Basic information

2001/0275(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
Nut sector: quality and marketing improvement plans (Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72), specific aid for hazelnuts **Subject** 3.10.06.01 Fruit, citrus fruits 3.10.14 Support for producers and premiums	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	BAUTISTA OJEDA Carlos (V/ALE)	04/12/2001

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2419	2002-03-18

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Agriculture and Rural Development	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/11/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0667	Summary
13/12/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/02/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
19/02/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0029/2002	
14/03/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0117/2002	Summary

14/03/2002	Debate in Parliament		
18/03/2002	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
18/03/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/03/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/0275(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/15563

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0029/2002	19/02/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0117/2002 OJ C 047 27.02.2003, p. 0418-0563 E	14/03/2002	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2001)0667  OJ C 051 26.02.2002, p. 0380 E	22/11/2001	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0187/2002 OJ C 094 18.04.2002, p. 0007	20/02/2002	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 2002/0545
OJ L 084 28.03.2002, p. 0001-0003 Summary

Nut sector: quality and marketing improvement plans (Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72), specific aid for hazelnuts

2001/0275(CNS) - 22/11/2001 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: To extend financing to Community producers of certain nuts and locust beans and for specific aid for hazelnuts. CONTENT: Whilst the US and Turkey remain world leaders in nut production, the EU remains the top consumer of nuts and a net importer. The Community as a whole produces a mere 20% of world production, with Spain and Italy the main producing countries. EU nut production is characterised by low competitiveness and low margins. Indeed, 70% of the Community nut production can be defined as being cultivated in less-favoured areas with poor/marginal growing conditions often in remote mountainous or hilly areas without irrigation. EU legislation governing nut production is defined in Regulation No 1035/72. It covers five products: almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, pistachios and locust beans. Title IIa of this Regulation approves specific financing measures for quality and marketing improvement plans. Improvement plans are financed 55% by public aid and 45% by producer organisations, known as POs. Improvement plans are limited to 10 years. In spite of such ten yearly improvement plans, EU nut production remains globally uncompetitive and is particularly vulnerable to imports from the US and Turkey. Indeed, the Commission suggests that in "less-favoured regions" nut production is "chronically non-competitive". At the same time however, the Commission recognises that many farmer's incomes are dependant on the production of nuts. Furthermore, the cultivation of nut trees plays a vital environmental role in these areas, such a preventing soil erosion and acting as fire breaks. As such nut production, though uncompetitive, plays a significant role within the context of rural society. Taking such factors into account, the Commission proposes: - That producer organisations whose plans contain areas which expire in 2001 (originally starting in 1990 or 1991) may request continued financing of nut areas for a further period of up to one year. - That continued financing be requested only until 15/6/02 latest, in order to fall within the 2002 budget. - That public aid be limited at most to those areas receiving aid in their final year of the plan and to maximum of EUR 541,20 per hectare, the Community contribution will be limited to a maximum of 75%. - That specific aid for hazelnuts be granted for one marketing year for those producer organisations not benefiting from the first point.

Nut sector: quality and marketing improvement plans (Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72), specific aid for hazelnuts

2001/0275(CNS) - 18/03/2002 - Final act

PURPOSE : to extend the financing of quality and marketing improvement plans for certain nuts and locust beans. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Regulation 545/2002/EC extending the financing of quality and marketing improvement plans for certain nuts and locust beans approved under Title IIa of Regulation 1035/72/EEC and providing for a specific aid for hazelnuts. CONTENT : the Council adopted, by a qualified majority with the Swedish delegation abstaining, a Regulation extending the financing of quality and marketing improvement plans for certain nuts and locust beans along with a joint Council and Commission statement and a statement by the Portuguese delegation, both entered in the minutes. The Regulation: - allows producer organisations whose plans expire in 2001 to apply for continued financing of nut crops for a maximum of one year; such aid must not exceed EUR 241 per hectare and must concern areas already receiving aid under the last year of the plan, with a 75% ceiling set for the Community contribution; - provides for the granting of specific aid for hazelnuts of EUR 15 per 100 kg, for a period of one marketing year, to producer organisations not benefiting from the first measure. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 31/03/2002.

Nut sector: quality and marketing improvement plans (Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72), specific aid for hazelnuts

2001/0275(CNS) - 14/03/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted the report drafted by Carlos BAUTISTA OJEDA (Greens/EFA, Spain) on plans for nuts and locust beans. (Please refer to the document dated 19/02/02). Parliament also added that, in view of the importance of preserving production on environmental, economic and social grounds, especially in less-favoured regions, it is necessary to introduce a permanent support regime for the sector, in the form of pre-hectare aid. This will guarantee the preservation of producers' incomes and is channelled through the producer organisations. This permanent regime could be conditional on the application of sound agricultural practices in the context of sustainable production and on the farmers' membership of producer organisations, having the objective of the obligatory marketing of their products in accordance with binding quality standards. The regime could also be extended to cover additional products such as chestnuts.