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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 612 final.

Brussels, 18 November 1977.

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION

on the statistical surveys of the areas under vines

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(77) 612 final.



Explanatory memorandum

In view of the experience gained, the Commission is submitting to the Council a proposal for a Regulation setting up a system of statistical surveys of the areas under vines, rather than submitting a complete revision of the Community viticultural land register, to be carried out every ten years beginning in 1979, as was originally stipulated by Regulation N° 26/64/EEC, as most recently amended by Regulation (EEC) N° 1456/76.

- The system entails basic surveys, to be held every ten years, beginning in 1979, of the entire area of vines under cultivation in the Community, subdivided into yield classes, and intermediate surveys on changes in the area under vines cultivated with wine-grape varieties, in the form of grubblings, new plantings and replantings, broken down by yield classes;
- The Regulation refers to the procedure of the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics for defining :
 - (i) the age groups for vines (Article 2);
 - (ii) the schedule of tables for submission of results to the Commission (Articles 4, 5 and 6);
 - (iii) the detailed form for submission of survey results in cases where the latter are processed electronically (Articles 4 and 5);
 - (iv) the yield classes into which the area under cultivation with wine-grape varieties is to be subdivided (Article 6)
- The Regulation lays down the procedure to be followed by the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics (Article 8).
- The new text partially amends Regulation N° 24 and Regulations (EEC) N° 816/70 and N° 1388/70, and repeals Regulations N° 143 and N° 26/64/EEC, with immediate effect, and Regulation (EEC) N° 1135/70 with effect from 1 April 1979 (Article 10).

The proposed system of surveys will produce the statistical information necessary to manage the wine market and to reduce the growing cost of annual intervention.

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION

on the statistical surveys of the areas under vines

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 of the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee⁽²⁾,

Whereas the Commission, in order to fulfil its obligations under the Treaty and the Community regulations on the common organization of the market in wine, requires precise and up-to-date data on the production potential of the areas under vines in the Community and on medium-term trends in production and supply;

Whereas Article 1 of Regulation No 24 on the progressive establishment of a common organization of the market in wine⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation No 92/63/EEC⁽⁴⁾, provides that Member States shall, not later than 31 December 1964, prepare a viticultural land register which shall thereafter be kept up to date;

Whereas Commission Regulation No 26/64/EEC of 28 February 1964 laying down additional provisions for the preparation of the viticultural land register, for its management and for keeping it up to date⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by

(1)

(2)

(3) OJ No 30, 20.4.1962, p. 989/62

(4) OJ No 125, 17.8.1963, p. 2239/63

(5) OJ No 48, 19.3.1964, p. 753/64

(6) OJ No L 163, 24.6.1976, p. 13

Regulation (EEC) No 1496/76⁽⁶⁾, provides that the complete revision of the viticultural land register, as laid down in Article 3(1), should take place every ten years, beginning in 1979;

Whereas a land register in the strict sense involves administrative operations on a considerable scale in order to establish, to manage and to update a list or register of information on the owners and on all the parcels of land under vines with sufficient details for their identification, whereas viticultural land registers in this sense have been established only by certain Member States, which moreover have been able to update them only partially and at irregular intervals; whereas the surveys on the areas under vines carried out by certain Member States have different reference years, whereas consequently these national land registers and surveys do not permit the precise, uniform and synchronized observation of the production potential and the supply on the Community vine markets;

Whereas, in order to assess the Community wine market situation and its developments, every ten years basic statistical surveys in the vinegrowing holdings should be conducted on the total areas under vines and, in between the basic surveys, smaller statistical surveys should be conducted only on the area under vines cultivated with wine grape varieties;

Whereas, for economic and technical reasons and in view of their relative unimportance for the Community wine market, vines cultivated in the open air in Member States with a total area under vines of less than 500 hectares, vines cultivated under glass and vines produced on very small areas solely for home consumption by the growers should all be excluded from the surveys;

