COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1794/2003

of 13 October 2003

fixing the estimated production of olive oil and the unit amount of the production aid that may be paid in advance for the 2002/03 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation No 136/66/EEC of the Council 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 1513/2001 [2],

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 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1639/98 [4], and in particular Article 17a(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Under Article 5 of Regulation No 136/66/EEC the unit production aid must be adjusted in each Member State where actual production exceeds the guaranteed national quantity referred to in paragraph 3 of that Article. In assessing the extent of the overrun, account should be taken of the estimates for the production of table olives expressed as olive-oil equivalent using the relevant coefficients referred to, for Greece, in Commission Decision 2001/649/EC [5], as amended by Decision 2001/880/EC [6], for Spain, in Commission Decision 2001/650/EC [7], as amended by Decision 2001/883/EC [8], for France, in Commission Decision 2001/648/EC [9], as amended by Decision 2001/879/EC [10], for Italy, in Commission Decision 2001/658/EC [11], as amended by Decision 2001/884/EC [12] and, for Portugal, in Commission Decision 2001/670/EC [13], as amended by Decision 2001/878/EC [14].

(2) Article 17a(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84 provides that in order to determine the unit amount of the production aid for olive oil that can be paid in advance, the estimated production for the marketing year concerned should be determined. That amount must be fixed at a level that avoids any risk of unwarranted payment to olive growers. The amount also applies to table olives, expressed as olive-oil equivalent.

(3) In order to establish the estimated production, Member States must forward to the Commission data for the olive oil and, where appropriate, table olive production estimates for each marketing year. The Commission may use other sources of information. On the basis of that data, the estimated production of olive oil and table olives, expressed as olive-oil equivalent, should be fixed for each Member State.

(4) In determining the amount of the advance, account must be taken of the amounts withheld for measures to improve the quality of olive oil and table olive production provided for in Article 5(9) of Regulation No 136/66/EEC and Article 4a(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1638/98 [15], as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1513/2001 [16].

(5) 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

1. For the 2002/03 marketing year, the estimated production of olive oil, including that referred to in paragraph 2, is:

— 458 202 tonnes for Greece,

— 972 130 tonnes for Spain,

— 3 357 tonnes for France,

— 686 338 tonnes for Italy,

— 28 459 tonnes for Portugal.

2. For the 2002/03 marketing year, the estimated production of table olives, expressed as olive-oil equivalent, is:

— 11 000 tonnes for Greece, using a coefficient of equivalence of 13 %,

— 49 142 tonnes for Spain, using a coefficient of equivalence of 11,5 %,

[1] OJ 172, 30.9.1996, p. 3025/66.
[2] OJ L 201, 26.7.2001, p. 4.
[3] OJ L 208, 3.8.1984, p. 3.
[4] OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 38.
[5] OJ L 229, 25.8.2001, p. 16.
[6] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 42.
[7] OJ L 229, 25.8.2001, p. 20.
[8] OJ L 327, 12.12.2001, p. 43.
[9] OJ L 229, 25.8.2001, p. 12.
[10] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 41.
[11] OJ L 231, 29.8.2001, p. 16.
[12] OJ L 327, 12.12.2001, p. 44.
[13] OJ L 235, 4.9.2001, p. 16.
[14] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 40.
[15] OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 32.
[16] OJ L 201, 26.7.2001, p. 4.