Basic information

1997/2296(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Agricultural production compatible with environmental requirements and countryside (implem. Regul. 2078/92/EEC) **Subject** 3.10.01 Agricultural structures and holdings, farmers 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	IVERSEN John (PSE)	03/02/1998
	Committee for opinion	**Rapporteur for opinion**	**Appointed**
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/12/1997	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1997)0620	Summary
16/02/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/09/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
28/09/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0345/1998	
22/10/1998	Debate in Parliament		
23/10/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
09/11/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/2296(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)

Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148 Rules of Procedure EP 050
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/09586

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0345/1998 OJ C 328 26.10.1998, p. 0005	28/09/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0628/1998 OJ C 341 09.11.1998, p. 0362-0365	23/10/1998	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1997)0620	04/12/1997	Summary

Agricultural production compatible with environmental requirements and countryside (implem. Regul. 2078/92/EEC)

1997/2296(COS) - 23/10/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Mr John Iversen (PES, DK) on the environment and agricultural production, Parliament considers that the Commission report on the application of regulation (EEC) 2078/92 on agricultural production methods compatible with the requirements of protection of the environment and the maintenance of the countryside is not an evaluation and it is therefore impossible to make a comprehensive judgement on the effectiveness of the scheme. It hopes that the regulation's objectives will be clarified and more performance-related and that the levels of premia should be increased in some specific cases. Application of the programme has been affected by a lack of preparation and Parliament regrets that 86% of expenditure has been accounted for in five Member States and calls on the Commission to publish an evaluation report as soon as possible giving precise details of the application and impact of the programme. Parliament also considers: - that farmers should only receive specific funds if they demonstrate a commitment to the agri- environment programmes (environmental benefits must be visible and clear), - that the agri-environment programme should cover all land where farmers are making efforts to enhance the environment and be extended to less favoured areas, - that the requirement for 20 year set-aside in some cases is too long and that a more flexible variant should be introduced, - that the scheme should be widened in other ways (help with local planning, provision of advice, access to information, dissemination of research results, use of new technologies).

Agricultural production compatible with environmental requirements and countryside (implem. Regul. 2078/92/EEC)

1997/2296(COS) - 04/12/1997 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: this Commission report deals with the application of Regulation (EEC) 2078/92 on agricultural production methods compatible with the requirements of the protection of the environment and the maintenance of the countryside. SUBSTANCE: the first part of the report describes the operation of the agri-environmental regulation. The second part explains how it integrates with the common agricultural policy and the other instruments of Community policy. The third part reports on its implementation up to 1997. The last part draws a certain number of conclusions and presents recommendations taking into account the growing role occupied by agri-environmental programmes under Agenda 2000: a) the Commission intends to produce and present working documents on the following aspects of implementation of the programmes: - implementation in the Member States; - support for organic farming; - support for maintaining genetic resources; - evaluation studies and Community-funded research and studies; -

training and demonstration projects; b) the Commission will continue to encourage Member States: - to make the best use of existing opportunities for integrating the agri-environment programme with structural fund programmes; - to develop non-premia programmes for disseminating information to farmers; - to implement fully those programmes which are behind schedule; c) the Commission is considering bringing forward several proposals for the adjustment of the provisions of Regulation 2078/92, including: - an improved legal framework for the non-land management measures; - a review of the system of maximum part-financible premia; - a review of the measure to reduce stock numbers to focus on low-intensity pasture management; - a review of criteria for incorporation of capital investments and landscape and historical farmland features within programmes; - a review of the measure for environmental set aside; - possibilities for the provision for part-financing from Community funds of monitoring and evaluation costs; - review of Community part-financing rates. In addition, in the context of Agenda 2000 the Commission will bring forward a proposal to strengthen agri-environmental measures within regional and zonal programmes. Finally, the Commission will investigate ways and means and terms of reference for establishing an observatory of environmentally beneficial agriculture.