This document is meant purely as a documentation tool and the institutions do not assume any liability for its contents

►**B**

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1232/2001

of 22 June 2001

opening crisis distillation as provided for in Article 30 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 for table wine in Italy

(OJ L 168, 23.6.2001, p. 9)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►**M1**	Commission Regulation (EC) No 1620/2001 of 8 August 2001	L 215	17	9.8.2001

▼B

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1232/2001

of 22 June 2001

opening crisis distillation as provided for in Article 30 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 for table wine in Italy

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2826/2000 [2], and in particular Articles 30 and 33 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 provides for the possibility of opening crisis distillation in the event of exceptional market disturbance caused by major surpluses. Such measures may be limited to certain categories of wine and/or certain areas of production and may apply to quality wines psr at the request of the Member State.

(2) The Italian Government has requested that crisis distillation be opened for table wine produced in Italy.

(3) Large stocks of table wine have built up following high output of table wine in Italy during the 1998/99 and 1999/2000 wine years (44 million hl and 45 million hl respectively). Stocks stood at 16,7 million hl at the start of the 1998/99 wine year and climbed to 19,5 million hl in early 2000/01.

(4) In addition to this factor there are changes in external trade. Imports of table wine have risen as a result of bumper harvests in certain other Member States during the current wine year.

(5) This situation has had a negative impact on prices, which have fallen by about 2 % to 8 % on average during the current wine year as compared with the same period of the previous year. In addition the price variation is unevenly spread over the regions, and in some regions prices are below the average.

(6) Since the conditions laid down in Article 30(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 are still satisfied, a further crisis distillation measure should be opened for a maximum of 2 million hl of table wine. The measure should apply for a limited period with a view to maximum effectiveness. No ceiling should be set on the quantity that individual producers can have distilled because stocks may vary substantially from one producer to another and depend more on sales than on the individual producer's annual output.

(7) The mechanism to be introduced is that provided for in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 of 25 July 2000 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine with regard to market mechanisms [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 545/2001 [4]. In addition to the Articles of that Regulation referring to the distillation measure provided for in Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999, other provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 apply, in particular those concerning the delivery of alcohol to intervention agencies and the payment of advances.

(8) The price distillers must pay producers should be set at a level that permits the problems faced to be solved by allowing

---

[1] OJ L 179, 14.7.1999, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 328, 23.12.2000, p. 2.
[3] OJ L 194, 31.7.2000, p. 45.
[4] OJ L 81, 21.3.2001, p. 21.

▼B

producers to take advantage of possibilities afforded by this measure. That price should not, however, be such that it adversely affects the application of the distillation measure provided for in Article 29 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999.

(9) The product of crisis distillation must be raw or neutral alcohol for compulsory delivery to the intervention agency in order to avoid disturbing the market for potable alcohol, which is supplied largely by distillation under Article 29 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999.

(10) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Wine,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

▼M1

Article 1

Crisis distillation as provided for in Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 is hereby opened for a maximum of 1 211 500 hectolitres of table wine in Italy.

▼B

Article 2

In addition to the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 referring to Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999, the following provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 shall apply to the measure provided for in this Regulation:

— Article 62(5) as regards payment by the intervention agency of the price as referred to in Article 6(2) of this Regulation,

— Articles 66 and 67 as regards advances as provided for in Article 6(2) of this Regulation.

Article 3

Producers may conclude contracts as provided for in Article 65 of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 from 25 June 2001 to 12 July 2001. Contracts shall be accompanied by proof that a security equal to EUR 5 per hectolitre has been lodged. Contracts may not be transferred.

Article 4

1. The Member State shall determine the rate of reduction to be applied to the above contracts where the overall quantity covered by contracts presented exceeds that laid down in Article 1.

2. The Member State shall take the administrative steps necessary to approve the above contracts by 27 July 2001 at the latest, shall specify the rate of reduction applied and the quantity of wine accepted per contract and shall stipulate that the producer may cancel the contract where the quantity to be distilled is reduced. The Member State shall notify the Commission before 1 September 2001 of the quantities of such wine covered by approved contracts.

3. The wine must be delivered to the distilleries by 15 October 2001 at the latest. The alcohol obtained must be delivered to the intervention agency by 31 January 2002 at the latest.

4. Securities shall be released in proportion to the quantities delivered where the producer provides proof of delivery to the distillery.

5. The security shall be forfeit where no delivery is made within the time limit laid down.

6. The Member State may limit the number of contracts that individual producers may conclude under the distillation measure.

▼B

Article 5

The minimum price paid for wine delivered for distillation under this Regulation shall be EUR 1,914 per % vol per hectolitre.

Article 6

1. Distillers shall deliver the product obtained from distillation to the intervention agency. That product shall be of an alcoholic strength of at least 92 % vol.

2. The price the intervention agency must pay the distiller for raw alcohol delivered shall be EUR 2,2812 per % vol per hectolitre. The distiller may receive an advance on that amount of EUR 1,1222 per % vol per hectolitre. The advance shall in that case be deducted from the price actually paid.

Article 7

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

It shall apply from 25 June 2001.

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