




Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Directive	1993/1237(CNS)	Procedure completed
Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...		
Subject 3.10.06 Crop products in general, floriculture		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Agriculture and Rural Development		08/09/1994
		V GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF Friedrich-Wilhelm	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		18/10/1995
		PSE ROTH-BEHRENDT Dagmar	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2151	14/12/1998

Key events			
26/11/1993	Legislative proposal published	COM(1993)0598	Summary
17/01/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/02/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
23/02/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0029/1995	
16/03/1995	Debate in Parliament		
17/03/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0122/1995	Summary
17/03/1995	Report referred back to committee		
18/07/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
18/07/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0177/1995	
15/07/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0364/1997	Summary
19/12/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0690	Summary

14/12/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
14/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
01/02/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1993/1237(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 163; EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/3/05174; AGRI/4/06467

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1993)0598 OJ C 029 31.01.1994, p. 0001	26/11/1993	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0567/1994 OJ C 195 18.07.1994, p. 0036	27/04/1994	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0029/1995 OJ C 068 20.03.1995, p. 0013	23/02/1995	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading		T4-0122/1995 OJ C 286 22.09.1997, p. 0021-0030	17/03/1995	EP	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0177/1995 OJ C 269 16.10.1995, p. 0009	18/07/1995	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0364/1997 OJ C 286 22.09.1997, p. 0021-0030	15/07/1997	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(1997)0690 OJ C 053 20.02.1998, p. 0008	19/12/1997	EC	Summary

Final act

[Directive 1998/95](#)
[OJ L 025 01.02.1999, p. 0001](#) Summary

Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...

This proposal sought to amend Directives 66/400/EEC to 66/403/EEC, 69/208/EEC, 70/457/EEC et 70/458/EEC, defining the conditions under which beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, seed of oil and fibre plants and vegetable seed could be marketed in the Community and included in the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species. With a view to the operation of the Internal Market, the provisions of these directives enabling the Member States to make unilateral derogations from certain rules were no longer appropriate and they had to be deleted. In addition, the proposal extended the scope of the directives to the production and, where appropriate, the utilisation of seed. Lastly, in the light of the experience gained and scientific and technical progress, it also clarified and updated certain provisions and created a legal basis taking into account of the developments in the field of genetically modified varieties of chemically treated seed. ?

Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...

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The Committee adopted unanimously the report by Mr GRAEFE zu BARINGDORF. The report largely supports the Commission's proposals aimed at adapting the Community directives on the seed market in the light of the completion of the single market, new growing methods and the changed political realities. In this context, the Committee approved the ending of various exemptions for individual member states, where they represent an obstacle to the marketing of seed, although it believed that exceptional rules for regional measures for conservation purposes should still be permitted. Significantly, the report also proposed a new directive on the marketing of seed varieties worthy of protection in order to actively promote the conservation of plant genetic resources in the EU. This replaces the discretionary provisions proposed by the Commission.

Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...

The European Parliament adopted 18 amendments to the Commission proposal but did not hold the final vote on the entire report by Mr GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF as it wished to reach a global compromise with the European Commission. The issue was therefore referred back to the relevant committee for reconsideration. The amendments adopted by the European Parliament were aimed in particular at: - limiting the scope of the directive to the marketing of beet seed within the Community; - maintaining the specific marking for chemically treated seed and introducing it for genetically modified varieties; - specific controls and marking of varieties intended more specifically for biological production; - presentation of a proposal for a Council directive for the conservation of plant genetic resources by derogation to the directives concerning the marketing of seeds. ?

Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...

La commission a adopté le second projet de rapport de M. GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF (V). Le premier rapport n'avait pas été mis au vote à la session de mars 1995, lorsqu'il était apparu clairement que la Commission n'était pas prête à accepter la plupart des amendements adoptés par le Parlement. Le rapporteur a profité de ce renvoi en commission pour négocier avec le Commissaire à l'agriculture, M. FISCHLER, une série d'amendements de compromis. La commission a adopté à l'unanimité les amendements de compromis et souhaiterait présenter le rapport en septembre 1995.

Seed marketing : beets, fodder, cereals, potatoes, etc...

The European Parliament adopted the 2nd report without debate by Mr Friedrich-Wilhelm GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF (Greens, D) on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, seed of oil and fibre plants and vegetable seed and on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species. Parliament called for the scope of the Directive to be extended to include only the marketing of seed and not its production and use. Parliament took the view that genetic resources must be conserved and that a legal basis to that end should be introduced to permit, within the framework of legislation on the seed trade, the conservation, by use in situ, of varieties threatened with genetic erosion. ?

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The amended Commission proposal takes into account the amendments suggested by the European Parliament (15 in all) on which the Commission has taken a favourable position. The principle amendments cover the following aspects: - extending the field of application of Directives 66/400/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 66/403/EEC, 69/208/EEC, 70/457/EEC and 70/458/EEC on the production and marketing of seed; - the establishment of a legal basis to ensure the conservation of genetic resources; this legal basis should make it possible, in the context of legislation on seed marketing, to conserve species threatened by genetic erosion through their utilisation in situ; - establishment of a legal basis governing the conditions under which seed suitable for organic growing may be marketed. ?

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PURPOSE: to remove any actual or potential barriers to trade which may hinder the free movement of seeds within the Community. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 98/95/EC amending, in respect of the consolidation of the internal market, genetically modified plant varieties and plant genetic resources, Directives 66/400/EEC, 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 66/403/EEC, 69/208/EEC, 70/457/EEC and 70/458/EEC on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, seed of oil and fibre plants and vegetable seed on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species (1993 seed package). CONTENT: This text seeks to modify or repeal certain provisions of the existing legislation with the purpose of removing all barriers, whether real or potential, to trade which may hinder the free movement of seeds within the Community and to extend the scope of application of existing Directives. ENTRY INTO FORCE: twelve months following the Directive's notification. ?

