

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 on the common organisation of the market in seeds and fixing the aid granted in the seeds sector for the 2002/03 and 2003/04 marketing years

(2001/C 213 E/11)

COM(2001) 244 final — 2001/0099(CNS)

(Submitted by the Commission on 4 May 2001)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 37 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 of 26 October 1971 on the common organisation of the market in seeds ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2371/2000 ⁽²⁾, provides that the amount of aid must be fixed taking into account the need to ensure a balance between the volume of production required in the Community and the amount that can be marketed. Since the 1994/95 harvest, the production and export of seeds has increased constantly and stocks of seeds in the Community have reached a level likely to affect the balance of the market in seeds.
- (2) It is therefore justified to introduce a mechanism to stabilise the production of seeds other than rice seeds, for which such a mechanism is already in place. The stabiliser mechanism must set a maximum quantity eligible for aid in the Community determined on the basis of the average quantity harvested during a reference period to be established.
- (3) The Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 refers to the varieties of *Lolium perenne* L. of high persistence, late or medium late, new and other varieties and varieties of low persistence, medium late, medium early or early. Since the prices for those varieties on the external markets no longer justify that distinction, the Annex maintains it as a transitional arrangement for the 2000/01 and 2001/02 marketing years for the purposes of fixing the amounts of aid applicable in the Community and a variation of the said aid. The distinction between three different groups of varieties of *Lolium perenne* L. should therefore be abolished and a single rate of aid fixed.
- (4) Given the situation on and the outlook for the Community market, producers are not assured of a fair return from

seeds listed in the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 which will be marketed in the 2002/03 and 2003/04 marketing years. Production aid should be granted for those seeds.

- (5) Article 3(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 provides that when the aid is fixed, account should be taken, on the one hand, of the need to ensure balance between production in the Community and the outlets for such production and, on the other hand, of the prices for such products on the external markets.
- (6) The application of these criteria results in fixing the aid applicable for the 2002/03 and 2003/04 marketing years at the levels set out in the Annex,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 3(4a) of Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 is replaced by the following:

‘4a. The maximum quantity of seed on which the aid is payable in the Community shall be fixed in accordance with the procedure referred to in paragraph 5. That quantity shall be apportioned among the producer Member States.

Except in the case of rice seed, the maximum quantity shall be determined on the basis of the average quantity harvested during a reference period to be established.’

Article 2

For the 2002/03 and 2003/04 marketing years, the aid granted in the seeds sector as provided for in Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 shall be as set out in the Annex hereto.

Article 3

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

It shall apply from 1 July 2002.

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

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 246, 5.11.1971, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 275, 23.10.2000, p. 1.

ANNEX

2002/02 AND 2003/04 MARKETING YEARS

Aid applicable in the Community

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Description	Amount of the aid	
		2002/03	2003/04
1001 90 10	1. CERES <i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	14,37	14,37
1006 10 10	<i>Oryza sativa</i> L. — Long-grain varieties the grains of which are of a length exceeding 6,0 millimetres and of a length/width ratio of greater than or equal to 3	17,27	17,27
	— Other varieties the grains of which are of a length exceeding, not exceeding or equal to 6,0 millimetres and of a length/width ratio of less than 3	14,85	14,85
	2. OLEAGINEAE		
ex 1204 00 10	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> L. (fibre flax)	28,38	28,38
ex 1204 00 10	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> L. (linseed)	22,46	22,46
ex 1207 99 10	<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. (varieties with a THC content not exceeding 0,2 %)	20,53	20,53
	3. GRAMINEAE		
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Agrostis canina</i> L.	75,95	75,95
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Agrostis gigantea</i> Roth.	75,95	75,95
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> L.	75,95	75,95
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i> L.	75,95	75,95
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> (L.) P. Beauv. ex J. S. and K. B. Presl.	67,14	67,14
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> L.	52,77	52,77
ex 1209 23 80	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> Schreb.	58,93	58,93
ex 1209 23 80	<i>Festuca ovina</i> L.	43,59	43,59
1209 23 11	<i>Festuca pratensis</i> Huds.	43,59	43,59
1209 23 15	<i>Festuca rubra</i> L.	36,83	36,83
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Festulolium</i>	32,36	32,36
1209 25 10	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i> Lam.	21,13	21,13
1209 25 90	<i>Lolium perenne</i> L.	30,99	30,99
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Lolium x boucheanum</i> Kunth	21,13	21,13
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Phleum Bertolinii</i> (DC)	50,96	50,96
1209 26 00	<i>Phleum pratense</i> L.	83,56	83,56
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Poa nemoralis</i> L.	38,88	38,88
1209 24 00	<i>Poa pratensis</i> L.	38,52	38,52
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Poa palustris</i> and <i>Poa trivialis</i> L.	38,88	38,88
	4. LEGUMINOSAE		
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i> L.	36,47	36,47
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.	31,88	31,88
ex 1209 21 00	<i>Medicago sativa</i> L. (ecotypes)	22,10	22,10
ex 1209 21 00	<i>Medicago sativa</i> L. (varieties)	36,59	36,59
ex 1209 29 80	<i>Onobrichis viciifolia</i> Scop.	20,04	20,04
ex 0713 10 10	<i>Pisum sativum</i> L. (partim) (field peas)	0	0
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium alexandrinum</i> L.	45,76	45,76
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i> L.	45,89	45,89
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> L.	45,76	45,76
1209 22 10	<i>Trifolium pratense</i> L.	53,49	53,49
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium repens</i> L.	75,11	75,11
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium repens</i> L. var. <i>Giganteum</i>	70,76	70,76
ex 1209 22 80	<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i> L.	45,76	45,76
ex 0713 50 10	<i>Vicia faba</i> L. (partim) (field beans)	0	0
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Vicia sativa</i> L.	30,67	30,67
ex 1209 29 10	<i>Vicia villosa</i> Roth.	24,03	24,03