

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(94) 108 final
Brussels, 13.04.1994

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION

ON THE DEFINITION OF THE COMMUNITY STANDARD QUALITY OF FRESH OR CHILLED SHEEP CARCASSES

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 338/91 determining the
Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep carcasses
and Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 concerning the Community scale
for the classification of carcasses of ovine animals and
determining the Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep
carcasses and extending Regulation (EEC) No 338/91

(presented by the Commission)

INTRODUCTION

The central feature on the Community sheepmeat regime is a premium paid once a year on eligible ewes which is designed to compensate for the difference between the basic price established each year by the Council and the observed price of lamb on Community markets. In order for this regime to operate correctly, it is necessary to fix a standard quality of lamb to be taken into account by Member States in observing market prices and reporting them to the Commission. In order to ensure that the reported prices fairly represent the returns for the typical Community producer it is necessary that this standard quality excludes from the price reported the high prices which are obtained for very light lambs and the low prices which are obtained for overfat lambs.

In view of the differences in market traditions in the different Member State, in particular the different importance of livestock markets, the different progress which has been made from one Member State to another in establishing carcase classification systems, and the different importance of the various weight categories in individual Member States, the establishment of a generally acceptable standard quality has not proved easy. When, therefore, the Council adopted Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 which provides the present definition of the standard quality it provided for a review and for a new decision on the standard quality to apply from July 1994.

According to statements included in the minutes of the Council, the proposal for the future system should take account of a review of the possibility of setting up a system of live grading comparable to carcase classification ; a report to be made by the Commission of the application of the existing standard quality; and a study of the Greek market with a view to determining whether animals of fat class 3 should be included in the standard quality.

This report and the proposal which accompany it have been prepared to respond to these requirements.

1

REPORT

1. Standard Quality

Article 4(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3013/89 requires that a weekly average weighted price for the carcasses of sheep, fresh or chilled, on the representative Community markets be established on the basis of the prices recorded on the representative market or markets of each quotation area for the Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep carcasses.

This concept of standard quality was introduced following the 1989 reform unifying the sheepmeat regime by the gradual discarding of regional premia and their replacement by a Community premium based on the difference between the Community market price and the basic price.

The current definition of standard quality contained in Council Regulation (EEC) No 338/91 reads

"lamb of less than one year old at slaughter of acceptable fat level with a carcass weight or estimated carcass weight of at least 12 kg."

It was applied for the 1991, 1992 and 1993 marketing years for the purposes of price formation and premium calculation and up to 30 June of the 1994 marketing year applies for the purposes of private storage.

The practical implementation of this definition has involved the elimination, from price reporting, of lightweight carcasses of between 9 and 11.9 kg in Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal. Furthermore, the Commission implementing provisions interpreted the phrase "acceptable fat level", in the absence of carcass classification standards, by the application of different upper weight limits for carcasses reflecting Member State production practices. These limits are 16 kg in Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal, 21.5 kg in Great Britain, Ireland and Northern Ireland, 22 kg in France and 23 kg in Denmark, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Since its introduction in May 1991, price reporting based on standard quality has worked well in so far as its practical operation is concerned. Except in respect of Italy in 1991 where prices had to be adjusted to align them to standard quality, prices for the lamb weight categories included in it have been recorded without difficulty. Member States, for the most part, have expressed satisfaction with the present definition. Furthermore there has been a tendency for Member State market prices to converge and this tendency was most notable in 1993 when the difference between the highest and lowest Member State prices was only 103 ECU per 100 kg compared to 168 ECU in 1992 and an average of 176 ECU each year in the period 1986-1990. The graph in Annex I shows the trend in prices since 1980 and the convergence evident in recent years.

The ending of the variable slaughter premium and clawback in 1991 has led to the practical unification of the sheep mearket. Nevertheless certain factors, including the variation in production and consumption patterns, seasonality of supply and degree of self sufficiency together with transport costs continue to influence prices and to account for the differences still evident in them between Member States.

