COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1221/2003

of 8 July 2003

setting the actual production of olive oil and the unit amount of the production aid for the 2001/02 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation No 136/66/EEC 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(2) 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. With a view to assessing the extent of the overrun in Spain, France, Greece, Italy and Portugal, account should be taken of the estimates for the production of table olives, expressed as olive-oil equivalent using the relevant coefficients referred to, in the case of Spain, in Commission Decision 2001/650/EC [5], as amended by Decision 2001/883/EC [6], in the case of Greece, in Commission Decision 2001/649/EC [7], as amended by Decision 2001/880/EC [8], in the case of Portugal, in Commission Decision 2001/670/EC [9], as amended by Decision 2001/878/EC [10], in the case of France, in Commission Decision 2001/648/EC [11], as amended by Decision 2001/879/EC [12] and, in the case of Italy, in Commission Decision 2001/658/EC [13], as amended by Decision 2001/884/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 set at a level that rules out any risk of undue payment to olive growers. The amount also applies to table olives, expressed as olive-oil equivalent. For the 2001/02 marketing year, the estimated production and the unit amount of the production aid that can be paid in advance were laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1793/2002 [15], as amended by Regulation (EC) No 15/2003 [16].

(3) In order to determine the actual production for which entitlement to aid is recognised, the individual Member States concerned must inform the Commission by no later than 15 May following each marketing year of the quantity on which the aid is payable in that Member State, in accordance with Article 14(4) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 [17], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2383/2002 [18]. According to that information, the quantity on which the aid is payable for the 2001/02 marketing year is 1 562 531 tonnes for Spain, 2 591 tonnes for France, 404 619 tonnes for Greece, 711 076 tonnes for Italy and 33 613 tonnes for Portugal.

(4) Confirmation by the Member States that aid is payable on those quantities implies that the controls referred to in Regulations (EEC) No 2261/84 and (EC) No 2366/98 have been carried out. However, setting actual production on the basis of information from the Member States on the quantities on which aid is payable does not prejudge the conclusions that may be drawn from verification of the accuracy of that information under the accounts clearance procedure.

(5) Taking account of the actual production figures, the unit amount of the production aid provided for in Article 5(1) of Regulation No 136/66/EEC payable on the eligible quantities of actual production should also be set.

(6) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Oils and Fats,

[1] OJ 172, 30.9.1966, 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. 20.
[6] OJ L 327, 12.12.2001, p. 43.
[7] OJ L 229, 25.8.2001, p. 16.
[8] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 42.
[9] OJ L 235, 4.9.2001, p. 16.
[10] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 40.
[11] OJ L 229, 25.8.2001, p. 12.
[12] OJ L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 41.
[13] OJ L 231, 29.8.2001, p. 16.
[14] OJ L 327, 12.12.2001, p. 44.
[15] OJ L 272, 10.10.2002, p. 11.
[16] OJ L 2, 7.1.2003, p. 6.
[17] OJ L 293, 31.10.1998, p. 50.
[18] OJ L 358, 31.12.2002, p. 122.