COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 2726/80

of 24 October 1980

on the granting of aid for concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must used in wine-making during the 1980/81 wine year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 of 5 February 1979 on the common organization of the market in wine (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1990/80 (2), and in particular Article 14 (2) and Article 65 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 338/79 of 5 February 1979 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions (3), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 459/80 (4), and in particular the third subparagraph of Article 8 (2) thereof,

Whereas Article 14 of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 provides that aid may be granted for concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must produced within the Community and used to increase the alcoholic strength of wines ;

Whereas the weather conditions which have marked the beginning of the 1980/81 wine year call for the application of this enrichment measure provided for in Article 32 of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 ;

Whereas enrichment operations by the addition of concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must and the quantities of that product which are held must be declared to the competent authorities ; whereas the quantities of these products which are or which have been used for enrichment are known ;

Whereas in order to avoid giving preference to those producers with high yields, this aid should be restricted to those producers who are able to furnish proof of a yield lower than 80 hectolitres per hectare ;

Whereas it is necessary to fix the aid at an amount which takes account of the market price for concentrated grape must ;

Whereas the cost price of grape must used in the production of concentrated grape must depends on its natural alcoholic strength ; whereas the market price of grape must with a high natural alcoholic strength potential is higher than that of other musts ; whereas, in order to take this situation and the need to maintain the existing pattern of trade in concentrated grape must into account, it is essential to graduate the amount of the aid by fixing a higher amount for concentrated musts produced from grape musts from the southern-most regions in the Community which traditionally produce must with the highest natural alcoholic strength ;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in acordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Wine,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

1. Aid shall be granted, subject to the conditions set out in this Regulation, to wine grape producers who use concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must produced within the Community to increase the alcoholic strengths, referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 and in Article 8 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 338/79, of the table wines and quality wines psr they produce.

For the purposes of this Regulation, producer groups which make wine on a joint basis and who lodge a single harvest declaration may be considered by the Member States as individual producers. In that case they shall so inform the Commission within one month from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

2. Aid shall be granted to the wine grape producers referred to in paragraph 1 who are able to furnish proof of a yield lower than 80 hectolitres per hectare from the 1980 harvest.

Article 2

The amount of aid provided for in Article 1 is hereby fixed, for concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must used in the operations

(1) OJ No L 54, 5. 3. 1979, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 195, 29. 7. 1980, p. 6.
(3) OJ No L 54, 5. 3. 1979, p. 48.
(4) OJ No L 57, 29. 2. 1980, p. 32.

described in Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79, in ECU per degree of potential alcoholic strength by volume per hectolitre at :

— 1·45 ECU for concentrated grape musts originating in zone C III and from 1 January 1981 in zones C III a) and C III b),

— 1·25 ECU for concentrated grape musts originating in other Community regions and for rectified concentrated grape must.

Article 3

1. Producers wishing to take advantage of the aid provided for in Article 1 shall apply to the competent intervention agency not later than 15 December 1980.

The complete files must reach the said agency not later than 31 March 1981.

2. Before paying aid, the intervention agencies shall satisfy themselves that the conditions laid down in Article 1 are fulfilled.

Article 4

The Member States in question shall communicate to the Commission not later than 15 June 1981 the number of producers who have received aid, the quantities of wine enriched and the quantities of concentrated grape must and rectified concentrated grape must used for this purpose expressed in degrees of potential alcoholic strength by volume per hectolitre.

Article 5

The Member States in question shall designate an intervention agency to be responsible for applying this Regulation.

Article 6

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

It shall be applicable with effect from 15 September 1980.

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

Done at Brussels, 24 October 1980.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President