Whereas detailed information is necessary on the use of the area under vines for the production of wine grapes, table grapes and material for vegetative propagation of vines, as well as on the varieties and the age of the vines; whereas the overproduction of table wine in particular can create serious difficulties in the wine economies of certain Member States; whereas it is necessary to record separately that area under vines intended for the production of quality wines p.s.r. and of table wines;

Whereas, in order to keep under constant observation the development of the wine production potential, there should be annual intermediate surveys of any changes

by way of grubbing, new planting or replanting in the area under vines cultivated with wine grape varieties;

Whereas the results from the basic and intermediate surveys should be forwarded to the Commission as quickly as possible;

Whereas consideration should also be given to statistics resulting from the application of certain Community measures for reorganizing Community wine production;

Whereas, since sample survey methods can produce precise results at moderate cost over large areas under vines, Member States should be able to conduct the surveys either exhaustively or by sample, provided that standards of statistical reliability are laid down;

Whereas, in order to be able to assess the production of wine in the Community, information is required each year on yields per hectare and on the mean natural alcoholic strength of fresh grapes, of grape must of wine; whereas, in view of the existence of areas with widely differing yields, the area under vines cultivated with wine grape varieties should be sub-divided into yield classes;

Whereas the Commission must submit reports in order to enable the Council to examine the extent to which the surveys carried out and the information communicated can help achieve the objectives of this Regulation; whereas it must suggest, where appropriate, the harmonization of the methods used;

Whereas Member States and the Commission must cooperate as fully as possible when applying this Regulation; whereas its rules of application must be laid down after consultation with the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics, set up by Council Decision 72/279/EEC⁽¹⁾;

Whereas the procedure to be followed by the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics must be laid down;

Whereas statistical surveys allow production potential to be adjusted to the market demand in good time; whereas such adjustment can considerably reduce

(1) OJ No L 179, 7.8.1972, p. 1.

the ever-increasing costs of managing the wine market; whereas the Community should therefore be made financially responsible with regard to the expenses incurred by the Member States concerned in connection with the first basic survey under this Regulation;

Whereas the establishment of the survey system under this Regulation requires the consequent amendment or repeal of certain Community provisions in the wine sector,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION

Article 1

1. Member States on whose territory the total area of vines cultivated in the open air is not less than 500 hectares shall carry out:
 - every ten years basic surveys on the area of vines under cultivation the first basic survey shall be carried out in 1979 and shall relate to the situation after grubbing and planting in the 1978/79 wine-growing year,
 - annually from the second year after the basic surveys, intermediate surveys on the changes taking place in the areas under vines cultivate with wine-grape varieties; the first intermediate survey shall be carried out in 1981 and shall relate to changes during the two wine-growing years 1979/80 and 1980/81.
2. The wine-growing year shall be that fixed on the basis of Article 5 of Regulation No 24.

Article 2

1. The basic surveys shall cover all agricultural holdings with an area under vines cultivated and normally intended for the production for sale of grapes, grape must, wine or vegetative propagation material for vines.
2. During the basic surveys, the following particulars shall be recorded for each agricultural holding referred to in paragraph 1:
 - A. Agricultural area in use
 - B. Area under vines cultivated

The area under vines cultivated is to be broken down according to its normal production use into;

- the area cultivated with wine-grape varieties, further broken down into:
 - quality wines p.s.r.
 - other wines
 - including wine for the manufacture of Cognac
- the area cultivated with table grape varieties
- the area planted with rootstock for grafting
- the area cultivated solely for the production of vegetative propagation material for vines subdivided into:
 - nurseries
 - parent vines for rootstock

Varieties which are classified simultaneously as wine-grape varieties and table-grape varieties shall be recorded according to their predominant use in the geographical units concerned.

3. During the basic surveys, the following particulars shall be recorded for the area cultivated with wine-grape varieties:

A. Vine variety

In the Member States concerned, a separate record shall be made for each geographical unit referred to in Article 4(3), of those vine varieties which together constitute at least 70% of the total area cultivated with wine-grape varieties, and, in any case, of those varieties which constitute 3% or more of the said area. The remaining varieties may be grouped together under the colour of their berries.

