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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 2657/80

of 17 October 1980

on the determination of prices of fresh or chilled sheep carcases on representative Community markets and the survey of prices of certain other qualities of sheep carcases in the Community

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80 of 27 June 1980 on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat [1], and in particular Articles 4 and 7 (4) thereof,

Whereas, pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80, the price recorded on the representative markets of the Community must be derived from the prices recorded on the representative market or markets of each Member State for the various categories of fresh or chilled sheep carcases after taking into account both of the relative importance of each category and of the relative size of the flock in each Member State ;

Whereas the price recorded on the representative markets of the Community may be taken as the average of the prices of the products in question on the representative market or markets of each Member State ; whereas this average should be weighted in accordance with the coefficients expressing the relative size of the flock in each Member State ;

Whereas the price recorded on the representative market or markets of each Member State may be taken as the weighted average of the prices which have occurred in that Member State during a given period at a given marketing stage ; whereas the coefficients used for this weighting should reflect the relative quantity of each category coming on to the market ; whereas it is appropriate to limit for this purpose to consider the prices referring to the different categories of carcases of lamb ;

Whereas the representative market or markets for each Member State should be selected on the basis of experience in recent years ; whereas, moreover, where there is more than one representative market in a Member State the arithmetical or, if necessary, the weighted average of quotations recorded on these markets should be taken ;

Whereas the price recorded on the market is based on the prices, excluding tax, of carcases ; whereas in certain Member States these prices relate to prices for live animals ; whereas this difference should be corrected by means of a coefficient ;

Whereas Member States may, because of veterinary or health protection regulations, find it necessary to take measures which affect prices ; whereas, in such circumstances, it is not always suitable when recording market prices to take into account quotations which do not reflect the normal trend of the market ; whereas, consequently, certain criteria should be laid down allowing the Commission to take account of that situation ;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The price of sheep carcases on the representative Community markets referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80 shall be the average, weighted by the coefficients laid down in Annex I of the prices of sheep carcases as recorded on the representative market or markets of each Member State.

[1] OJ No L 183, 16. 7. 1980, p. 1.

Article 2

1. In each Member State, the price of fresh or chilled sheep carcases on the representative market shall be equal to the average, weighted by coefficients reflecting the relative importance of each category, of the prices recorded for the said categories during a seven-day period at the same wholesale stage.

Where prices are recorded per head, the prices of the various categories shall be multiplied by conversion coefficients.

Where markets are held more than once during the seven-day period referred to above, the price of each category shall be the arithmetical average of the quotations recorded during each market.

Where there are several representative markets in a Member State :

(a) the price recorded in that Member State shall be equal to the average of the prices recorded on the said markets, weighted by coefficients to reflect the relative importance of each market or of each category ;

(b) for the purposes of Article 7 (4) of Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80, the price of each category shall be equal to the arithmetical average, or, if necessary, the average weighted by coefficients to reflect the relative importance of each market for the category in question, of the prices recorded for that category on the representative markets of the Member States in question.

2. The following are fixed in Annex II :

(a) the representative markets of each Member State ;

(b) the categories of sheep carcases ;

(c) the weighting and conversion coefficients referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The categories referred to in paragraph 2 (b) above are defined in Annex III.

Article 3

1. Member States whose sheepmeat production exceeds 200 tonnes per year shall communicate to the Commission, each Thursday at the latest, the prices of the categories and the average prices referred to in Article 2 (1) recorded during the week preceding the week in which the information is given.

2. However, the United Kingdom shall communicate to the Commission :

(a) in accordance with paragraph 1, the provisional return of prices recorded for application of Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80 ;

(b) within 15 days following that communication, the market price given in the final price return and to be employed for any application of Article 9 of the said Regulation.

3. Within the same time limits the Member States referred to in paragraph 1 shall also communicate to the Commission the prices of ewes and, as far as possible, those of other categories not referred to in Article 2.

Article 4

Where one or more Member States take measures, in particular for veterinary or health protection reasons, which affect the normal trend of prices recorded on their markets, the Commission may either :

— disregard the prices recorded on the market or markets in question, or

— use the last prices recorded on the market or markets in question before those measures were put into effect.

Where such a situation continues for two consecutive weeks, a decision shall be taken on whether the criteria stated above should be amended or set aside.

