

Thursday 28 January 1999

II.

Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a support system for producers of certain arable crops (COM(98)0158 – C4-0293/98 – 98/0108(CNS))

The proposal was approved with the following amendments ⁽¹⁾:

TEXT PROPOSED
BY THE COMMISSION (*)

AMENDMENTS
BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 78)

Recital 11a (new)

Whereas the cultivation of maize in irrigated areas produces higher yields than in the case of other cereals cultivated in the same areas, which justifies differentiated treatment; whereas maize growing would be under threat of dying out in certain areas if the separate base area provided for under the current system were to be abolished;

(Amendment 33)

Recital 12

Whereas differentiation of yields may be permitted for irrigated and non-irrigated areas provided that a separate base area for irrigated crops is established and there is no extension of the total base area;

Whereas differentiation of yields may be permitted for irrigated and non-irrigated areas provided that a separate base area for irrigated crops is established and there is no extension of the total base area; **whereas a separate base area for maize may also be established;**

(Amendment 80)

Recital 13

Whereas, in order to calculate the area payment, a basic amount per ton should be multiplied by the average cereals yield determined for the region concerned;

Whereas, in order to **ensure that the area payment is not linked to production, it should be calculated by multiplying a basic amount per ton by the cereals yield, to be calculated one-third on the basis of the average historic yield for the Community and two-thirds on the basis of the average historic yield** determined for the region concerned;

(Amendment 13)

Recital 14

Whereas a single area payment should be fixed for arable crops; whereas the basic amounts per ton should be increased taking into account the reduction in the cereals intervention price; whereas crop specific payments for oil seeds and linseed should be *abolished*; whereas a specific aid should be established for protein crops in order to preserve their competitiveness with cereals;

Whereas a single area payment should be fixed for arable crops; whereas the basic amounts per ton should be increased taking into account the reduction in the cereals intervention price; whereas crop specific payments for oil seeds and linseed should be **maintained and adjusted in line with WTO and market trends**; whereas a specific aid should be established for protein crops in order to preserve their competitiveness with cereals;

⁽¹⁾ The matter was then referred back to committee pursuant to Rule 60(2).

(*) OJ C 170, 4.6.1998, p. 4.

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TEXT PROPOSED
BY THE COMMISSIONAMENDMENTS
BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 8)

Recital 18

Whereas in the current market situation, the set-aside requirement should be fixed at 0%; whereas this percentage should be re-examined to take account of production and market developments;

Whereas in the current market situation, the set-aside requirement should be fixed at **10%**; whereas this percentage should be re-examined to take account of production and market developments;

(Amendments 24 and 35)

Recital 19

Whereas the set-aside obligations should be subject to due compensation; whereas the compensation should be equivalent to the area payments *for arable crops other than protein crops*;

Whereas the set-aside obligations should be subject to due compensation; whereas the compensation should be equivalent to the area payments **allocated to cereals; whereas the compensation should also be granted when these areas are used for the growing of crops intended primarily for the non-food sector;**

(Amendment 43)

Recital 29

Whereas, in view of the present adaptations to the current support scheme and to previous modifications, it is appropriate, for reasons of clarity, to replace Regulation (EEC) No 1765/92 by a new Regulation;

Whereas, in view of the present adaptations to the current support scheme and to previous modifications, it is appropriate, for reasons of clarity, to replace Regulation (EEC) No 1765/92 by a new Regulation; **whereas, in view of the specific characteristics of the oilseed and linseed sector, the current rules should be retained;**

(Amendment 36)

Recital 29a (new)

Whereas given the substantial shortfall in the European Union it is advisable to maintain the differentiation in aid between oilseeds and cereals;

(Amendment 25)

Article 3(1), second paragraph

With this in mind, Member States shall take due account of specific situations in drawing up their regionalisation plans. They may in particular adjust average yields in line with any structural differences between production regions.

