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COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1503/2003

of 27 August 2003

derogating from Regulation (EC) No 2342/1999 and from Council Regulation (EC) No 2529/2001 as regards advance payments in the beef and veal sector and payments in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector

(OJ L 216, 28.8.2003, p. 23)

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THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in beef and veal ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 ([2]), and in particular Articles 4(8) and 6(7) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2529/2001 of 19 December 2001 on the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat ([3]), and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 41 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2342/1999 of 28 October 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 on the common organisation of the market in beef and veal as regards premium schemes ([4]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 173/2003 ([5]), lays down certain rules relating to the payment of advances.

(2) Article 6(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2529/2001 lays down certain rules relating to the payments of the ewe and goat premiums.

(3) Due to exceptionally unfavourable weather conditions characterised by an intense and prolonged drought and aggravated in some cases by disastrous forest fires, producers in some Member States do not have enough fodder to feed the livestock on their farms. In order to allow these producers to meet the additional financial burdens resulting in particular from the need to buy additional fodder, the Member States concerned should be authorised to make advance payments for the beef special premium and the suckler cow premium as well as payments for the ewe and goat premiums before 16 October 2003.

(4) These payments should be made to producers whose holding is recognised by the Member States concerned as being abnormally affected by the drought.

(5) Under these circumstances it is necessary to derogate from Regulation (EC) No 2342/1999 and Regulation (EC) No 2529/2001.

(6) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Beef and Veal and the Management Committee for Sheep and Goats,

([1]) OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 21.
([2]) OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1.
([3]) OJ L 341, 22.12.2001, p. 3.
([4]) OJ L 281, 4.11.1999, p. 30.
([5]) OJ L 211, 21.8.2003, p. 12.