2. Carcase Classification

Commission Regulation (EEC) No 461/93 laying down detailed rules for the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of ovine animals entered into force on 6 March 1993 with provision for price reporting based on classification with effect from 8 April 1993.

To date, only the UK, France, Denmark, Spain and Greece have provided prices based on classification (see Annex II). Among these, only the UK, Denmark and Greece have provided a breakdown of classification of carcasses based on lamb numbers but no Member State has provided prices on the basis of the percentage in weight terms of each quality in order to provide a true Member State average market price. Furthermore apart from Denmark, the UK in respect of Northern Ireland and perhaps France, the size of the sample of carcasses graded is not sufficient to enable a judgement of the value of the reported prices to be made.

Germany has reported prices based on the subsequent grading of lots of lamb already paid for but, for a large variety of reasons, other Member States have not yet begun price reporting based on carcass classification. Among these reasons are both producer and abattoir reluctance to be paid or pay on the basis of classification, slaughter of lambs by private operators in municipal slaughter houses, the common practice of selling lambs in live lots which means that payment to producers is on a flat rate, disagreements about who pays for classification and who classifies and more general disagreements between abattoir owners and the national authorities. Despite this list of difficulties encountered in setting up price reporting based on carcass classification, most Member States have indicated that progress is being made and that they expect to begin price reporting in the near future. A detailed description of progress on classification at Member State level is included in Annex III.

In this context, it should be noted that work is now almost completed on the preparation of explanatory leaflets with colour photographs depicting the various conformation and fat classes in the SEUROP grid and is in progress in respect of the grid for light carcasses. Furthermore, the Control Committee examining the operation of classification has already visited France with visits to most other Member States foreseen during this and next year.

3. Live grading of lamb

In order to examine the possibility of setting up a system of live grading of sheep comparable to carcass classification, a series of exercises were carried out in conjunction with the industry at Carlisle (U.K.), Sancoins (France) and Bunnik (Netherlands). Sales of lambs via livestock markets or other arrangements are significantly more important in the Union than direct sales to

abattoirs and in the two major producing Member States, the United Kingdom and Spain, account for up to 80 % of producer lamb sales.

The results of the exercises carried out at Carlisle and Sancoins indicate that the correlation between estimated conformation and fat classes carried out on live lambs and actual conformation and fat classes assessed after slaughter is not sufficiently accurate to warrant the setting up of a live grading system comparable to that of carcase classification. Among the difficulties encountered in attempting live grading are the lack of adequate penning facilities for this purpose in most markets, the variation in conformation and fat cover between different sheep breeds, the variation in cover and dryness of wool and gut fill.

At Bunnink, however, where manning and penning conditions were adequate for individual handling and marking of lamb, where only two similar breed types were present and where wool tended to be uniform, live grading did relate very well to carcase grading.

4. Grading of light weight (<13 kg) carcasses

In response to the Council's request concerning the suitable fat classes to be considered as first quality carcasses within the classification grid defined in Article 3(2) third subparagraph and Annex III of Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92, the Commission's Services undertook an examination of carcasses in Greece together with experts from Southern Member States.

As a result of this examination it was agreed that, for each weight category, to be considered as first quality, carcasses should fall within fat classes 2 or 3. This was considered to be in line with commercial reality, particularly as carcasses falling within fat class 1 are generally associated with illness arising for nutritional or disease reasons.

5. Conclusions

The lack of progress in implementing price reporting based on carcase classification in effect makes it very difficult to base standard quality on classification at this stage.

In addition, the practical importance of live lamb sales by producers through livestock markets or other live outlets and the general incompatibility of that practice with formal grading suggests that price reporting, on a weight basis, should be maintained in the future for live animals in Member States where that practice is important.

The fact that from a practical viewpoint the present definition of standard quality is working well together with the trend in price convergence apparent in it suggests that this definition should continue to be used until such time as a definition based on carcase classification can be constructed and fully implemented while at the same time accepting the continuation of some liveweight price reporting.

