COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1430/2003

of 11 August 2003

revising the maximum amount for the B production levy and amending the minimum price for B beet in the sugar sector for the 2003/04 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 of 19 June 2001 on the common organisation of the markets in the sugar sector [1], as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 680/2002 [2], and in particular the second and third indents of Article 15(8) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 15(3) and (4) of Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 provide that the losses resulting from the obligation to export surpluses of Community sugar are to be covered, within certain limits, by production levies on the production of A and B sugar, of A and B isoglucose and of inulin syrup A and B.

(2) Article 15(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 provides that, where the receipts expected from the basic production levy and the B levy, which must not exceed 2 % and 30 %, respectively, of the intervention price for white sugar for that marketing year, may well fail to cover the foreseeable total loss for the current marketing year, the maximum percentage of the B levy is to be adjusted to the extent necessary to cover the said total loss but without exceeding 37,5 %.

(3) According to the provisional data currently available, the receipts, before adjustment, of the levies to be collected in respect of the 2003/04 marketing year are likely to be below the equivalent of the average loss multiplied by the exportable surplus. The maximum amount of the B levy for 2003/04 should therefore be raised to 37,5 % of the intervention price for the white sugar concerned.

(4) Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 fixes the minimum price for B beet at EUR 32,42 per tonne, subject to Article 15(5) of that Regulation, which provides for the corresponding adjustment of the price for B beet in the event of adjustment of the maximum amount of the B levy.

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Sugar,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 2003/04 marketing year, the maximum amount of the B levy referred to in the first indent of Article 15(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 shall be increased to 37,5 % of the intervention price for white sugar.

Article 2

For the 2003/04 marketing year, the minimum price for B beet referred to in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1260/2001 shall be fixed, in accordance with Article 15(5) of that Regulation, at EUR 28,84 per tonne.

Article 3

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

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

Done at Brussels, 11 August 2003.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 178, 30.6.2001, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 104, 20.4.2002, p. 26.