

Basic information	
1998/0126(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM	
Repealed by 2007/0138(CNS) Amended by 2001/0132(CNS) Amended by 2005/0160(CNS) Amended by 2006/0144(COD)	
Subject 3.10.06.08 Wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages 8.20.12 Enlargement's agricultural point of view	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	MARTIN Philippe-Armand (UPE)	26/11/1997
	Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	MARTIN Philippe-Armand (UPE)	26/11/1997
	Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	MIRANDA Joaquim (GUE/NGL)	03/06/1998
	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2115	1998-07-20
Council of the European Union	Agriculture and Fisheries	2151	1998-12-14
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2118	1998-09-28
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2178	1999-05-17
	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Secretariat-General		

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/07/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0370	 Summary
20/07/1998	Debate in Council		
14/09/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/09/1998	Debate in Council		
14/12/1998	Debate in Council		
26/01/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
26/01/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0046/1999	
09/02/1999	Debate in Parliament		
11/02/1999	Report referred back to committee		
20/04/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
20/04/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0223/1999	
05/05/1999	Debate in Parliament		
17/05/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/05/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/07/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/0126(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	Repealed by 2007/0138(CNS) Amended by 2001/0132(CNS) Amended by 2005/0160(CNS) Amended by 2006/0144(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 036
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/10771 AGRI/4/10379

Documentation gateway
European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0046/1999 OJ C 150 28.05.1999, p. 0005	26/01/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		T4-0100/1999 OJ C 150 28.05.1999, p. 0274-0289	11/02/1999	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0223/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0007	20/04/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0448/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0256-0386	06/05/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(1998)0182 	18/03/1998	
Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0370  OJ C 271 31.08.1998, p. 0021	16/07/1998	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2004)0161 	12/03/2004	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2007)0370 	29/06/2007	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0273/1998 OJ C 093 06.04.1999, p. 0001	14/01/1999	
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0068/1999 OJ C 101 12.04.1999, p. 0060	27/01/1999	
EU	Implementing legislative act	32000R1227 OJ L 143 16.06.2000, p. 0001-0021	31/05/2000	
EU	Implementing legislative act	32003R0715 OJ L 104 25.04.2003, p. 0013-0016	24/04/2003	
EU	Implementing legislative act	32003R1841 OJ L 268 18.10.2003, p. 0058-0059	17/10/2003	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 2001/2585
OJ L 345 29.12.2001, p. 0010-0011

Regulation 1999/1493
OJ L 179 14.07.1999, p. 0001

Summary

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 16/07/1998 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to implement changes to the common market organisation for wine, according to the overall guiding principles of the Agenda 2000 proposals for changes to the common agricultural policy. **CONTENT:** the proposal considers the reform of the wine sector should take account of seven broad aims: 1) maintaining improved balance between supply and demand on the Community market, allowing producers to take advantage of expanding markets; 2) enabling the sector to become more competitive in the longer term; 3) eliminating the availability of intervention as an artificial outlet for surplus production; 4) continuing to maintain all traditional outlets for potable alcohol and vine-based products; 5) accomodating regional diversity; 6) formalizing the potential role of producer and interbranch (or equivalent) organizations; 7) considerably simplifying legislation in order to improve transparency and aid compliance. To achieve these objectives, the Commission proposes a combination of new measures and a refocussing of certain existing measures, as necessary to address the new situation: a) retaining the existing ban on new vineyard plantings for a further transitional period. Where replantings (i.e. which do not lead to an increase in the overall area under vines) are permitted, there will be a technical change to the existing rules to allow grubbing following replanting. However, to enable plantings in areas with expanding demand, an initial quantity of additional planting rights will be allocated to Member States via a new system of managing planting rights, with priority for young entrants to the sector. The system will involve the establishing of "pools" (i.e. reserves) of planting rights and is intended to be more flexible than the existing arrangements by facilitating transfers of unused planting rights to those producers in greatest need. A pre-condition for regions or Member States receiving any of the initial quantity of additional planting rights or transferred rights will be the completion of an inventory including information on areas under vines, varieties and planting rights, which will act as a control and monitoring tool for plantings. The existing Vineyard Register (Caser Viticole) remains in force. The allocation of additional planting rights will also be dependant on Member States dealing with cases of irregular plantings. b) grubbing-up measures are to be retained, but will be more specifically targeted by Member States in those regions with serious and persistent structural surplus. c) reconversion measures, which will be available within the market organisation, are aimed at adapting vineyards to produce marketable wines (i.e. varietal conversion, relocation of vineyards and adoption of new production techniques). A clear distinction between reconversion and renewal of vineyards required as a matter of course will ensure that only reconversion is eligible for Community financing. Community funding for reconversion will be necessary for two components: - loss of receipts for producers who retain both old and reconverted vines until the reconverted vines become productive (no compensation needed) or, those who grub and replant on the same plot at a later date (full Community financing); - the material costs of reconversion at the level of 50% Community funding (75% in Objective 1 areas), the remainder being met by the beneficiaries. d) distillation: intervention as an artificial outlet for production will be achieved by a refocussing of intervention mechanisms. The following existing measures are abandoned: - "preventive distillation"; - compulsory distillation of table wines; - "support distillation". In addition to specific measures to supply the potable alcohol market, the Commission considers that the following measures are required: - a "crisis" distillation measure, available on a voluntary basis, to deal with exceptional cases of market disturbance and serious quality problems; - private storage aid is retained to ensure continuity of supply; - the distillation of by-products measure to avoid the over-pressing of grapes will be retained as a quality measure in its current form, pending a more cost-effective solution; - the specific measure for distillation of wine from non wine-grape varieties remains unchanged as a transitional measure. The Commission also proposes replacing preventive distillation by a specific distillation measure for the potable alcohol market. To account for potential fluctuations in supply from the potable alcohol sector and avoid the accumulation of unnecessary surpluses, the system will be applied flexibly and operate in conjunction with a system of private storage aid. e) other measures: outlets for vine-based products, such as grape-juice, will continue by the retention of existing aid measures. Finally, rules on oenological practices as well as matters relating to descriptions, designations, presentation and protection are also included in the proposal.

