Livestock production: organic production of agricultural products, indication on foodstuffs (Regul. 2092/91/EEC)

1996/0205(CNS) - 26/02/1997 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

Whilst the Committee welcomes the Commission proposal to frame common rules on organic animal production, it nevertheless feels that the rules are too general and imprecise, and as such, are likely to weaken the legal impact of the regulation. It therefore suggests that the regulation and its annexes should confine themselves to establishing clearly-defined minimum requirements for organic production. Attention should also be paid to the large regional variations within the EU regarding natural conditions and climate, and national exceptions should be allowed as long as they do not lead to distortion of competition. Organic production is growing, following an increase in demand. The Committee therefore feels it is necessary to boost consumer confidence and ensure that all citizens have access to reasonably-priced organic fare.