392/07)

This publication confers the right to oppose the amendment application pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(1)</sup> within three months from the date of this publication.

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE PRODUCT SPECIFICATION OF TRADITIONAL SPECIALITIES GUARANTEED WHICH IS NOT MINOR

**Application for approval of an amendment in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012**

**‘SCHAF-HEUMILCH’/‘SHEEP’S HAYMILK’/‘LATTE FIENO DI PECORA’/‘LAIT DE FOIN DE BREBIS’/‘LECHE DE HENO DE OVEJA’**

**EU No: TSG-AT-2289-AM01 – 25 February 2021**

**1. Applicant group and legitimate interest**

Name of the group: ARGE Heumilch Österreich  
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Statement on the legitimate interest of the group:

The application for an amendment is being submitted by the producer group that submitted the application for registration of ‘Sheep’s Haymilk’.

The indication of the designation ‘Sheep’s Haymilk’ in the languages of countries with a tradition of producing ‘Sheep’s Haymilk’ constitutes a commitment to the traditional production method and the traditional speciality guaranteed. In doing so, it helps strengthen the protected designation ‘Sheep’s Haymilk’, which also benefits the applicant group..

**2. Member State or Third Country**

Austria

**3. Heading in the product specification affected by the amendments**

- ☒ Name of product
- ☐ Description of product
- ☒ Method of production
- ☐ Other. [to be specified]

**4. Type of amendment(s)**

- ☒ Amendment to product specification of registered TSG not to be qualified as minor in accordance with the fourth subparagraph of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

## 5. Amendments

### 5.1. Addition of the Slovenian designation for 'Sheep's Haymilk':

In point '1. Name(s) to be registered', the Slovenian designation for 'Haymilk' is added, together with an indication of the respective languages (de, en, it, fr, es, sl):

'Schaf-Heumilch' (de)/'Sheep's Haymilk' (en)/'Latte fieno di pecora' (it)/'Lait de foin de brebis' (fr)/'Leche de heno de oveja' (es)/'Ovčje seneno mleko' (sl)

Reason: As 'Sheep's Haymilk' is produced in Slovenia following the traditional production method set out in the product specification, the Slovenian designation should also be protected. Indicating the respective languages makes it clear in which languages the designation is protected as a TSG.

### 5.2. Including potatoes in the list of forbidden types of feed

In point '4.2. Description of the production method of the product to which the name under point 1 applies that the producers must follow', the word 'potatoes' has been added under the fifth indent of the point 'Forbidden types of feed'.

Instead of '- Animals may not be fed garden waste, fruit waste or urea.', the fifth indent of the point 'Forbidden types of feed' now reads as follows:

'- Animals may not be fed garden waste, fruit waste, potatoes or urea.'

Reason: Potatoes have never been commonly used – nor permitted – as feed in the production of 'Sheep's Haymilk'. The fact that they were not specifically mentioned in the specification was merely an oversight on the author's part, which now needs to be corrected.

## PRODUCT SPECIFICATION OF A TRADITIONAL SPECIALITY GUARANTEED

**'SCHAF-HEUMILCH'/'SHEEP'S HAYMILK'/'LATTE Fieno DI PECORA'/'LAIT DE FOIN DE BREBIS'/'LECHE DE HENO DE OVEJA'/'OVČJE SENENO MLEKO'**

**EU No: TSG-AT-2289-AM01 – 25 February 2021**

**'Austria'**

### 1. Name(s)

'Schaf-Heumilch' / 'Sheep's Haymilk' / 'Latte fieno di pecora' / 'Lait de foin de brebis' / 'Leche de heno de oveja' / 'Ovčje seneno mleko'

### 2. Type of product

Class 1.4. Other products of animal origin (eggs, honey, various dairy products except butter, etc.)

### 3. Grounds for registration

#### 3.1. Whether the product:

- ☒ results from a mode of production, processing or composition corresponding to traditional practice for that product or foodstuff;
- ☐ is produced from raw materials or ingredients that are those traditionally used.

