COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 120/77

of 21 January 1977

laying down detailed rules with respect to aid for durum wheat for the 1977/78 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 of 29 October 1975 on the common organization of the market in cereals (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3138/76 (2), and in particular Article 10 (5) thereof,

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76 of 16 December 1976 on aid for durum wheat (3), laid down general rules with respect to aid for durum wheat; whereas the Commission must lay down the detailed rules for their application;

Whereas the criteria for the determination of qualitative and technical characteristics have been laid down by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76; whereas such characteristics must guarantee that the durum wheat is capable of being made into semolina or pasta meeting certain requirements for human consumption; whereas the best indicator of these is the stickiness of the pasta when cooked;

Whereas pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76 Member States are to institute a system of administrative supervision to ensure that the product for which aid is requested meets the conditions laid down for the granting thereof; whereas an application for aid must contain a minimum number of particulars to enable Member States to make the necessary checks; whereas Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76 provides for a spot check of the accuracy of statements; whereas, if such checks are to be effective, they must be carried out upon a sufficiently representative number of aid applications;

Whereas, pursuant to Article 4 (2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1134/68 of 30 July 1968 laying down rules for the implementation of Regulation (EEC) No 653/68 on conditions for alterations to the value of the unit of account used for the common agricultural policy (4), the amount of the aid is to be converted into national currency at the rate prevailing on the date the transaction or part transaction is carried out; whereas under Article 6 thereof the time when a transaction is carried out is considered as being the date of the event in which the aid becomes due and payable; whereas in the case of durum wheat such event occurs on harvest; whereas, in view of the difficulty of determining the exact date of harvest in each case, the date to be taken as the representative date of harvest should be the first day of the marketing year in respect of which the entitlement to aid arises;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 1977/78 marketing year the aid referred to in Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 shall be granted for durum wheat produced in the Community in accordance with the conditions set out in the following Articles.

Article 2

In order to be eligible for the aid the durum wheat shall either:

— have qualitative and technical characteristics establishing that pasta made therefrom is not sticky when cooked, or

— have been produced from seed of certain varieties whose possession of such characteristics can be verified by the Member States.

Article 3

The aid may be granted only for areas:

(a) within:

— the regions specified in the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 1144/76,

— less-favoured agricultural areas within the meaning of Council Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas, considered as such on 1 August 1977;

(1) OJ No L 281, 1. 11. 1975, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 354, 24. 12. 1976, p. 1.
(3) OJ No L 351, 21. 12. 1976, p. 1.
(4) OJ No L 188, 1. 8. 1968, p. 1.

(b) which have been fully sown and had all normal cultivation work carried out upon them ;

(c) for which an application has been submitted in accordance with Article 4, such application to be treated as equivalent to a declaration of the areas cultivated.

Article 4

1. Every producer of durum wheat wishing to obtain aid shall submit an application therefor to the competent agency in the Member State concerned before a date to be fixed by that Member State and in any event not later than 30 April 1977.

2. The application for aid shall include at least the following particulars :

— the name, forenames and address of the applicant,

— the areas cultivated in hectares and in ares, the cadastral reference of such areas or an indication recognized as equivalent by the agency responsible for checking the areas,

— the variety of seed used.

Article 5

The checks provided for in Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76 shall cover at least a representative percentage of the applications submitted, taking into account the geographical distribution of the areas concerned.

Such percentage shall not in any case be less than 5 %.

Article 6

1. The Member State shall pay the aid for durum wheat by 30 April 1978 at the latest.

2. The event within the meaning of Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1134/68 in which the aid becomes due and payable shall be regarded as occuring on 1 August 1977.

Article 7

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

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

Done at Brussels, 21 January 1977.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President