

# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Directive	1996/0139(CNS)	Procedure completed
	Ireland: list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC	
Subject 3.10.01.06 Less-favoured agricultural areas		
Geographical area Ireland		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<u>Agriculture and Fisheries</u>	<u>1944</u>	23/07/1996

Key events			
22/05/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0224	Summary
03/07/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
09/07/1996	Vote in committee		
19/07/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0426/1996	Summary
23/07/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
23/07/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
06/08/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/0139(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive

Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 000; Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/07983

#### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1996)0224 <a href="#">OJ C 237 15.08.1996, p. 0007</a>	23/05/1996	EC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0426/1996 <a href="#">OJ C 261 09.09.1996, p. 0181-0186</a>	19/07/1996	EP	Summary

#### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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#### Final act

<a href="#">Directive 1996/52</a> <a href="#">OJ L 194 06.08.1996, p. 0005</a> Summary
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## Ireland: list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC

OBJECTIVE: to supplement the list of less-favoured Irish farming areas, in accordance with Article 2(1) of Directive 75/268/EEC, to include new as yet unlisted townlands on the Community list of less-favoured farming areas. CONTENT: the types of areas notified by the Irish Government to the Commission (a list of townlands) satisfy the characteristics of the areas referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 3 of Directive 75/268/EEC, which are: a) less-favoured agricultural areas characterised by infertile land and low agricultural income (Article 3(4)); b) less-favoured areas with specific handicaps (small agricultural plots, hills, poor groundwater balance, coastal islands, etc.) where agricultural activity must be maintained in order to preserve the countryside (Article 3(5)). - The following criteria on land with low productivity were used to define each of the areas referred to in Article 3(4): . tilled surface area of less than 7.8%, . stocking density of less than one adult bovine unit per hectare under forage, . the concept of economic return from farming significantly below the average was defined as a family farm income per farm worker not exceeding 80% of the national average, . low population density was defined as a density not exceeding 27 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> and a minimum percentage of the total working population employed in agriculture of 30%. - As regards the criteria for identifying the areas referred to in Article 3(5), natural conditions unfavourable to production were chosen (insularity, excessive ambient salinity, strong winds, poor soil potential and poor groundwater balance) together with handicaps resulting from the constraints imposed by countryside conservation regulations. When these criteria were applied, the utilised agricultural area (UAA) in Ireland increased by 2.1%. This means that 73% of the country's utilised agricultural area comes under the heading of less-favoured area. Areas with specific handicaps do not exceed 4% of the area of Ireland. A breakdown of the classified areas is included in the annex. The Community contribution to compensatory allowances for farmers in these areas will be accounted for as part of the overall amount set aside for Objective 5a and Objective 1 of the Structural Funds. ?

## Ireland: list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC

Parliament approved the proposal for a directive without amendment. ?

## Ireland: list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC

OBJECTIVE: to supplement the list of less-favoured Irish farming areas, in accordance with Article 2(1) of Directive 75/268/EEC, in order to include new as yet unlisted townlands on the Community list of less-favoured farming areas. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 96/52/EC amending Directive 85/350/EEC with regard to the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Ireland). SUBSTANCE: the types of area notified by Ireland and accepted by the Council (a series of townlands) satisfy the characteristics of the areas referred to in Article 3(4) and (5) of Directive 75/268/EEC, which are: (a) less-favoured agricultural areas characterized by low soil productivity and low agricultural income (Article 3(4)); (b) less-favoured areas with specific handicaps (low number of agricultural parcels, hills, poor ground water balance, coastal islands, etc.) where agricultural activity must be maintained in order to preserve the countryside (Article 3(5)). - The following criteria on land of low productivity were used to identify each of the areas referred to in Article 3(4): . tilled surface area less than 7.8%, and . stocking density less than one adult bovine unit per hectare of forage, . the concept of economic return from farming appreciably below the average has been defined as a family farm income per farm worker not exceeding 80% of the national average, . low population density has been defined as a density not exceeding 27 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> and the minimum percentage of the active population employed in agriculture is 30%. - As regards the criteria for identifying the areas referred to in Article 3(5), natural conditions unfavourable to production (insularity, excessive ambient salinity, strong winds, low soil potential and poor ground water

balance) were chosen, as were the handicaps resulting from the constraints imposed by countryside conservation regulations. These indices when applied increase the UAA in Ireland by 2.1%. The proportion of less-favoured areas becomes 73% of the country's UAA. Areas with specific handicaps do not exceed 4% of the area of Ireland. A breakdown of the classified areas is set out in the Annex. The Community contribution to compensatory allowances will be accounted for as part of the overall amount laid down for Objectives 5(a) and 1 of the Structural Funds. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 23 July 1996. ?