Haymilk production is the most natural form of milk production. The milk comes from animals on traditional, sustainable dairy farms. The key difference between standard milk and haymilk, and haymilk's traditional character, stem from the fact that as in the earliest form of milk production, animals are not fed fermented fodder. Since the 1960s, and due to mechanisation, the industrialisation of farming has increasingly relied upon the production of silage (fermented fodder), thus reducing fresh-fodder farming. Moreover, regulations forbid the use of animals and feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation. The feeding procedure is adapted to match seasonal changes: in the 'green-feeding period', animals are fed fresh grass and foliage and some hay and forms of feed permitted under point 4.2; in the winter period, animals are fed hay, or other forms of feed permitted under point 4.2.

### 3.2. *Whether the name:*

- ☐ has been traditionally used to refer to the specific product;
- ☒ identifies the traditional character or specific character of the product.

The sheep is one of the oldest domesticated animals in the world. As far back as the Early Stone Age, sheep have been providing humans with meat, milk, pelts and wool. Sheep breeding most likely started in the steppes of south-west Asia and was brought to central Europe via Persia and the Balkans. The Alpine regions have historically been suitable for sheep breeding. A special form of intensive livestock production, called 'Schwaigen', has commonly been used in the Tyrol since the mid-twelfth century. The word 'Schwaig' comes from Middle High German and denotes a special form of settlement and, in particular, farming in the Alpine region. 'Schwaighof' farms were often established as permanent settlements by land-owners for purposes of cattle and sheep breeding. Evidence of their existence in the Tyrol dates back to the twelfth century. Later the term 'Schwaige' was sometimes used to refer to mountain pastures cultivated only in the summer months. Alpine dairy farmers are also called 'Schwaiger' or 'Schwaigerin'. Until the late fourteenth century Tyrolean 'Schwaighof' farms were primarily engaged in sheep breeding. Sheep farming on wide alpine meadows is therefore a tradition in the Tyrol dating back hundreds of years.

However, from the fourteenth to the nineteenth century sheep breeding in Austria largely faded and was gradually replaced by pig breeding. Today the sheep is once again gaining in importance for milk and meat production.

## 4. **Description**

### 4.1. *Description of the product to which the name under point 1 applies, including its main physical, chemical, microbiological or organoleptic characteristics showing the product's specific character (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)*

Sheep's milk in accordance with the applicable legislation.

### 4.2. *Description of the production method of the product to which the name under point 1 applies that the producers must follow including, where appropriate, the nature and characteristics of the raw materials or ingredients used, and the method by which the product is prepared (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)*

'Sheep's Haymilk' is produced according to traditional production conditions that comply with the 'Heumilchregulativ' (regulations on haymilk production). This form of milk is distinguished by rules forbidding the use of fermented fodder, such as silage, and rules forbidding the use of animals and feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation.

'Heumilchregulativ'

'Sheep's Haymilk' is a form of sheep's milk extracted from lactating ewes, produced by dairy farmers who have undertaken to comply with the following criteria. No animals or feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation may be used.

The entire agricultural livestock holding must be managed according to these rules of haymilk production.

Permitted types of feed

- The animals are mainly fed fresh grass, leguminous plants and foliage during the 'green-feeding period', and hay in the winter period.
- The following are included and permitted as further roughage: green rapeseed, green maize, green rye and fodder beets, as well as hay, lucerne and maize pellets.
- Roughage must make up at least 75 % of the yearly ration of dry feed.
- The cereal crops wheat, barley, oats, triticale, rye and maize are also permitted, in their conventional marketed form and in composites with minerals (e.g. bran, pellets).
- The following may also be used as feed: beans, field peas, oleaginous fruits, and extraction meal or cakes.

#### Forbidden types of feed

- The following types of feed are prohibited: silage (fermented fodder), moist hay and fermented hay.
- Animals may not be fed by-products from breweries, distilleries or fruit pressing, or other by-products from the food industry, such as wet brewer's grains or wet cuttings. Exceptions are dry cuttings and molasses as a by-product of sugar manufacturing, and dry protein feed produced during grain processing.
- Lactating animals may not be fed any form of wet fodder.
- Animals may not be fed products of animal origin, except for young animals, which may be fed milk and whey.
- Animals may not be fed garden waste, fruit waste, potatoes or urea.