There is still need for considerable further progress in so far as the practical implementation of carcase classification is concerned so that only when this has taken place can a judgement be made as to its use in the context of standard quality. However it is also necessary to set a target date at which a definition based on classification can be introduced with prices therefrom contributing ideally alongside the present definition, to the make up of Member State and the Union average market prices. The Commission takes the view that current progress needs to be increased so that such a dual system could operate from the beginning of the 1998 marketing year. This would be on the basis of proposals to be made in the context of the report already foreseen before 31 December 1995 in Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 but which should now be made before 31 December 1996.

In these circumstances, the Commission proposes to the Council to postpone to the beginning of the 1998 marketing year the introduction of the new definition of Community Standard Quality foreseen for 1 July 1994 and in consequence to repeal Article 8 of Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92.

The accompanying proposal entrains no financial consequences.

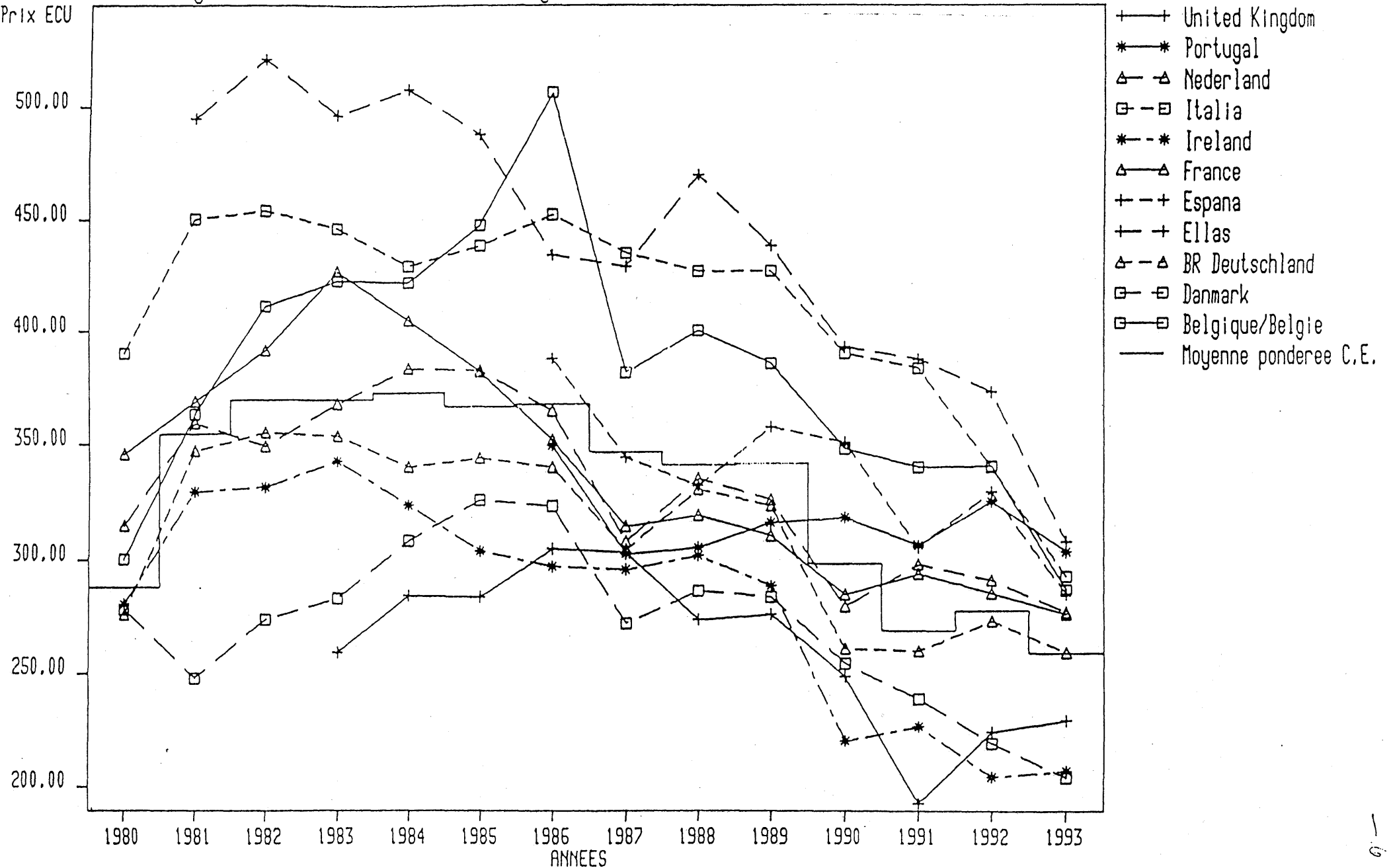
Only the Union has power to act as regards the measures proposed. These proposals extend the duration of an existing regulation and the time scale for a report provided for in a second regulation.

