COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 273/2001

of 9 February 2001

laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the specific arrangements for the supply of sheepmeat and goatmeat to the French overseas departments for 2001

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3763/91 of 16 December 1991 introducing specific measures in respect of certain agricultural products for the benefit of the French overseas departments [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2826/2000 [2], and in particular Article 4(5) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 3763/91, the number of pure-bred breeding sheep and goats originating in the Community and qualifiying for aid with a view to developing production potential in the French overseas departments should be determined for each annual period of application.

(2) The aid referred to above for the supply of pure-bred breeding sheep and goats originating in the rest of the Community to the French overseas departments should be fixed. That aid must be fixed in the light, in particular, of the costs of supply from the Community market and the conditions resulting from the geographical situation of the French overseas departments.

(3) Special needs may arise during the course of different marketing years for the supply to the French overseas departments of pure-bred breeding sheep and goats. Therefore, the French authorities should be granted a degree of flexibility in administering the supply arrangements, in that they should be allowed to issue aid certificates for animals intended for certain overseas departments in excess of the maximum quantities available to those departments, provided that the maximum quantities available to the four departments of both male and female animals are respected. So as to take account of those special needs, the French authorities should notify the Commission of the cases where that facility was used for the issue of certificates.

(4) Common detailed rules for the application of the arrangements for the supply of certain agricultural products to the French overseas departments are laid down in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 131/92 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2755/98 [4]. Additional detailed rules should be laid down in line with current commercial practice in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector, in particular as regards the term of validity of aid certificates and the securities ensuring operators' compliance with their obligations.

(5) With a view to sound administration of the supply arrangements, a timetable should be laid down for the lodging of certificate applications and for a period of reflection for their issue.

(6) This Regulation will enter into force after the expiry of the time limit for submitting licence applications in January 2001. To avoid a break in supplies to the French overseas departments, provision should be made to derogate from Article 4(1) and (3) of this Regulation and to allow, for that month alone, the submission of licence applications in the five working days following the entry into force of this Regulation and to set the time limit for the issue of such licences at 10 working days following the entry into force of this Regulation.

(7) With a view to bringing the administration of the aid more closely into line with the requirements of the French overseas departments, the aid and the quantities to which the latter may apply should be fixed annually per calendar year.

(8) 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

For the year 2001, the aid provided for in Article 4(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3763/91 for the supply to the French overseas departments of pure-bred breeding sheep and goats originating in the Community and the number of animals in respect of which that aid is granted shall be as fixed in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

Regulation (EEC) No 131/92 shall apply to the supply of pure-bred sheep and goats pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 3763/91, with the exception of Article 3(4) thereof.

[1] OJ L 356, 24.12.1991, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 328, 23.12.2000, p. 2.
[3] OJ L 15, 22.1.1992, p. 13.
[4] OJ L 345, 19.12.1998, p. 27.

Article 3

France shall designate the competent authority for:

(a) issuing the aid certificate provided for in Article 3(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 131/92;

(b) paying the aid to the operators concerned.

Article 4

1. Applications for certificates shall be submitted to the competent authority in the first five working days of each month.

Certificate applications shall be admissible only where:

(a) they relate to not more than the maximum number of animals available as published by France prior to the period for the submission of applications;

(b) before the period for the submission of certificate applications expires, proof is provided that the party concerned has lodged a security of EUR 40 per animal.

2. However, the competent authority may, in order to meet special needs arising under the supply arrangements, issue aid certificates for a quantity of animals in excess of the maximum quantity available to each overseas department, without the total number of animals eligible for the aid in the four departments being exceeded that facility being applied separately to male and to female animals.

France shall notify the Commission of the cases in which certificates are issued in accordance with the previous subparagraph.

3. The certificates shall be issued by the 10th working day of each month at the latest.

4. By way of derogation from Article 4(1), in January 2001 applications for licences shall be submitted to the competent authority no later than the fifth working day following the entry into force of this Regulation.

5. By way of derogation from Article 4(3), in January 2001 licences shall be issued during January 2001 no later than 10 working days after the entry into force of this Regulation.

Article 5

Aid certificates shall be valid for three months following the date of issue.

Article 6

The aid provided for in Article 1 shall be paid in respect of the quantities actually supplied.

Article 7

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

It shall apply from 1 January to 31 December 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 9 February 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

SUPPLY OF PURE-BRED BREEDING SHEEP AND GOATS TO THE FRENCH OVERSEAS DEPARTMENTS FOR 2001

PART 1: AMOUNT OF AID PER ANIMAL

(EUR)

Type of animal		French overseas departments
Pure-bred breeding sheep and goats	Males	530
	Females	205

PART 2: NUMBER OF ANIMALS

Type of animal [1]		Guadaloupe	French Guiana	Martinique	Réunion
Pure-bred breeding sheep (CN code 0104 10 10)	Males	0	4	1	5
	Females	0	6	16	218
Pure-bred breeding goats (CN code 0104 20 10)	Males	1	1	2	6
	Females	0	3	13	44

[1] Inclusion in this subposition is subject to the conditions provided for in Council Directive 89/361/EEC of 30 May 1989 concerning pure-bred breeding sheep and goats (OJ L 153, 6.6.1989, p. 30).