




Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2003/0279(CNS)	Procedure completed
Olive oil and table olives: common organisation of the market CMO (amend. Regulation (ECC) No 827/68 and repeal. Regulation No 14)		
Subject 3.10.07 Animal and vegetable fats, oils		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Agriculture and Rural Development		25/11/2003
		PSE LAVARRA Vincenzo	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Budgets		16/12/2003
		ELDR MULDER Jan	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2575	21/04/2004
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2579	21/04/2004
European Commission	Commission DG Agriculture and Rural Development	Commissioner	

Key events			
18/11/2003	Legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0698	Summary
03/12/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/02/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
19/02/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0106/2004	
09/03/2004	Debate in Parliament		
10/03/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0165/2004	Summary
21/04/2004	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
29/04/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/0279(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037-p2; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 036
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/20414

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2003)0698	18/11/2003	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0106/2004	19/02/2004	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0310/2004 OJ C 110 30.04.2004, p. 0024-0025	25/02/2004	ESC	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0165/2004 OJ C 102 28.04.2004, p. 0520-0626 E	10/03/2004	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 2004/865 OJ L 206 09.06.2004, p. 0037-0050 Summary

Olive oil and table olives: common organisation of the market CMO (amend. Regulation (ECC) No 827/68 and repeal. Regulation No 14)

PURPOSE : to reform the common organisation of the market in the olive oil and table olives and to amend Regulation 827/68/EEC.

PROPOSED ACT : Council Regulation. **CONTENT** : the European Commission has presented its proposal aiming to reform the common agricultural policy on cotton, olive oil and table olives, tobacco and hops with a view to enhancing competitiveness, creating a stronger market-orientation, improved environmental respect, stabilising incomes for farmers and having a higher regard for the situation of producers in least favoured areas. (Please refer to CNS/2003/0278). Regulation 136/66/EEC on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats covers not only olive oil and table olives but also oilseeds, oil cakes and other vegetable oils. It shall expire on 1 November 2004, this instrument must be repealed and replaced by a Council Regulation on the common organisation of the market in olive oil and table olives. The new market organisation must comprise: 1) an internal market and trade scheme which allows market forces to operate, while controlling imports under the common market organisation rules and providing for crisis-management instruments: the Commission proposes that, by way of exception, the 2004/05 marketing year should last for a period of eight months ending on 30 June 2005. Subsequent marketing years will begin on 1 July and last for 12 months. The existing aid scheme for private storage must therefore be retained. However, it is important that this mechanism should not distort market-led production. Consequently, aid should continue to be triggered by the Commission on a non-automatic basis and in accordance with the market situation. Community canned foods preserved in olive oil are at present highly rated by consumers, who are coming to appreciate foodstuffs in olive oil to a growing extent. Aid for the use of olive oil - usually of medium quality - in canning has ceased to be justified by the new marketing approaches, which set out to highlight the attributes of olive oil rather than affect selling prices. The Commission proposes that this refund should be abolished. 2) a scheme to enhance quality in the broad sense of the term, based on observance of marketing standards and the work of operators' organisations in the olive sector : the future of the Community olive-growing sector depends to a large extent on the entire industry committing itself to a comprehensive quality-oriented approach. Although little experience has been acquired to date, there appears to be a need to reinforce the existing mechanism in several respects: - establish commitments spread over three years and promote activities with a multinational dimension; - reinforce the contribution of operators in the olive sector towards effective quality monitoring and control of the genuineness of olive oils released for consumption; - step

up activities which target quality, publicising this work and the results achieved; - reinforce the arrangements for appraisal and audit by the Member States. The total Community financing for these programmes is to be set by the Member State concerned, but may not exceed 10% of the national envelope, which is greater than the maximum amounts which may be deducted from production aid at present. ?

Olive oil and table olives: common organisation of the market CMO (amend. Regulation (ECC) No 827/68 and repeal. Regulation No 14)

The committee adopted the report by Vincenzo LAVARRA (PES, I) amending the proposal under the consultation procedure: - the production and marketing of mixtures of any type of oils or fats with olive oils should be prohibited; - it should be prohibited to use the words 'olive oil', or "any other term or image that suggests that product, the olive tree or any of its parts" on labelling or consumer information for products derived from any mixture of vegetable oils; - the origin of 'virgin' and 'extra virgin' olive oils, determined on the basis of the country in which the olives were harvested, rather than that in which the oil was produced, should be indicated on the label; - the proposed threshold price which automatically triggers the private storage procedure should be increased; - a production refund system should operate for olive oil used for the processing of canned fish, given that such refunds help to ensure that the canning industries can compete in the market; - producers' organisations should not be assigned market supervision and monitoring duties, which should remain the responsibility of the existing national supervisory bodies in close cooperation with the competent Community authorities; - like other agricultural sectors, the olive oil sector should have a transitional period before the new arrangements come into effect. MEPs therefore called for the new scheme to apply from the 2006/07 marketing year, rather than the 2004/05 marketing year as proposed by the Commission. ?