Article 5

This Regulation shall enter into force on 20 October 1980.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 October 1980.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President

ANNEX I

Coefficients to be used in calculating the price recorded on the representative Community markets

Germany	2·45 %
Belgium	0·18 %
Denmark	0·11 %
France	25·22 %
Ireland	5·04 %
Italy	19·47 %
Luxembourg	—
Netherlands	1·25 %
United Kingdom	46·28 %
	100·00 %

ANNEX II

Factors entering into the determination of prices of sheep carcases on the representative markets of the Community

A. GERMANY

1. **Representative markets** : Federal Republic of Germany

The prices recorded on this market are the weighted average of the prices recorded in the following regions :

	Weighting coefficient
Baden-Württemberg	10·9 %
Bayern	18·6 %
Nordrhein-Westfalen	44·8 %
Niedersachsen	14·2 %
Saarland	11·5 %

2. **Category**	Weighting coefficient
Mastlammfleisch	100 %

B. BELGIUM

1. **Representative market** : Sint Truiden

2. **Categories**	Standard carcase weight	Weighting coefficients
Moutons extra	30 kg/head	50 %
Agneaux extra	16 kg/head	50 %

C. DENMARK

1. **Representative market** : København

2. **Categories**	Weighting coefficients
Lam Ekstra	33·3 %
Lam 1. Kvalitet	66·7 %

D. FRANCE

1. **Representative markets**	Weighting coefficients
(a) Marché de Rungis	50 %
(b) Regional markets Paris, Limoges, Toulouse, Avignon	50 %

2. **Categories**

(a) Marché de Rungis : all categories traded ;

(b) Regional markets : Agneaux.

Degree of fattening	Conformation	Weighting coefficients
Couvert	E	10
(appellation parfait)	U	12
	R	18
	O	10
Gras	E	7
	U	9
	R	12
	O	7
Très gras	E	4
(appellation suiffad)	U	4
	R	4
	O	3

E. IRELAND

1. **Representative markets**	Weighting coefficients
Athleague	10·5 %
Ballyhaunis	40·4 %
Dublin	22·9 %
Waterford	26·2 %

2. **Categories**	Weighting coefficients
Lamb first quality	70 %
Lamb second quality	30 %

F. ITALY

1. **Representative markets**	Weighting coefficients	
	Agnelli	*Agnelloni*
Nuoro	35 %	—
Roma	30 %	60 %
Firenze	15 %	—
Napoli	10 %	40 %
L'Aquila	10 %	—

2. **Categories**	Weighting coefficients
Agnelli	64 %
Agnelloni	36 %

G. NETHERLANDS

1. **Representative markets**

Alkmaar
Hoorn
Bodegraven
Breukelen
Franeker
Halingen
Leiden
Nieuwerkerk a/d IJssel

Weighting Coefficients

The prices recorded in each slaughterhouse are to be weighted by means of coefficients which are variable each week and reflect the relative importance of the number of animals slaughtered in each slaughterhouse compared with the national total.

2. **Category**	Weighting coefficient
Vette lammeren	100 %

H. UNITED KINGDOM

1. **Representative markets** All livestock auction markets certifying clean sheep and lambs in : — England and Wales — Scotland — Northern Ireland	Weighting coefficients The prices recorded in each region are to be weighted by means of coefficients which are variable each week and reflect the relative importance of the number of certified animals in each region compared with the national total.
2. **Categories** — certified fat lambs — certified hoggets — other certified clean fat sheep	Weighting coefficients The prices recorded for each category are to be weighted by means of coefficients which are variable each week and reflect the relative importance of the total estimated carcase weight of certified animals in each category compared with the total estimated carcase weight of all certified animals.

ANNEX III

The definitions of sheep carcases are as follows :

A. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Mastlammfleisch :	Average of all qualities of carcase from lambs under 12 months fattened either indoors or on grass.

B. BELGIUM

— Agneaux extra :	Butcher's lamb less than a year old with a yield on slaughtering of over 50 % ;
— Moutons extra :	Ovine animals of one year or more with a yield on slaughtering of over 48 %.

C. DENMARK

Slagtekroppe af lam :

— Ekstra :	Carcases with well-developed thighs, a broad back and loin, good fleshiness and with a suitable fat covering (maximum 1 cm). Maximum weights : Suckling lambs : 16 kg carcase weight ; Lambs : 25 kg carcase weight.
— 1 kval :	Carcases with average fleshiness of back, loin and thighs and with a suitable fat covering.