Prix sur les marchés communitaires
ovins abattus - geschlachtete laemmer - slaughtered lambs

(ECU/100Kg)

ANNEX 1

Prix ECU



VIANDE OVINE
SHEEPMEAT
SCHAFFLEISCH

PRIX GRILLE "SEUROP"
GRID PRICES "SEUROP"
MARKTPREISE "SEUROP"

1 9 9 3

01.02.94
LEB/

V I A N D E O V I N E - SHEEPMEAT - SCHAFFFLEISCH
GRANDE-BRETAGNE - GREAT BRITAIN - GROSS BREITANIEN

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUROPE

	Janvier	Fevrier	Mars	Avril	Mai	Juin	Juillet	Aout	Septembre	Octobre	Novembre	Decembre	1993
E 1													
2													
3				291	295	265	230	216	193	192	195	220	233
4				292	244	217	181	172	149	160	164	197	197
5													
U 1													
2				277	270	265	235	221	197	183	207	219	230
3				293	289	262	227	212	193	194	209	215	233
4				271	264	231	196	182	163	164	170	189	203
5				250	256	191	146	145	137	134	145	175	176
R 1													
2				279	279	257	227	207	191	190	212	211	228
3				284	286	258	224	206	190	189	199	213	228
4				266	267	232	203	185	168	168	174	191	206
5				259	244	211	154	155	142	141	164	170	182
O 1													
2				262	266	244	215	187	179	176	191	205	214
3				275	265	248	222	200	185	183	190	207	220
4													
5													
P 1													
2													
3													
4													
5													

2. Prix en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

201,0 229,7 264,8 303,8 299,3 259,5 221,5 206,0 187,5 185,9 196,4 215,5 230,9

VI-D2

V I A N D E O V I N E - SHEEPMEAT - SCHAFFLEISCH 01.02.94
LEB/
IRLANDE DU NORD - Northern Ireland - Nordirland

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUR0P-System

	Janvier	Fevrier	Mars	Avril	Mai	Juin	Juillet	Aout	Septembre	Octobre	Novembre	Decembre	1993
E 1													
2													
3				295	283	256	223	212	183	183	198	225	229
4				266	250	285			183	160	179		221
5													
U 1													
2				301	290	260	221	212	192	190	207	221	233
3				298	287	266	218	211	189	187	203	216	231
4				265	262	240	193	189	172	171	184	197	208
5				254	226	206	158	149	138	143	153	168	177
R 1													
2				283	290	266	221	213	190	191	207	221	231
3				284	288	268	199	212	188	187	204	218	228
4				259	261	243	197	188	170	169	185	198	208
5				250	224	214	162	156	141	150	160	172	181
O 1													
2				152	236	206	170	159	143	149	167	180	174
3				253	260	247	196	188	168	173	190	204	209
4													
5													
P 1													
2													
3													
4													
5													