B. Age of the vines

The age of the vines shall be calculated from the wine-growing year in which they were planted or grafted. The age groups shall be established for each Member State concerned in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.

4. This Regulation shall not affect any provisions of Member States providing for surveys of the areas under vines which include, in addition to the

information referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, additional information obtained, for example, as a result of wider field of enquiry than those referred to in paragraph 1 or from a more detailed specification of the particulars of the areas under vines and the holdings concerned. These results shall also be notified to the Commission.

Article 3

1. The Member States concerned shall submit to the Commission before 30 June of the preceding year a detailed description of the methods to be used for the basic surveys and, where necessary, of the sampling plan.
2. The Member States concerned shall take suitable measures to limit and, where necessary, to estimate errors of observation for the total area under vines cultivated for each type of production use referred to in Article 2(2B).
3. The basic surveys may either be exhaustive or based on random sampling. As regards the results of the basic surveys carried out by random sampling, the Member States shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the sampling error at the 68% confidence level shall be of the order of 1% at the most for the survey particulars referred to in Article 2(2B) and (3A) within the geographical units concerned. The samples shall include holdings of all sizes.

Article 4

1. The Member States concerned shall notify the Commission of the results of the basic surveys as soon as possible, and in any event not later than 15 months after completion of the field work.
2. The results of the basic surveys shall be submitted by geographical unit in the form of a schedule of tables to be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.
3. The geographical units referred to in paragraph 2 and in Articles 2(2B) and (3A) and (3) shall be as follows:

- for the Federal Republic of Germany: the wine-growing regions defined in accordance with Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 817/70⁽¹⁾;
 - for France: the Départements or groups of Départements listed in the Annex hereto;
 - for Italy: the Provinces;
 - for the other Member States concerned: their entire national territory.
4. Member States which process their basic survey results electronically shall submit these results in a machine-readable form, to be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.

Article 5

1. The intermediate surveys shall cover the area under vines cultivated with wine-grape varieties in the holdings referred to in Article 2(1) and shall relate to changes thereon during the preceding wine-growing year; however, the first intermediate surveys following the basic surveys shall relate to the changes during the previous two wine-growing years.
2. During the intermediate surveys the areas under vines which
- have been grubbed or are no longer cultivated
 - have been planted or replanted
- shall be recorded for the areas normally used for the production of
- quality wines p.s.r.
 - other wines
 - including wines for the manufacture of Cognac
- by the vine variety or at least by the yield classes referred to in Article 6(2).

Any figures relating to the grubbing and planting of vines obtained as a result of the implementation of other Community provisions shall be taken into consideration.

3. The intermediate surveys may either be exhaustive or based on random sampling. As regards the results of the intermediate surveys carried out by random sampling, the Member States concerned shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the sampling error at the 68% confidence level shall be of the order of 3% at the most for the whole of the area under

(1) OJ No L 99, 5.5.1970, p. 20.

vines cultivated and normally intended for the production of wine grapes in the geographical units concerned.

4. The Member States concerned shall submit to the Commission before 30 June 1980 a detailed description of the methods to be used for the intermediate surveys; advance notice shall be given on any change in such methods.
5. The Member States concerned shall submit the results of the intermediate surveys to the Commission before 1 April of the year following the wine-growing years concerned. They shall be broken down into the geographical units set out in Article 4(3) in the form of a schedule of tables to be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.
6. Member States which process their intermediate survey results electronically shall submit the results referred to in paragraph 5 in a machine-readable form, to be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.

Article 6

1. The Member States concerned shall submit to the Commission for each wine-growing year the mean yield per hectare in terms of hectolitre per hectare of wine must or wine or in terms of decitonne per hectare of grapes produced with effect from the 1979/80 wine-growing year from the areas under vines cultivated with wine-grape varieties, broken down into the yield classes referred to in paragraph 2.
2. The Member States concerned shall classify the areas under vines cultivated with wine-grape varieties as recorded in the basic surveys into 5 yield classes based upon the mean yields per hectare referred to in paragraph 1 and established in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.
3. The Member States concerned shall estimate the future trends over 5 wine-growing years in average yields per hectare for each yield class referred to in paragraph 2, taking into account agronomic and economic developments.

