28.3.68 Official Journal of the European Communities No L 76/13

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 27 March 1968

concerning surveys of pig production to be made by Member States

(68/161/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas, in order to carry out the tasks imposed on it by the Treaty and by Council Regulation No 121/67/EEC[1] of 13 July 1967 on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat, the Commission needs to be precisely informed as to trends in pig population and in pigmeat production in the Member States, and to have at its disposal short-term forecasts of market supplies of pigmeat;

Whereas an accurate and uniform appraisal of the market cannot be made from the surveys of pig population carried out at present in the Member States; whereas the monthly statistics for slaughterings are inadequate for this purpose, while short-term forecasts of pigmeat production are undertaken regularly only in some Member States;

Whereas surveys of the pig population should therefore be undertaken in all Member States at comparable points in time, covering similar categories and conducted with comparable accuracy; whereas monthly statistics for slaughterings should be supplemented and forecasts of pigmeat production should be made regularly and in respect of identical periods;

Whereas these surveys should in principle be restricted to holdings which normally engage in the breeding or fattening of pigs; whereas it is necessary, however, in order that a complete picture may be obtained, that a special study be made to cover pigs not coming within the field of survey;

Whereas, since the results of these surveys may serve as a basis for interventions on the market, it is necessary that such results be forwarded to the Commission as soon as possible, for radical changes in pig numbers or in market conditions may occur over a relatively short period of time;

Whereas a change in those statistical methods which have proved effective might have a disruptive effect on statistical recording; whereas provision should therefore be made for a transitional period, during which States may adapt their existing methods; whereas any Member State which carries out surveys at more frequent intervals, records trends in pig population by means of other types of statistical survey, or compiles returns for pigs by age group, should therefore be given the option of continuing to apply its own system for a limited period;

Whereas it is desirable that the Commission submit a report whereby it may be examined to what extent the surveys undertaken have made it possible for the objective of this Directive to be achieved, and that it propose, where appropriate, an alignment of the methods in use;

Whereas, in order to ensure that efforts are co-ordinated as efficiently as possible, all problems arising in connection with the implementation of this Directive, and in particular those concerning the conduct and analysis of the surveys, must be the subject of consultation and permanent co-operation between the Commission and the Member States;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

1. Member States:

(a) shall every four months carry out surveys, one of which shall be at the beginning of December, of the pig population in their countries coming within the field of survey defined in Article 3 (1);

[1] OJ No 117, 19.6.1967, p. 2283/67.