2. PRIX en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

173,3 197,9 233,3 266,3 277,6 244,2 204,6 193,3 175,8 171,4 185,7 200,8 210,4

V I A N D E O V I N E - SHEEPMEAT - SCHAFFLEISCH

01.02.94

LEB/

ALLEMAGNE - GERMANY - DEUTSCHLAND

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUROP-System

	Janvier	Fevrier	Mars	Avril	Mai	Juin	Juillet	Aout	Septembre	Octobre	Novembre	Decembre	1993	
E 1												235	239	237
2														
3												213	207	210
4														
5														
U 1														
2												232	235	233
3												218	223	220
4												238	247	242
5												238	248	243
R 1												246		246
2												242	248	245
3												225	239	232
4												233	252	243
5												234	254	244
O 1												237	247	242
2												236	247	242
3												232	246	239
4												234	252	243
5												232	255	244
P 1												237	246	242
2												231	240	235
3												228	245	237
4												236	238	237
5														

2. PRIX en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

247,4 240,4 264,9 283,3 298,9 295,4 261,1 249,2 250,5 234,9 231,8 250,2 259,1

V I A N D E O V I N E - SHEEPMEAT & SCHAFFLEISCH

01.02.94
LEB/

DANMARK - DENMARK - DÄNEMARKEN

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUR0P-System

Janvier Fevrier Mars Avril Mai Juin Juillet Aout Septembre Octobre Novembre Decembre 1993

E	1												
	2												
	3												
	4												
	5												
U	1												
	2												
	3												
	4												
	5												
R	1												
	2		257	257	257	243	223	202	195	207	210	217	227
	3		257	257	257	243	223	202	195	207	210	217	227
	4		235	235	235	221	201	181	173	185	189	195	205
	5												
O	1												
	2		206	206	206	193	174	154	149	172	175	182	182
	3		206	206	206	193	174	154	149	172	175	182	182
	4												
	5												
P	1												
	2		134	134	134	120	102	83	79	102	105	112	110
	3												
	4												
	5												

2. PRIX en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

213,4 215,3 220,9 220,9 220,9 214,0 204,2 186,0 180,0 189,9 191,7 197,0 204,4

VIANDE OVINE - SHEEPMEAT - SCHAFFLEISCH

01.02.94

LEB/

FRANCE - France - Frankreich

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUR0P-System

	Janvier	Fevrier	Mars	Avril	Mai	Juin	Juillet	Aout	Septembre	Octobre	Novembre	Decembre	1993
E 1							213	198	197				203
2			378	400	401	378	351	341	335	326	317	343	357
3			371	397	393	374	339	328	323	302	296	320	344
4			279	316	302	291	264	262	213	187	182	205	250
5			261	297	280	270	241	240	204	175	164	192	232
U 1							213	209	225				216
2			352	376	372	363	339	323	326	324	324	319	342
3			347	366	371	355	338	316	319	309	310	315	335
4			259	296	292	277	259	232	241	218	212	206	249
5			240	280	275	257	242	232	231	191	152	180	228
R 1				294	298	298	264	207	218				263
2			324	352	357	336	317	298	293	286	287	298	315
3			320	351	343	330	316	297	295	283	282	290	311
4			230	268	275	260	248	227	226	202	199	202	234
5			205	246	250	231	221	215	216	175	127	155	204
O 1				270	274		235	202	187	226	225	226	231
2			269	301	297	274	259	253	249	224	233	244	260
3			276	301	306	293	269	262	256	240	237	248	269
4			195	241	259	239	223	201	194	173	173	180	208
5			177	216	407	199	188	180	184	143	102	129	193
P 1				258	262		213	198	197				225
2			196	287	269	247	230	221	229	235	235	200	235
3			215	292	284	276	243	231	230	235	235	200	244
4			151	241	235	223	202	183	201	211	218	192	206
5			126			183	167	142	184	222			171

2. PRIX en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

263,2 265,2 288,3 314,4 313,2 298,4 281,9 269,6 258,4 246,1 248,1 262,1 275,8

V I A N D E O V I N E - SHEEPMEAT - SCHAFFLEISCH

GRECE - GREECE - GRIECHENLAND

1. PRIX en ECU/100kg selon la grille - Prices in ECU/100 kg based on Grid - Preise in ECU/100 kg nach SEUROP-System

Semaine n°	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
A 1					420.0	356.1	334.8	319.6		319.6	368.3	334.8	304.4
2					420.0	356.1	334.8	319.6		319.6	368.3	334.8	304.4
B 1					392.6	350.0	325.7	310.4		312.0	362.2	325.7	298.3
2					392.6	350.0	325.7	310.4		312.0	362.2	325.7	298.3
C 1					366.7	325.7	319.6	304.4		304.4	356.1	319.6	292.2
2							319.6						