4. The information referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be broken down by the geographical units referred to in Article 4(3), distinguishing between the areas under vines cultivated with varieties normally intended for the production of
 - quality wines p.s.r.
 - other wines
 - including wines for the manufacture of Cognac.
5. The Member States concerned shall communicate to the Commission for each wine-growing year broken down by geographical units, the mean natural alcoholic strength expressed as a percentage of the volume or in °Oechsle of the grape musts, fresh grapes or wines, produced with effect from the 1979/80 wine-growing year, from the areas under vines cultivated with wine-grape varieties normally intended for the production of wines other than quality wines p.s.r. The Member States concerned in which the production of quality wines p.s.r. exceeds 50% of the total production of wine shall communicate the mean natural alcoholic strength separately for quality wines p.s.r. and other wines.
6. The annual information referred to in paragraphs 1 and 5 shall be communicated on 1 April of the year following the relevant wine-growing year. The information on the yield classes referred to in paragraph 2 shall be communicated within the period laid down in Article 4(1). The estimates of future trends in average yields per hectare referred to in paragraph 3 shall be communicated by 1 April 1981 and every five years thereafter.
7. The information referred to in this Article shall be communicated to the Commission in the form of a schedule of tables to be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8.

Article 7

1. The Commission shall study in consultation and continuing collaboration with the Member States:
 - (a) the results supplied;
 - (b) the technical problems raised by the surveys and the collection of information to be communicated;
 - (c) the significance of the findings of the surveys and the information

- (c) the significance of the findings of the surveys and the information communicated.
2. The Commission shall submit to the Council, within one year of the notification of the results by the Member States concerned, a report on the experience acquired during the basic surveys.
 3. The Commission shall publish the results of the intermediate surveys and annual information referred to in Article 6 as part of the annual reports provided for in Article 17(4) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 816/70⁽¹⁾.

Article 8

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is to be followed, the Chairman shall refer the matter to the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics, hereinafter called the "Committee", either on his own initiative or at the request of the representatives of a Member State.
2. The representative of the Commission shall submit to the Committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall give its opinion on this draft within a time limit to be set by the Chairman in accordance with the urgency of the question. It shall act by a majority of 41 votes and the votes of Member States shall be weighted as laid down in Article 148⁽²⁾ of the Treaty. The Chairman shall not vote.
3. (a) The Commission shall adopt the proposed measures when they are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee.
(b) When the proposed measures are not in accordance with the opinion of the Committee, or in the absence of any opinion, the Commission shall immediately submit to the Council a proposal for the measures to be taken. The Council shall decide by a qualified majority.
(c) If after three months no decision has been taken by the Council the proposed measures shall be adopted by the Commission.

(1) OJ No L 99, 5.5.1970, p. 1.

Article 9

The necessary expenditure for the basic survey on the situation after the 1978/79 wine-growing year shall be entered in the budget of the European Communities at a standard rate to be determined.

Article 10

1. Article 1 of Regulation No 24 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Member States shall follow by annual surveys the areas for the production of vegetative propagation material for vines."

2. Article 17 of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 is hereby amended as follows, with effect from 1 April 1979:

(a) Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 7 are repealed

(b) Paragraph 4 shall read as follows:

"Each year, before 31 March and for the first time before 31 March 1982 the Commission shall submit to the Council on the basis of the statistical surveys on the areas under vines provided for by Regulation (EEC) No a report on the future trends of area under vines in the Community and on the existing relationship between production and utilization in the vine sector. The first report shall relate to the 1978/79 wine-growing year."