D. FRANCE

Butcher's lamb of a weight between 13 and 19 kg :

Fat classes :

— Couvert (appellation parfait) :	A layer of fat covering almost the whole carcase in a uniform manner but not to excess. May have slightly thickened fat zones at the base of the tail. A streakiness of the loins on either side of the spine. Muscle visible between the ribs on the inside of the rib cage. Fat stripes may not appear in ewes, and muscle is less visible between the ribs.
— Gras :	A mantle of fairly thick fat entirely covering the carcase ; the layer is thinner on the limbs. Some small knobs of fat, called 'grappés', may appear on the inside of the rib cage. Muscle between the ribs may be infiltrated with fat. The kidney, too, is very enclosed. In the case of ewes the mantle of fat and the size of 'grappés' may be greater.
— Très gras :	A very thick mantle of fat covering the carcase, with fatty knobs at various depths. Knobs of fat ('grappés') on the inside of the rib cage ; muscle between the ribs highly infiltrated with fat. Kidney also enveloped in a thick layer of fat.

Conformation :

— E : — Superior

— All profiles are convex, marking strong muscular development

Leg and saddle : short, well-fleshed and very thick. The saddle is wider than it is long.

Back and loins : very thick and wide as far as the shoulders.

Shoulders : well-fleshed and very thick.

— U : — Very good

— Profiles are at least sub-convex, marking significant muscular development.

Leg and saddle : rounded and thick, saddle still wider than it is long.

Back and loins : thick, wide and with no concavities as far as the shoulders. Dorsal apophyses not visible.

Shoulders : well-fleshed and thick.

— R : — Good

— All profiles are at least straight, marking well-formed musculature.

Leg and saddle : longer but still thick. The saddle appreciably as wide as it is long.

Back and loin : less full but still wide at the base ; the back may lack width at the shoulders.

Dorsal apophyses just visible.

Shoulders : may lack thickness.

— O : — Fairly good

— The profiles are for the most part straight, with some slight hollowness, average musculature.

Leg and saddle : noticeably long, lacking overall thickness. The saddle longer than it is wide.

Back and loins : narrow, lacking thickness.

Dorsal apophyses slightly protruding.

Shoulders : lacking thickness.

E. IRELAND

Lamb : An ovine animal having no permanent teeth.

— First quality lamb : Lamb that has good conformation indicated by well fleshed leg, loin, rib and shoulder. The various parts of the carcase should exhibit a linear to convex profile. Fat cover varies from light to medium.

First quality carcases are normally in the range 15 to 22 kg cold carcase weight. However, where conformation and fat cover are satisfactory a certain degree of latitude at both ends of the weight range is permitted.

— Second quality lamb : Lamb that fails to meet the criteria specified for first quality. These lambs either have average to poor conformation or are fattened to an extent considered fat to very fat. Lambs in this category are normally within the range 15 to 27 kg cold carcase weight.

F. ITALY

— Agnelli :	Suckling lambs, male or female.
— Agnelloni :	Weaned sheep, male or female, which have not been used for breeding

G. NETHERLANDS

— Vette lammeren :	Average of all qualities of butcher's lamb under one year old.

H. UNITED KINGDOM

Ovine animals of certifiable quality

excluding rams, pregnant animals, ewes and those rejected on grounds of quality or condition, or underweight.

Lambs :	Ovine animals born and marketed within a year beginning on the first Monday in January, or born after the beginning of October in the year prior to marketing.
Hoggets :	Ovine animals marketed between the first Monday in January and the first Sunday in July which were born in the 12-month period up to the end of September in the previous year.
Sheep :	Other ovine animals of certifiable quality not classified as lambs or hoggets.

Quality standards

To qualify for certification a carcase must be reasonably well-fleshed throughout. The loins must be well-developed, the legs and shoulders moderately well-fleshed, but the forequarters may be relatively heavy. The flesh should be firm. As a minimum the fat cover should be light. An over-fat carcase will be rejected. A live animal must be such as to produce a carcase of at least this standard.

Weight

To qualify for certification animals must have an estimated or actual dressed carcase weight of not less than eight kilograms.