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 06/05/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In the light of the agreement reached on Agenda 2000 at the Berlin Summit in March and under consultation procedure, the European Parliament adopted the second report by Philippe Martin (UPE, FR), which approves the Commission proposal for a Council regulation on the common organisation of the market in wine, subject to the amendments adopted by the Parliament on 11/02/99, and two other new amendments which, in particular, propose an action programme "Vine products and health" within the framework of the regulation.

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 11/02/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

After voting a large number of non-binding amendments to the Commission's proposal to reform wine policy, MEPs then voted to refer the report, drafted by Mr. Philippe-Armand MARTIN (UPE, F), back to Committee for further discussions. The amendments included the following : - defining wine as an agricultural product resulting exclusively from the fermentation of grapes or fresh musts that have not been stabilised or frozen. - recognition of

the importance of opening up external markets and providing better information for consumers about wine and health. - rights for new plantations : the EP wants the right to new plantations to correspond to 3% of the total surface area of the Member State planted in vines, whereas the Commission proposed a maximum 1% extension of Community vineyard surface area. The Member States would be accorded new rights every two years counting from the 2002-3 harvest year, depending on the situation of the markets for certain wines. - replanting : the EP considers that the right to replanting must allow vines to be planted over a surface area that is equivalent during thirteen years following the grubbing year. This right would be transferable from one farm to another at the same time as part of the farm. - creation of an aid regime for the transfer of wine-growing properties in order to facilitate the installation of young operators. - reconversion regime to be also allocated to rejuvenation. In addition to reconversion according to variety, the replanting of vineyards and management technique improvements, this regime should cover improved quality and vinification cellars, rejuvenation of the vineyards, replacement in the case of major health/sanitary problems and reconversion for biological wine growing. - all wines must belong to the species *Vitis vinifera*, in contrast to the Commission's proposal that wines would also be able to come from a cross between the above species and other species of the *Vitis* kind. - a committee of wine-growing experts from professional organisations, consumer associations and environmental protection organisations, as well as the Member States should be established to decide on lists of wine types and to ensure the preservation of the plant heritage formed by the older varieties that are fast disappearing. - support measures should be introduced for professional organisation in order to improve the promotion and marketing of wine. - grapes, musts and other products derived from grapes originating in third countries should, under no circumstance, be the subject of vinification or be added to wine in the context of Community production. The EP recommends that the Commission should set up a group of special agents responsible for controlling the uniform application of the Regulation.

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 17/05/1999 - Final act

PURPOSE: the reform of the common organisation of the wine market in line with Agenda 2000 guidelines. **COMMUNITY MEASURE:** Council Regulation 1493/1999/EC on the common organisation of the market in wine. **CONTENT:** The Regulation sets in place a new common organisation of the market for wine, replaces the Regulations currently in force and greatly simplifies the legislation relating to this sector. The new common organisation of the wine market, as established under this Regulation, seeks to maintain a better balance between supply and demand on the Community market, allowing producers to take advantage of expanding markets and enabling the sector to become more competitive in the longer term. It also aims to eliminate the use of intervention as an artificial outlet for surplus production, maintaining all traditional outlets for potable alcohol and vine-based products, accommodating regional diversity and recognising the role of producer and interbranch organisations. The successful application of restructuring and conversion instruments is intended to reduce any potential need to trigger the crisis distillation measures. A new system for planting rights will enable a disciplined increase of the EU wine production potential to enable the development of areas with a manifest need. A new system for managing plant rights will lead to greater flexibility and allow for the regularisation of plantings. The introduction of an inventory will enhance controls and information. The Regulation contains 8 annexes that relate to: - definitions of product terms and, in particular, of the different types of grape must and wine; - alcoholic strengths; - wine-growing areas; - authorised oenological practices and processes; - the limits and conditions imposed on oenological practices and processes, particularly concerning sulphur dioxide and volatile acid content, enrichment practices, acidification and deacidification, sweetening, etc.; - quality wines produced in specified regions; - the description, designation, presentation and protection of certain products other than sparkling wines, by way of obligatory and optional information, expressed in the language which may be used for labelling, as well as codes and brand names; - the description, designation, presentation and protection of sparkling wines. **ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 21/07/1999. The Regulation will apply from 01/08/2000.

