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REGULATION (EEC) No 1351/72 OF THE COMMISSION
of 28 June 1972
on the recognition of producer groups for hops

(OJ L 148, 30.6.1972, p. 13)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►**M1**	Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2564/77 of 22 November 1977	L 299	9	23.11.1977
►**M2**	Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2591/85 of 13 September 1985	L 247	12	14.9.1985
►**M3**	Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1323/86 of 5 May 1986	L 117	12	6.5.1986

Amended by:

►**A1**	Act of Accession of Greece	L 291	17	19.11.1979

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REGULATION (EEC) No 1351/72 OF THE COMMISSION
of 28 June 1972
on the recognition of producer groups for hops

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 [1] of 26 July 1971 on the common organization of the market in hops, and in particular Article 7 (5) thereof;

Whereas the conditions laid down in Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 for the recognition of producer groups or a union of recognized producer groups for hops include the application of common rules for production and first marketing stage in addition to proof of economically viable activity; whereas those conditions must be specified;

Whereas, in order to ensure a certain uniformity in administrative procedure, detailed rules should be laid down for the application, granting and withdrawal of recognition;

Whereas, for the information of Member States and parties concerned, a list should be published at the beginning of each year, of groups and unions of groups which were recognised during the previous year and of those from whom recognition was withdrawn;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the Opinion of the Management Committee for Hops;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

▼M1

Article 1

1. The common rules referred to in Article 7 (3) (a) and (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 shall be laid down in writing. These rules shall comprise at least:

(a) as regards production:

(aa) The use of one or more specified varieties when renewing plantations or creating new ones,

(bb) compliance with certain methods of cultivation and plant protection,

(cc) harvesting, drying and, where appropriate, preparation for marketing;

(b) as regards marketing, particularly where concentration and conditions of supply are concerned:

(aa) general provisions governing sales by the group,

(bb) provisions relating to the quantities which the producers are authorized to sell themselves and the rules governing these sales,

(cc) the conditions under which the production aid granted to the group under the first subparagraph of Article 12 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 may be used for market stabilization measures ►**M3** as also for measures to improve and adapt production to market requirements ◄.

2. 'The first marketing stage' means the sale of hops by the producer himself or, in the case of a producers' group, the sale of hops by its members to the wholesale trade or to the user industries.

[1] OJ No L 175, 4.8.1971, p. 1.

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Article 2

1. ►A1 If it is to be recognized, a producer group must include areas of at least 60 hectares and at least seven producers; in the case of Greece, the minimum number of hectares shall be reduced to 30. ◄

2. However, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 20 of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71, a Member State may be authorized, on request, to recognize a group whose registered areas comprise less than 60 hectares, if the areas are situated in a recognized production region covering less than 100 hectares.

Article 3

The following documents and information shall accompany any application for recognition:

(a) the statute,

(b) the names of persons authorized to act on behalf of the group,

(c) a list of the activities justifying the request for recognition,

(d) evidence that the provisions of Article 2 have been complied with.

Article 4

1. Member States shall take a decision on the application for recognition within three months of its receipt.

2. Recognition of a group shall be withdrawn if the conditions laid down for recognition are no longer fulfilled or if such recognition is based on incorrect information. Recognition shall be withdrawn with retroactive effect if it has been obtained or enjoyed fraudulently.

▼M2

3. Member States shall exercise continuous supervision over the observance by recognized groups of the conditions for their recognition and over their administration of any aid granted.

Where it appears that their administration of the aid is incompatible with Article 7 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71, and in particular with the objectives of the measures referred to in the second indent of (e) thereof, Member States shall take the necessary measures to recover the amounts involved from the recognized producer groups in question.

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Article 5

1. If it is to be recognized, a union of recognized groups must control registered areas of at least 500 hectares.

2. The provisions of this Regulation, with the exception of Article 2, shall apply to unions of groups.

Article 6

1. Where a Member State grants, refuses or withdraws recognition of a group it shall so inform the Commission with two months following the communication of its decision to the applicant and indicate the reasons for refusing an application for recognition or of withdrawing recognition.

2. At the beginning of each year the Commission shall ensure publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* of the list of groups and combinations of groups which were recognized during the previous year as well as those whose recognition was withdrawn during the same period.

Article 7

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

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This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.