With this in mind, Member States shall take due account of specific situations in drawing up their regionalisation plans. They may in particular adjust average yields in line with any structural differences between production regions. **In addition, the status quo for maize shall be maintained so that, in their regionalisation plans, the Member States can apply a yield level for maize which differs from that for other cereals.**

(Amendment 16)

Article 3(1), third subparagraph

Member States may in their regionalisation plans set different yields for irrigated and non-irrigated land. In that case, Member States shall establish a separate base area for areas bearing irrigated crops.

Member States may in their regionalisation plans set different yields for irrigated and non-irrigated **land used for growing maize**. In that case, Member States shall establish a separate base area for areas bearing irrigated crops **and for land used for growing maize**.

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BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 44)

Article 4(1)

1. The area payment is calculated by multiplying the basic amount per tonne by the average yield *determined in the regionalisation plan for the region concerned*.

1. The area payment is calculated by multiplying the basic amount per tonne by the average yield **produced by a calculation taking into consideration one-third of the Community historic average yield and two-thirds of the historic yield of the region under consideration**.

(Amendment 28)

*Article 4a (new)***Article 4a**

As regards oil seed, Regulation (EEC) No 1765/92, and in particular Articles 3, 5 and 11 thereof, shall continue to apply.

The existing arrangements (Regulation 1872/94) shall continue to apply to non-fibre flax.

(Amendment 9)

Article 6(1), second subparagraph

The set-aside obligation shall at present be 0%.

The set-aside obligation shall at present be **10% and this percentage must be reviewed in the light of the trends in production and the market situation**.

(Amendment 52)

Article 6(1a) (new)

1a. The change in the set-aside rate shall be made by the Council on the proposal of the Commission and after consultation of the European Parliament. The decision on the change of the set-aside rate for the next marketing year shall be taken in each case before 1 July.

(Amendment 60)

Article 6(3), subparagraph 1a (new)

Subject to certain conditions, legumes cultivated on set-aside land may be used for fodder on the holding in question.

(Amendment 53)

Article 6(5)

5. Producers may be granted the set-aside payment on land set aside in excess of their obligation. In such cases, the area set aside may not exceed an area to be defined by Member States at rates taking into account specific situations and ensuring

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sufficient occupation of farmland. The area set aside should at least be 10% of the area down to arable crops and for which a payment application is made, and left in set-aside pursuant to this Regulation. The set-aside payment may be granted on a multiannual basis for a period up to five years.

sufficient occupation of farmland. The area set aside should at least be 5% of the area down to arable crops and for which a payment application is made, and left in set-aside pursuant to this Regulation. The set-aside payment may be granted on a multiannual basis for a period up to five years. **This area of voluntary set aside shall be considered as part of the percentage for the compulsory set aside area.**

(Amendment 54)

Article 8(1)

1. *Payments shall be made between 1 January and 31 March following the harvest.*

1. **Area payments for cereals, protein crops and linseed and compensatory payments for set aside shall be made at the latest by 31 October of the year of the harvest.**

(Amendment 55)

*Article 12a (new)***Article 12a**

In preparation for the next WTO round and to improve its negotiating position in the multinational trade negotiations the Commission shall submit, at the latest six months after the entry into force of this Regulation, a feasibility study on the introduction of a 'loan rate system' into EU agricultural policy. It shall analyse in particular the effects of the 'loan-rate system' as a safety net and the finance programme for farmers.

(Amendment 93)

Article 13

Regulation (EEC) No 1765/92 is hereby repealed.

Regulation (EEC) No 1765/92 is hereby repealed, **without prejudice to what is laid down in Article 4a.**

(Amendment 22)

Annex I, III

III. PROTEIN CROPS

0713 10 Peas
0713 50 Field beans
1209 2950 Sweet lupins

III. PROTEIN CROPS

0713 10 Peas
0713 50 Field beans
1209 2950 Sweet lupins
Yellow lupins (*Lupinus luteus*)