REGULATION (EEC) No 660/75 OF THE COUNCIL

of 4 March 1975

fixing, for the 1975/76 sugar marketing year, derived intervention prices, intervention prices for raw beet sugar, minimum prices for beet, threshold prices and the maximum amount of the production levy

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 [1] of 19 December 1974 on the common organization of the market in sugar, and in particular Articles 3 (6), 4 (4), 9 (5), 13 (5) and 28 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 659/75 [2] of 4 March 1975 fixing sugar prices and the standard quality of beet for the 1975/76 marketing year, fixed the intervention price for white sugar at 30·45 units of account per 100 kg for the Community area having the largest surplus;

Whereas Article 3(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 provides that derived intervention prices shall be fixed for other areas, account being taken of the regional variations which, given a normal harvest and free movement of sugar, might be expected to occur in the price of sugar under natural conditions of price formation;

Whereas in view of the quotas fixed in the production areas of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany and the Netherlands, a balanced or surplus supply situation can be anticipated; whereas, with the exception of the French overseas departments, the ex-factory prices in the areas mentioned will in the main be equal to the prices in the Community area having the largest surplus;

Whereas, with relatively high production costs, sugar production in Italy will probably not appreciably exceed the basic quantity fixed; whereas a deficit of about 500 000 metric tons will therefore have to be covered by production in Community surplus areas;

Whereas, in these circumstances, the level of market prices in Italy will be determined by the offer prices of sugar from Community surplus areas; whereas the derived intervention price for Italy may be fixed at 33 units of account per 100 kg, account being taken on the one hand of the intervention price applicable in the north of France, plus the marketing costs for deliveries to Italy, and on the other hand, of the disposal costs of the Italian sugar industry;

Whereas, given a normal harvest, sugar production in Ireland and the United Kingdom covers about 80 and 40% of the needs of their respective home markets; whereas these needs must in part be covered by sugar available in Community surplus areas;

Whereas, in these circumstances, the level of market prices in both Ireland and the United Kingdom will be largely determined by the offer prices of sugar from these regions; whereas a single derived intervention price for white sugar which may be fixed at 31·45 units of account per 100 kg should be adopted for all regions of Ireland and the United Kingdom, account being taken on the one hand of the intervention price applicable in the Community area having the largest surplus, plus the commercial cost of delivery to Ireland and the United Kingdom, and on the other hand, of the marketing costs of the sugar industry of these Member States;

Whereas there is considerable surplus production of raw sugar in the French overseas departments; whereas, the most favourable potential outlets for this sugar within the Community are in the south of France and in Italy, where the sugar, after being refined, may be sold directly; whereas, on the basis of the foreseeable market prices in the deficit areas of Italy, which will probably be 0·57 unit of account per 100 kg above the derived intervention price in

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(1) OJ No L 359, 31. 12. 1974, p. 1.
(2) See page 5 of this Official Journal.

Italy, and taking account of transport costs between the overseas departments and these areas, the derived intervention prices for those departments should be fixed at 30·25 units of account per 100 kg of white sugar;

Whereas Article 3 (4) of Regualtion (EEC) No 3330/74 provides that an intervention price for raw sugar shall be fixed for those departments, such price to be derived from the intervention price for white sugar fixed for those departments, allowance being made for a uniform processing margin and a standard yield; whereas, on the basis of available information, the refining costs may be estimated at 2·46 units of account per 100 kg of refined sugar; whereas, moreover, in accordance with the definition of the standard quality for raw sugar laid down by Regulation (EEC) No 431/68 [1], a yield of 92% should be taken into account;

Whereas Article 9 (5) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 provides for the fixing of intervention prices for raw beet sugar; whereas these prices should be derived from the intervention price for white sugar, account being taken of the factors already mentioned for fixing the intervention price for raw sugar in the French overseas departments, and of the forwarding costs for supplying raw sugar, these being estimated at a standard rate of 0·50 unit of account per 100 kg;

Whereas minimum prices for sugar beet, as referred to in the first indent of Article 4 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74, must be determined for the areas other than that having the largest surplus on the basis of the intervention prices for white sugar applicable in those areas, account being taken of the amounts used when fixing the minimum price for beet for the area having the largest surplus, the processing margin, the yield, the receipts from molasses and the delivery costs of the beet;

Whereas, in view of sugar shortages within the Community and on the world market, minimum prices for beet outside the basic quota, as referred to in the second indent of Article 4 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74, should, for the 1975/76 sugar marketing year, be fixed at the same level as the minimum prices for beet and the maximum amount of the production levy should be fixed at zero;

Whereas, Article 13 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74, provides that the threshold price for white sugar should be the same as the target price for the Community area having the largest surplus plus transport charges, calculated at a flat rate, from that area to the most distant deficit area in the Community; whereas, given the supply situation within the Community, account should be taken of transport charges between the departments of northern France and Palermo, the main port of importation in Sicily;

Whereas, the threshold price for raw sugar is to be derived from the threshold price for white sugar, by reference to a standard processing margin and a standard yield; whereas the same criteria as are used in the derivation of the intervention price for raw sugar should therefore be applied;

Whereas the threshold price for molasses must be so fixed that the receipts from sales of molasses may reach the level of factories' receipts taken into account when minimum prices for beet are being fixed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

This Regulation shall apply for the 1975/76 sugar marketing year.

Article 2

For the regions other than those referred to in Article 2 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 659/75 derived intervention prices for 100 kg of white sugar shall be as follows:

(a) 33·00 units of account for all regions of Italy;

(b) 30·25 units of account for the French overseas departments;

(c) 31·45 units of account for all regions of Ireland and the United Kingdom;

(d) 30·45 units of account for the other regions of the Community.

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[1] OJ No L 89, 10. 4. 1968, p. 3.

Article 3

1. Intervention prices for 100 kg of raw beet sugar shall be as follows:

(a) 25·84 units of account for the Community area having the largest surplus and for the regions referred to in Article 2 (d);

(b) 28·19 units of account for the regions referred to in Article 2 (a);

(c) 26·76 units of account for the regions referred to in Article 2 (c);

These intervention prices shall be valid for raw sugar of standard quality, unpacked, ex-factory, loaded onto the means of transport chosen by the buyer.

2. The derived intervention price for the French overseas departments for raw sugar as referred to in Article 3 (4) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 shall, pursuant to the second indent of Article 3 (6) of that Regulation, be fixed at 26·12 units of account per 100 kg.

Article 4

The minimum price for beet and the minimum price for beet outside the basic quota shall be, per metric ton:

(a) 26·07 units of account for the regions referred to in Article 2 (a);

(b) 24·05 units of account for the regions referred to in Article 2 (c);

(c) 22·75 units of account for the regions referred to in Article 2 (d);

Article 5

Threshold prices shall be as follows:

(a) 35·52 units of account per 100 kg of white sugar;

(b) 30·97 units of account per 100 kg of raw sugar;

(c) 3·20 units of account per 100 kg of molasses.

Article 6

The maximum production levy referred to in Article 28 of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 shall be 0·00 unit of account for 100 kg of white sugar.

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

Done at Brussels, 4 March 1975.

For the Council

The President

M. A. CLINTON