

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 372 final.

Brussels, 26 July 1977

Proposal for a Council regulation relating to the
organisation of a survey on the structure of
agricultural holdings in 1979

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(77) 372 final.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Commission is submitting a proposal for a Regulation on the organization of a survey on the structure of agricultural holdings.

This survey is a sequel to the basic survey prescribed by Regulation n° 70/66/EEC (1), as amended by Regulation n° 35/67/EEC (2), to the general census of agriculture recommended by the FAO and prescribed by Directive n° 69/400/EEC (3), to the structure survey for 1975 prescribed by Directive n° 75/103/EEC (4) and to the structure survey for 1977 prescribed by Regulation (EEC) n° 3228/76 (5).

The present proposal provides for the continuation of the collection of data on the structure of agricultural holdings throughout the Community, in order to satisfy the requirements of the common agricultural policy. The proposed survey will permit the data already obtained in the course of the four previous surveys, to be updated, comparable data to be collected throughout the Member states and basic data for research on the structure of agricultural holdings to be provided.

In order to safeguard the comparability of the figures, the definitions used for the 1977 structures survey are in principle to be retained for the present survey, while however allowing the possibility of certain adaptations to the definitions for the specific needs of the 1979 survey.

The proposal for a Regulation contained in this document is based on the acknowledged interest of providing high quality information periodically on trends in agricultural structures, which is, moreover, one of the main conditions for the success of the measures agreed at Community level.

The development of the measures at regional level, particularly those envisaged for mountain and hill farming and certain less-favoured areas, makes it all the more necessary to collect data at regional or area level.

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- (1) OJ n° 112 of 24 June 1966, p. 2065/66
 - (2) OJ n° 33 of 24 February 1967, p. 524/67
 - (3) OJ n° L288 of 17 November 1969, p.1
 - (4) OJ n° L 42 of 15 February 1975, p.21.
 - (5) OJ n° L366 of 31 December 1976, p.1.

In design and execution, this survey is similar to the 1969 general agricultural census; at the same time, however, it permits comparison with the results of the structures survey for 1975 and 1977, which were the first surveys to provide comparable information for the nine Member states. It is based on the decennial surveys recommended by FAO already carried out in the Member states and provides a Community schedule of tables for the purposes of analysis of the data at Community level. This survey basically covers the following characteristics : type of tenure, land use, livestock, machinery and equipment, and farm labour force.

Provision is made for applying on the occasion of this survey the community classification of agricultural holdings currently being developed by the Commission's services and the Member states.

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Proposal for a Council Regulation

on the organization of a survey on the structure of agricultural holdings for 1979.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission (1),

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament (2),

Whereas the Member states are preparing to carry out a survey as part of the next ten-yearly world agricultural survey recommended by the FAO and to be conducted sometime around 1980;

Whereas the results of this survey may be used for Community purposes if the reference period, the scope and the definitions are harmonized as part of a Community programme;

Whereas the structural trends of agricultural holdings are an important factor in determining the course to be followed by the common agricultural policy; whereas the series of surveys on the structure of holdings, the latest of which was provided in Council Regulation (EEC) No 3228/76 (3), should be continued;

Whereas in order correctly to assess the technical and economic operation of the holdings the agricultural area utilized for farming should, in the case of combined crops, be divided among the latter in proportion to the amount of land which these actually take up; whereas the experiments required for this purpose were carried out in the Member states concerned during the 1977 survey on the structure of agricultural holdings (3);

(1) O J N°

(2) O J N°

(3) O J N° L366, 31.I2.1976, p.1

Whereas in order to facilitate the implementation of the envisaged provisions there should be close cooperation between the Member States and the Commission, in particular within the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics set up by Decision 72/279/EEC (1);

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

Member states shall, between 1 May 1979 and 15 June 1980, in accordance with the FAO recommendation for a world agricultural survey, carry out a survey (hereinafter referred to as to "the survey") on the structure of the agricultural holdings in their territories covering the crop year corresponding to a crop harvested in 1979.