3. Article 3(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1388/70 of 13 July 1970 on general rules for the classification of vine varieties⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 985/73⁽²⁾, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"1. Wine-grape varieties and table-grapes varieties shall be classified for each of the following Administrative units or parts thereof:

- the Regierungsbezirk for the Federal Republic of Germany
- the Department for France
- the Provinces for Italy
- the entire national territory for the other Member States."

(1) OJ No L 155, 16.7.1970, p. 5.

(2) OJ No L 99, 3.4.1973, p. 1.

4. The following Regulations (EEC) are hereby repealed:

- Commission Regulation No 143 laying down initial provisions for the preparation of the viticultural land register⁽¹⁾, with immediate effect,
- Regulation No 26/64/EEC, with immediate effect,
- Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1135/70 of 17 June 1970 on the notification of the planting and replanting of vineyards for the purposes of controlling the development of planting⁽²⁾, with effect from 1 April 1979.

Article 11

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities, This Regulation is binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Brussels,

For the Council

The President

(1) OJ No 127, 1.12.1962; p. 2789/62.

(2) OJ No L 134, 19.6.1970, p. 2.

Annex

List of Departments or groups de Departments referred to in Article 4(3)

F r a n c e :

1. Marne
2. Ardennes, Aube, Haute-Marne, Seine-et-Marne, Yvelines, Essonne, Hauts-de-Seine, Val-d'Oise, Val-de-Marne
3. Meurthe-et-Moselle, Meuse, Moselle, Vosges
4. Bas-Rhin, Haut-Rhin
5. Doubs, Jura, Haute-Saône
6. Saône-et-Loire
7. Côte-d'Or, Nièvre, Yonne
8. Indre-et-Loire
9. Loir-et-Cher
10. Cher, Eure-et-Loir, Indre, Loiret
11. Loire-Atlantique
12. Maine-et-Loire
13. Mayenne, Sarthe, Vendée, Finistère, Ille-et-Vilaine, Morbihan
14. Charente
15. Charente-Maritime
16. Deux-Sèvres, Vienne
17. Dordogne
18. Gironde
19. Landes, Pyrénées-Atlantiques
20. Lot-et-Garonne
21. Haute-Garonne
22. Gers
23. Tarn
24. Tarn-et-Garonne
25. Ariège, Aveyron, Lot, Hautes-Pyrénées
26. Corrèze, Creuse, Haute-Vienne
27. Allier, Cantal, Haute-Loire, Puy-de-Dôme
28. Ardèche
29. Drôme
30. Rhône
31. Ain, Sèvres, Loire, Savoie, Haute-Savoie
32. Aube
33. Gard, Lozère
34. Hérault
35. Pyrénées-Orientales
36. Bouches-du-Rhône
37. Var
38. Vaucluse
39. Alpes de Haute-Provence, Hautes-Alpes, Alpes-Maritimes
40. Corse

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Annex to the proposal for a Council Regulation on statistical surveys of areas under vines.

1. Title and purpose of the survey

First basic survey on areas under vines in 1979, the aim of which is to provide up-to-date information on production capacity, particularly in respect of table wine, in the Community.

2. Origin

Council Regulation No 24, as most recently amended by Regulation N° 92/63/EEC.

3. Justification

The 1979 survey will be the first one carried out by the Member States concerned to provide information on a uniform and synchronized basis. The system of statistical surveys will replace the drawing up, analysis and updating of the Community viticultural land register, which has proved much too cumbersome.

This information will allow adjustment of the production potential to market demand and can reduce considerably the cost of managing the wine market.

4. Allocation and estimation of cost

It is anticipated that the expenditure uncurrēd by the Member States shall be reimbursed in part by the Commission at a flat rate from the credits entered in the budget for studies and surveys of a statistical nature (Article 264) for 1979 (1 000 000 units of account) and 1980 (2 000 000 units of account).

The present proposal represent 3 000 000 units of account for approximately 2 500 000 ha under vines in the 4 principal wine growing Member States and 3 000 000 winegrounds.

The estimate of cost takes into account the possibilities in certain Member States of carrying out the surveys by sampling.