

Common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat: agricultural prices for 2001

2000/0049(CNS) - 29/02/2000 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: the setting of basic price and seasonally adjusted price for sheepmeat and goatmeat for the 2000/2001 marketing year. **CONTENT:** As a result of the decisions on Agenda 2000 in May 1999 and the reforms of the common market organisations (CMOs) since 1992, the yearly fixing of institutional prices and amounts now affects only a few sectors. The basic price is used to determine the loss of revenue for producers. The ewe premium is calculated on the basis of the difference between the basic price and the arithmetic mean of the weekly average weighted prices on the representative Community markets. Seasonally adjusted prices are also fixed to take account of the normal seasonal variations on the market. Where the market price falls below a certain percentage of the seasonally adjusted price it may be decided to grant private storage aid. In line with the multiannual approach, it is proposed that the basic price and the seasonally adjusted prices be fixed in the basic Regulation 2467/98/EC. The basic price should remain at the present level of EUR 504.07/100 kg. For the seasonally adjusted prices, the first week should begin on the first day of the marketing year (first Monday in January). The proposal also brings the Committee procedures into line with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission. The change in appropriation requirements compared to those on which the budget was based is -EUR 99 million. An upward revision to the average market prices for the 1999 and 2000 marketing years and consequent reductions in the rates of premium is the essential factor explaining the decrease in requirements. In effect, the average market price for 1999 has been determined at EUR 3 306/tonne against 3 250/tonne for the budget. The forecast average price for 2000 has also been revised upwards to EUR 3 350/tonne instead of EUR 3 250/tonne. Consequently, and taking account of slight adaptations to the technical coefficient used in determining the rate of premium and in the forecast number of eligible animals, the requirements for the premium are reduced by EUR 91 million. The requirements for the fixed additional premium payable in less favoured areas are also decreased by EUR 8 million, essentially because the proportion of the advance on the premium for 1999, which was paid in the 1999 financial year, was greater than initially foreseen.