#### Fertilisation conditions

- The use of sewage sludge, sewage sludge products or compost from municipal treatment plants, with the exception of green compost (composted mixture of vegetable matter), is prohibited on all areas agriculturally exploited by the livestock holding.
- Livestock holdings must wait at least three weeks after manure spreading before using the land to graze livestock.

#### Use of chemical auxiliary substances

- Only the selective use of synthetic chemical pesticides under the expert supervision of agronomic specialists and the targeting of specific sites in any of the green fodder areas of the livestock holding is permitted.
- Permitted fly sprays may be used in dairy stalls only when the lactating ewes are absent.

#### Delivery prohibitions:

- Milk may not be delivered as 'Sheep's Haymilk' within 10 days after lambing.
- When sheep that have been fed silage (fermented fodder) are used, there must be a waiting period of at least 14 days.
- As regards alpine animals which have been fed silage (fermented fodder) on their farms, either they must be fed silage-free food for 14 days before they are driven up to alpine pastures, or their milk can be classed as 'Sheep's Haymilk' only once they have spent 14 days on alpine pastures (owned by the 'Sheep's Haymilk' supplier). No silage may be produced or used as feed on the alpine pasture.

#### Prohibition of genetically modified food and feed:

- In order to preserve the traditional production of 'Sheep's Haymilk', no animals or feed which are to be identified as 'genetically modified' under prevailing legislation may be used.

#### Other regulations:

- No silage (fermented fodder) may be produced or stored at the livestock holding.
- No film-wrapped round bales of any type may be produced or stored at the livestock holding.
- No moist hay or fermented hay may be produced at the livestock holding.

#### 4.3. Description of the key elements establishing the product's traditional character (Article 7(2) of this Regulation)

Haymilk's traditional character stems from the fact that as in the earliest form of milk production, animals are not fed fermented fodder. Since the 1960s, and due to mechanisation, the industrialisation of farming has increasingly relied upon the production of silage (fermented fodder), thus reducing fresh-fodder farming.

Livestock farming was based on the one hand on pasture grazing and on the other hand on grass and hay production in meadows. According to written records, harvesting hay — or hay and ‘grummer’ [green fodder] — at least twice a year (*fenum primum et secundum*) has been common practice in the Tyrol since the 13th century. (Stolz, O., *Rechtsgeschichte des Bauernstandes und der Landwirtschaft in Tirol und Vorarlberg* [Legal history of farmers and agriculture in the Tyrol and Vorarlberg], 1949.)

The land register of the archbishopric of Salzburg contains highly detailed information about the number of livestock on ‘Schwaig’ settlements and all other property belonging to the archbishopric in the Ziller valley in 1607. Specifically, at the end of each detailed description of the individual property parcels there is a statement which reads: ‘during the winter, holds so-and-so many horses, cattle, sheep or goats’. The alpine farmers had fewer livestock in the winter than in the summer, when the pastures were available. There is no doubt that grazing on village pastures was intensely practised in the ‘Schwaig’ settlements and served as a primary source of feed for the livestock. There is documentary evidence from an even earlier period, specifically the 13th and 14th centuries, that the ‘Schwaighof’ farms included meadows and fields as well as pastures and alpine grasslands. This means that grass and hay production was carried out on ‘Schwaighof’ farms from the earliest periods. At some distance from the farms there are mountain ridges which also belong to the ‘Schwaig’ settlements. These ridges traditionally consist of pastures to which the livestock is sent for grazing for a few weeks in the spring and autumn, and which are used for making hay the rest of the year. Among the various types of pastureland, these mountain or high-altitude meadows are particularly characteristic of the Alps. These meadows are mown no more than once per year, and in some places once every two to four years. The quantity of hay they produce is small, but it is very fragrant and nutritious. (Stolz, O., *Die Schwaighöfe in Tirol* [Schwaighof farms in the Tyrol], 1930.)

A barn must be available for the hay. The hay supply must be stored until the following spring, because it is frequently the case that snow falls soon after the livestock is brought to the alpine meadows. (Trientl, A., *Die Landwirtschaft in den Gebirgsländern* [Agriculture in mountainous countries], 1892.)

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