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 29/06/2007 - Follow-up document

The Commission presents this report in accordance with its obligation under Article 7 (3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999. The document intends to be the update of the report of 2004. (Please refer to the summary of 12/03/2004.) In order to observe and evaluate trends, it takes stock of the entire period since the date of application of the current CMO on 1 August 2000. The scope has been widened to include the 10 new Member States which joined on 1 May 2004 (EU 10) but not to those new Member States which joined on 1 January 2007. The report is intended to be purely factual and does not contain any policy recommendations. However, it provides useful background information in the context of the ongoing debate on the reform of the CMO in wine.

The Commission discusses issues such as new planting rights of an administrative nature granted during the period 2000–2006. It notes that no planting rights of an administrative nature were granted during the period in Greece, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Austria and Slovenia. It also discusses new planting rights to meet demand for quality wines produced in specified regions (quality wines psr) and table wines with geographical indication. The document goes on to discuss changes in the production potential, and the "non-reserve" system. All the new Member States have adopted the national reserve system, except Hungary which has chosen the "effective system".

The figures show an increasing tendency towards the accumulation of planting rights. This may demonstrate reduced interest on the part of producers in planting but might also show limitations in some Member States of the authorisation of new planting and replanting rights due to the unfavourable market situation. The allocation of newly created planting rights to the reserves could also be a reason for the increase of the planting rights in them.

The area planted with vines has been constantly decreasing during the years under consideration. The increase in the total EU vine area in 2003/2004 can be attributed to the enlargement of the Community but since then, the trend has continued. The grubbing-up measure in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 could contribute to the decrease: it was applied on a relatively large scale in Germany (1 514 hectares grubbed up between 2000/2001 and 2005/2006), France (15 340 hectares grubbed up between 2000/2001 and 2005/2006), in Cyprus (1 979 ha grubbed up in 2004/2005) and in Hungary (3 574 ha grubbed up in 2005/2006). In addition, the decrease of the area actually planted, just like the increased availability of replanting rights at the producers, can be attributed partially to the increased grubbing-up within the frame of the restructuring and conversion scheme. However, the diminution of the area actually planted exceeds the augmentation of the replanting rights, showing that apparently, areas are abandoned without

premium for grubbing-up and without the producers' asking for replanting right. This is yet another sign of the unfavourable market situation in the wine sector. This presumption seems to be confirmed also by the data about the total production potential. There is a slight decrease in the total production potential from 2000 to 2006. As in the case of the areas planted with vines, the increase of the production potential in 2003/2004 is due to the enlargement of the Community in 2004. This proves that the system of reserves has helped to maintain production potential on a more or less stable level, by preventing the extinction of planting rights not actually used.

Lastly, the document discusses applications for regularisation of irregular planting. Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 required regularisation procedures to be terminated by 31 July 2002 but several Member States have encountered difficulty in applying the Community rules. In response to Member States' requests, the Commission has deferred the final date to 31 December 2007.

Agenda 2000: wine, reform of the common organisation of the market COM

1998/0126(CNS) - 12/03/2004 - Follow-up document

In line with Regulation 1493/99 provisions the European Commission has prepared an extensive Report on how it is being applied with particular attention given to the management of planting rights. The Report assesses issues such as new planting rights, replanting rights, changes in production potential since 1 August 2000 etc. Having examined the market in some detail following the changes introduced in 1999, the Commission makes the following conclusions: Firstly, regarding new planting rights, the Commission notes that Italy and Greece have officially requested new planting rights. The Commission, however, is of the view that it would be premature to add a further 17 000 ha to the area under vines in the community. Secondly, regarding changes relating to illicit planting, the Commission concludes that provisions relating to illicit planting should be implemented as soon as possible in order to ensure the smooth functioning of the market. It goes on to suggest that the problem of regularising illicit plantings can only be resolved adequately by amending Regulation 1493/99/EC. Consequently, the Commission is preparing a proposal, which would amend the Regulation in 2004.