COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES



Brussels, 03.06.1997 COM(97) 270 final

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

on the cost of the aid measures for the transport of certain fruit and vegetables in 1995 provided for in Council Regulation (EEC) No 3438/92



Article 2(4) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3438/92¹, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1600/96², requires the Commission to present a report to the Council on the cost of the aid measures for the transport of certain fruit and vegetables.

The present report concerns the cost of the measures in 1995.

1. Background

The conflict in Yugoslavia, which erupted in 1991, hampered the transport of certain Greek agricultural products destined for other Community Member States, in particular fruit and vegetables, which are highly perishable.

As a result of this exceptional situation, unprecedented since the introduction of the common agricultural policy, the Council took a decision, in respect of fruit and vegetables covered by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72³ (which was subsequently repealed and replaced by Regulation (EEC) No 2200/96⁴), on account of their perishability, to compensate for the costs arising as a result of the need to avoid the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

2. Regulatory framework

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3438/92 provides for the grant of a special temporary allowance for the years 1992-96 on consignments made by wagon, lorry or vessel to Member States other than Italy, Spain and Portugal.

The Commission subsequently adopted a number of implementing regulations, including Regulation (EC) No 811/95⁵ concerning consignments in 1995.

The aid amount that year was ECU 4.83 per 100 kg net weight.

The competent Greek authorities were instructed to examine aid applications and their admissibility and to proceed with payments. They were instructed also to carry out the

OJ No L 350, 1.12.1992, p. 1.

OJ No L 206, 16.8.1996, p. 45.

OJ No L 118, 20. 5.1972, p. 1.

OJ No L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.

OJ No L 82, 12.4.1995, p. 5.

necessary checks on these operations. Financing is provided by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), Guarantee Section.

The Greek authorities are required to notify the Commission of the quantities qualifying for the transport aid.

3. Cost of the aid

The figures below have been prepared on the basis of information sent by Greece on concerning consignments in 1995 which qualified for transport aid. The data supplied to the Commission are broken down by product, means of transport and Member State of destination.

In 1995, aid was granted in respect of 275 386 674 kg of fruit and vegetables, which was 27% more than in 1994. The cost of the measure can be put therefore at ECU 13 301 176.

4. Summary

Table 1 gives a breakdown by product of the quantities dispatched. Grapes are the main product that benefited from the measures, accounting for 30% of the consignments on which the allowance was granted. Next come peaches and nectarines (16%), followed by water melons (13%).

Germany was by far the principal consignee Member State, receiving 63% of the quantities dispatched, followed by the Netherlands (17%) and the United Kingdom (10%) (see Table 2).

Consignments by lorry represented 96% of the quantities dispatched, while those by wagon and vessel represented only 3% and 1% respectively.

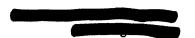


Table 1

Consignments of Greek fruit and vegetables which qualified for transport aid in 1995

Product	Quantity (kg)	Percentage (%)	Expenditure (ecu)
Grapes	81 743 627	29.7	3 948 217
Peaches	44 840 401	16.3	2 165 791
Water melons	34 912 219	12.7	1 686 260
Oranges	27 801 419	10.1	1 342 809
Asparagus	22 426 820	8.1	1 083 215
Cucumbers	17 624 033	6.4	851 241
Kiwifruit	12 162 296	4.4	587 439
Apricots	10 056 777	3.7	485 742
Cherries	9 166 389	3.3	442 737
Mandarins	7 473 141	2.7	360 953
Peppers	2 655 981	1.0	128 284
Lemons	2 477 035	0.9	119 641
Tomatoes	1 609 897	0.6	77 758
Aubergines	186 323	0.1	8 999
Plums	78 129	0.0	3 774
Courgettes	52 041	0.0	2 514
Apples	51 149	0.0	2 470
Raspberries	23 250	0.0	1 123
Melons	17 794	0.0	859
Mirabelles	13 187	0.0	637
Quinces	11 070	0.0	535
Beans	3 696	0.0	179
Total	275 386 674	100	13 301 176

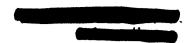


Table 2

Consignments of Greek fruit and vegetables which qualified for transport aid in 1995 by Member State of destination

Member State of destination	Quantity (kg)	Percentage (%)
D	174 250 621	63.3
NL	46 827 219	17.0
UK	26 080 185	9.5
AT	19 288 768	7.0
F	3 415 728	1.2
DK	2 537 636	0.9
S	2 123 068	0.8
В	863 449	0.3



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