REGULATION (EEC) No 1345/73 OF THE COUNCIL

of 15 May 1973

fixing the sugar prices, the standard quality of beet and the coefficient for calculating the maximum quota for the 1973/74 marketing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 1009/67/EEC [1] of 18 December 1967 on the common organization of the market in sugar, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 174/73 [2], and in particular Articles 2 (2), 3 (5) and 4 (3) and the second subparagraph of Article 24 (2) thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas, when sugar prices are being fixed, account should be taken of the objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy and of the contribution which the Community desires to make to the harmonious development of world trade; whereas the objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy are in particular to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural community, to ensure that supplies are available and that they reach consumers at reasonable prices;

Whereas, to attain these objectives, the target price for sugar must be fixed at a level which, taking into account in particular the resultant level of the intervention price, ensures a fair remuneration for beet and cane producers while at the same time respecting consumers interests, and which is likely to maintain the balance between the prices of the principal agricultural products;

Whereas as a result of the characteristics of the sugar market the risks involved in this trade are relatively slight; whereas, consequently, when the intervention price for sugar is being fixed, the difference between the target price and the intervention price may be fixed at a relatively low level;

Whereas the minimum price for beet must take account of the intervention price and of the standard amounts covering the costs of processing and delivering beet to factories and be based on an estimated Community yield of 130 kilogrammes of white sugar per ton of beet with a 16 % sugar content;

Whereas the above standard costs may be estimated at 9·83 units of account per 100 kilogrammes of white sugar; whereas that amount is made up of the sum of the processing margin, estimated at 8·93 units of account, and the costs of delivering beet to factories, estimated at 1·73 units of account, less a standard amount of 0·83 unit of account representing factories' receipts from the sale of molasses calculated on the basis of a yield of 38·5 kilogrammes per metric ton of beet processed and an ex-factory price for molasses of 2·80 units of account per 100 kilogrammes;

Whereas the standard quality chosen for beet should be a quality which takes account of production characteristics in the main beet producing areas of the Community;

Whereas in the light of production trends seen in terms of specialisation and marketing opportunities, the maximum quotas referred to in Article 24 of Regulation No 1009/67/EEC should be fixed at 135 % of the basic quotas;

Whereas it is desirable to allow for a stage in anticipation of a return to market unity, once the rule on maintaining at any given moment a maximum spread between Member State currencies of 2·25 % for spot transactions is applied by all Member States; whereas this purpose is served by a 1 % price increase which is not reflected in price-levels expressed in terms of the national currencies of Member States whose currencies have increased in

[1] OJ No 308, 18. 12. 1967, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 25, 30. 1. 1973, p. 1.

value in relation to the conversion rate used under the Common Agricultural Policy;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The provisions of this Regulation shall apply for the 1973/74 marketing year.

Article 2

1. The target price for white sugar shall be 24·80 units of account per 100 kilogrammes.

2. The intervention price for white sugar shall be 23·57 units of account per 100 kilogrammes.

3. The area having the largest surplus includes the following French departments: Aisne, Somme, Oise.

Article 3

The minmium price for beet for the area referred to in Article 2 (3) shall be 17·86 units of account per metric ton at the stage of delivery to the collection centre.

Article 4

Standard quality beet shall present the following characteristics:

(a) sound, fair and marketable quality,

(b) sugar content of 16 % at the reception point.

Article 5

The coefficient referred to in Article 24 (1) of Regulation No 1009/67/EEC shall be 1·35.

Article 6

1. Prices shall be increased by 1 % when all Member States maintain at any given moment a maximum spread of 2·25 % between their currencies.

This provision shall be applicable as from the 1973/74 marketing year; the increase shall take effect on the first day of the month following the date determined in accordance with the first subparagraph; however, if the marketing year begins after that date, the increase shall take effect at the beginning of that marketing year.

2. This increase shall not be reflected in price levels expressed in terms of national currencies of Member States whose currencies have increased in value in relation to the conversion rate used under the Common Agricultural Policy.

3. The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission in accordance with the voting procedure laid down in Article 43 (2) of the Treaty shall adopt the methods of implementation of this Article.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 May 1973.

For the Council

The President

A. LAVENS