Olive oil and table olives: common organisation of the market CMO (amend. Regulation (ECC) No 827/68 and repeal. Regulation No 14)

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Vincenzo LAVARRA (PES, I) making some amendments to the Commission's proposals. (Please see the summary of 19/02/04.)?

Olive oil and table olives: common organisation of the market CMO (amend. Regulation (ECC) No 827/68 and repeal. Regulation No 14)

PURPOSE : to present the new organisation of the common market in olive oil and table olives.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 865/2004/EC on the common organisation of the market in olive oil and table olives and amending Regulation 827/68/EEC. (Corrigendum of the Regulation published in OJ L 161 of 30 April 2004).

CONTENT : the Council has adopted two Regulations aiming to reform the common agricultural policy on cotton, olive oil and table olives, tobacco and hops with a view to enhancing competitiveness, creating a stronger market-orientation, improved environmental respect, stabilising incomes for farmers and having a higher regard for the situation of producers in least favoured areas. (Please refer to CNS/2003/0278).

Two Regulations were adopted, one amending the general support scheme in Regulation 1782/2003/EC ("horizontal legislation") on the implementation of the Single Farm Payment (SFP), and the other amending the Common Market Organisation in the olive oil sector.

To recall, Regulation 136/66/EEC on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats covers not only olive oil and table olives but also oilseeds, oil cakes and other vegetable oils. It shall expire on 1 November 2004, this instrument must be repealed and replaced this Council Regulation on the common organisation of the market in olive oil and table olives.

The new Regulation provides that the marketing year for the products concerned shall begin on 1 July and end on 30 June of the following year. However, the 2005/06 marketing year shall begin on 1 November 2005.

More specifically, this Regulation stipulates that :

- the use of the descriptions and definitions of olive oils and olive-pomace oils set out in Annex I shall be compulsory as regards the marketing of the products concerned within each Member State, in intra-Community trade and, as long as compatible with international compulsory rules, trade with third countries;
- the characteristics of the olive oil justify an interest of the consumers in spite of the high price of that oil as compared with other oils and fats. To avoid abuses as regards the quality and authenticity of the products presented to the consumers and the important disturbances on the market they may involve, special measures are needed to develop and protect the quality of olives and olive oils;
- the information given on labels should be guaranteed by up-to-date methods of analysis and other measures to determine the characteristics of each olive oil standard;
- to make provision for appropriate measures to be taken in order to stabilise the internal market;
- the contribution of olive oil and table olive operators to improve and guarantee the quality of the products in question and so to develop the consumers' interests and keep the balance in the market should be encouraged and organised by a Community scheme;
- that Community finance, consisting of the percentage of direct aid that Member States are allowed to withhold in accordance with Regulation 1782/2003, is required to encourage approved operators' organisations to draw up work programmes for the purpose of improving the production quality of olive oil and table olives. Community support should be allocated in accordance with the priorities given to the activities undertaken within the work programmes in question;
- in order to monitor the volume of olive oil trade with third countries while aiming at a simplification of administrative procedures, provision should be made for an import licence scheme with the lodging of a security to ensure that the transactions for which such licences are requested are effected. If market developments made necessary a closer follow-up of exports of olive oil from the Community, the Commission should be authorised to introduce a system of export licences;
- the customs duty system makes it possible to dispense with all other protective measures at the external frontier of the Community. The internal market and duty mechanism could, in exceptional circumstances, prove deficient. In such cases, in order not to leave the Community

market without defence against disturbances that might ensue, the Community should be able to take all necessary measures without delay.

All such measures should comply with the obligations arising from the WTO agreements;

- the provisions of the Treaty State aid should apply to the products covered by this common market organisation;

- Member States and the Commission shall send each other any information necessary for the application of this Regulation and for complying with the international obligations concerning olive oil and table olives.

ENTRY INTO FORCE : 07/05/2004. It shall apply from the marketing year 2005/2006.