2. PRIX en ECU/100 kg (actuelle qualité type) - (Present Standard Quality) - (Aktuelle Standardqualität)

327,2 324,8 309,2 304,9 300,5 305,4 290,4 282,7 281,9 275,8 281,5 280,6 283,6

ANNEX 3

Subject: Implementation of classification scale by Member States

I. SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE AT MEETING OF WORKING PARTY ON 22 OCTOBER 1993 AND 4 FEBRUARY 1994

BELGIUM

- Nothing officially. No volunteers.
- Two groups had undertaken a promotion campaign (classification in accordance with the scale).
- Direct sales by producer to consumer (50%).

DENMARK

- Producers very favourable.
- One volunteer undertaking (computerized system).
- 40% of payments based on scale.
- Objective: to extend classification in accordance with the scale to all slaughterhouses.

GERMANY

- Price recording represents 5% of national production.
- Producers reticent (lack of confidence vis-a-vis the slaughterhouse and some preference for flat-rate payment per head or kilogram of carcase).
- Four volunteer slaughterhouses in three Länder; some irregularities in prices.
- Direct sales by producer to consumer (50%).

GREECE

- Producers favourable.
- One volunteer slaughterhouse.
- Problems in presentation of carcasses.

SPAIN

- Determination on part of authorities to make progress quickly.
- "EUROP" scale: difficulty in application (does not correspond to trade practices); prices paid based on carcase weight: 13-16 kg; 16-18 kg; > 18 kg.
- Second scale: seven volunteer slaughterhouses which provide prices regularly (good geographical distribution).
- 20% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

FRANCE

- "EUROP" scale operational (15% of national production).
- Introduction of price collection system (10 correspondents).
- Reticence on part of producers (price stage different from present stage).
- 70% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

IRELAND

- No spectacular progress (reticence on part of producers and slaughterhouses).
- Definite intention on part of slaughterhouses to apply the scale in a manner adapted to the requirements of slaughterhouses (in particular with a view to export).
- Consideration being given to a simplified classification scale.
- 60% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

ITALY

- Contacts being made.
- Four slaughterhouses ready.
- Difficulties in working out price paid to producer (lambs are sold in batches).
- Producers reticent (they fear that the price will be lower).
- 35% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

NETHERLANDS

- "SEUROP" classification operational (with training of classifiers).
- Little interest in slaughterhouses.
- Particularly interesting for export of live animals: one group classifies and purchases live animals in accordance with the scale (60 000 head); cost of classification HFL 0.5 per animal with a view to exporting live lambs to France (60 000 head).
- 5% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

PORTUGAL

- Producers interested.
- Three to six volunteer slaughterhouses, but no price recording at present. Classification should present no particular difficulties.
- Administrative difficulties due to restructuring of IROMA (replaced by IPA).

UNITED KINGDOM

- Three to six volunteer slaughterhouses in Great Britain.
- Two volunteer slaughterhouses in Northern Ireland. These slaughterhouses account for 4% of the first placing on market at slaughterhouse stage.
- Two problems:
 1. slaughterhouse owners are not convinced that notifying prices paid to producers is in their interest (in particular vis-a-vis their main purchasers)
 2. lack of cooperation between slaughterhouses and the Ministry mainly for commercial reasons.
- 20% direct sales by producer to slaughterhouse.

