COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 1398/78

of 20 June 1978

fixing, for the 1978/79 sugar year, the sugar prices, the standard quality of beet and the coefficient for calculating the maximum quota

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 (EEC) No 3330/74 of 19 December 1974 on the common organization of the market in sugar (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1396/78 (2), and in particular Articles 2 (2), 3 (5) and 4 (3) and the second subparagraph of Article 25 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (3),

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee (4),

Whereas, when sugar prices are fixed, account should be taken of the objectives of the common agricultural policy and of the contribution which the Community intends 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, in order 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 sugar 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 costs of processing and delivering the beet to factories and be based on an estimated Community yield of 130 kilograms of white sugar per tonne of beet with a 16 % sugar content;

Whereas the abovementioned standard costs may be estimated at 13·54 units of account per 100 kilograms of white sugar; whereas that standard amount is made up of the sum of the real processing margin, ignoring sugar storage costs, estimated at 11·90 units of account, the costs of delivering the beet to factories, estimated at 2·37 units of account, and the cost relating to the minimum stock not covered by the offsetting of storage costs, estimated at a flat-rate amount of 0·10 unit of account, less a flat-rate 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 kilograms per tonne of beet processed and an ex-factory price for molasses of 2·80 units of account per 100 kilograms of molasses;

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 resulting from specialization on the one hand and of the Community's sugar requirements and possible outlets on the other, the coefficient for the maximum quotas laid down in Article 25 of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 should be fixed at 1·275,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. The target price for white sugar shall be 35·25 units of account per 100 kilograms.

2. The intervention price for white sugar shall be 33·49 units of account per 100 kilograms.

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

Article 2

The minimum price for beet for the area referred to in Article 1 (3) shall be 25·94 units of account per tonne delivered at the collection centre.

(1) OJ No L 359, 31. 12. 1974, p. 1.
(2) See page 1 of this Official Journal.
(3) OJ No C 85, 10. 4. 1978, p. 31.
(4) OJ No C 101, 26. 4. 1978, p. 10.

Article 3

Standard quality beet shall :

(a) be of sound, genuine and merchantable quality ;

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

Article 4

The coefficient referred to in Article 25 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 shall be 1·275.

Article 5

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

It shall apply for the 1978/79 sugar year.

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

Done at Luxembourg, 20 June 1978.

For the Council

The President

P. DALSAGER