II. NATIONAL PROVISIONS (forwarded by the Member States)

DENMARK

- Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of 10 December 1993 (entry into force on 1 January 1994).
- All carcasses over 7 kg must be classified.
- The five "EUROP" grades are subdivided into 15 sub-grades (see Annex)
- A five-colour scale has been introduced.
- Two categories of carcasses (L: lambs less than 12 months old; S: other animals of ovine species).
- There is no obligation in Denmark to use the classification scale, but once a decision is taken to do so, checks become obligatory.
- Price paid to producer: price warm -2%.
- Other corrections possible: the undertaking must fill in a correction form (see Annex).
- Weekly reports of market prices for joint committee on meat industry.
- Unannounced checks followed by an inspection report. This may result in an infringement being reported. Where the slaughterhouse disputes the case, an expert opinion is requested.

GREECE

- Correcting factors used:

head	7%
offal	10%
genital organs	0.2%
TOTAL	17.2%

The 17.2% is deducted from the total weight of the carcass in order to arrive at the Community reference presentation. This results in a price forwarded to the Commission which is increased by 17.2%. This provision only applies to heavy lambs (more than 13 kg).

- Decision of regional prefect fixing the list of approved slaughterhouses and designating the veterinarians and agronomists responsible for checks on classification and price gathering. At present, this decision applies only to the region of Ioannina (prices forwarded every Tuesday to the animal production directorate).
- Correction for weight warm/weight cold: 2%.

GERMANY

Classification of lambs compulsory (letter L followed by category: e.g. L.E.1.). Entry into force: 1 July 1993.

PROPOSAL

for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No .../94
of1994

amending Regulation (EEC) No 338/91 determining the
Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep carcasses
and Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 concerning the Community scale
for the classification of carcasses of ovine animals and
determining the Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep
carcasses and extending Regulation (EEC) No 338/91

The Council of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) 3013/89 of 25 september 1989,
on the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (1),
as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 233/94 (2), and in particular
Article 4 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 338/91 of 5 February 1991,
determining the Community standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep
carcasses (3), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) 2137/92 (4) applies
until the end of the 1993 marketing year pending the setting up of
Community carcass classification standards;

Whereas sufficient progress in the application of carcass
classification has not yet been made to permit the setting up of the
standards in question at present; whereas the current standard quality
should be extended until the end of the 1997 marketing year;

Whereas the Commission report on the application of Regulation (EEC)
2137/92 foreseen for not later than 31 December 1995 should now be
foreseen for not later than 31 December 1996 and should be accompanied
by a proposal for a new definition of standard quality to apply
progressively from the start of the 1998 marketing year; whereas as a
consequence the objective of compulsory application of the Community
scale initially foreseen for 1996 at the earliest, can now be realized
in 1999 at the earliest;

Whereas, Annex III of Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 should be modified to
take account of quality requirements in relation to fat class;

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- (1) OJ No L 289, 07.10.1989, p. 1.
 - (2) OJ No L 30, 03.02.1994, p. 9.
 - (3) OJ No L 41, 14.02.1991, p. 1.
 - (4) OJ No L 214, 30.07.1992, p. 1.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The text of the second paragraph of Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 338/91 is replaced by the following:

"It shall apply for the marketing years 1991 to 1997 inclusive.

Article 2

Regulation (EEC) No 2137/92 is hereby amended as follows:

1) Article 8 is repealed.

2) The text of Article 9 is amended as follows :

- In the first subparagraph "31 December 1995" is replaced by "31 December 1996".
- In the second subparagraph the "1996 marketing year" is replaced by the "1999 marketing year" and "1 January 1997" is replaced by "1 January 2000".

3) Annex III shall be replaced by the annex to this regulation.

.....

Article 3

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

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

Done at Brussels,.....

For the Council
The President

ANNEXE

Classement des carcasses selon l'article 3 paragraphe 3 troisième alinéa

Catégorie	A		B		C	
Poids	≤ 7 kg		7,1 — 10 kg		10,1 — 13 kg	
Qualité	1	2	1	2	1	2
Couleur de la viande	rose clair	autre couleur ou teneur en graisse	rose clair	autre couleur ou teneur en graisse	rose clair	autre couleur ou teneur en graisse
Teneur en graisse (*)	(2) (3)		(2) (3)		(2) (3)	

(*) Définie à l'annexe II.

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