Article 2

1. For the purposes of this Regulation :

- (a) "agricultural holding" shall mean a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and the output of which is agricultural products;
- (b) "agricultural area utilized for farming" shall mean the total area taken up by arable land, permanent pasture and meadow, land used for permanent crops and kitchen gardens.

2. The survey shall cover :

- (a) agricultural holdings where the agricultural area utilized for farming is one hectare or more;

(1) O J N° L 179, 7.8.1972, p.1

- (b) agricultural holdings where the agricultural area utilized for farming is less than one hectare, if they market a certain proportion of their products or if their standard gross production exceeds certain physical units.

Article 3

1. In the case of combined crops, the agricultural area utilized for farming shall be allocated between the various crops surveyed in such a way that the area actually devoted to each one is known.
2. The agricultural area utilized for secondary successive crops shall be recorded separately from the agricultural area utilized for farming.

Article 4

Member states shall include in their national questionnaires all necessary questions to obtain the information relating to the characteristics listed in the Annex.

Article 5

The definitions of the characteristics referred to in Article 4 of the regions and districts referred to in Article 8 shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 12.

Article 6

The survey shall be carried out as a general survey or a random sample survey. Member states may use these two forms of inquiry for different parts of the list of characteristics. In particular, the characteristics of Section M shall be recorded only in respect of holdings where the holder or at least one of the members of his family engaged in agricultural work for the holding has another gainful activity and this only within a random sample of 10% of the holdings.

The results obtained by random sampling shall be extrapolated.

Article 7

Member states shall set out the results of the survey in the form of a schedule of tables drawn up in accordance with a Community outline. This outline shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 12.

Article 8

1. Member states shall draw up the tables of the Community schedule of tables at national, regional and district levels.

When the Community outline of tables is drawn up the Commission may decide that certain tables are not applicable in certain Member States at district level.

2. With the exception of the Netherlands, the results shall be broken down by less-favoured agricultural areas, within the meaning of Article 3 of Directive 75/268/EEC (1) or by groups of such areas and broken down by other agricultural areas or by groups of such areas. The Commission shall lay down, in agreement with the Member states concerned, the groupings of less-favoured agricultural areas on the one hand and other agricultural areas on the other.

Article 9

Member states shall :

- (a) transcribe the results referred to in Article 8 on to magnetic tape using a standard programme for all Member states. The method of transcription and the standard programme shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 12;
- (b) submit the magnetic tapes referred to in (a) to the Statistical Office of the European Communities. They shall be submitted within 18 months of completion of the field work.

(1) O J N° L 128, 19.5.1975, p.1

Article 10

The information referred to in Article 8 shall be communicated to the Statistical Office of the European Communities in such a form that the holdings concerned cannot be identified.

Article 11

In cooperation with the Member States, the Commission shall publish the Community schedule of tables.

Article 12

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is invoked, the matter shall be referred to the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics set up by Decision 72/279/EEC (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") by its chairman, either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State.
2. The Commission representative shall submit to the Committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall give its opinion on that draft within a time limit set by the chairman having regard to the urgency of the matter. Opinions shall be delivered by a majority of 41 votes, the votes of the Member states being weighted as provided in Article 148 (2) of the Treaty. The chairman shall not vote.
3. The Commission shall adopt measures which shall take immediate effect. However, if these measures are not in accordance with the Committee's opinion, the Commission shall submit them forthwith to the Council; in this case, the Commission may defer application of the measures it has adopted for not more than one month from the date of their submission to the Council.

The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may take a different decision within one month.

Article 13

1. Member States shall submit to the Commission as necessary all information which the latter may require of them in order to achieving the tasks referred to in this Regulation.

2. The information collected by the Member States under the survey referred to in this Regulation shall be available in the Member States at district level and shall remain so, as far as is technically possible, until the next general survey carried out under the FAO or at Community level.

3. Further tables may be added to the schedule referred to in Article 7 in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 12.

4. If the Commission undertakes further studies, Member States shall as far as possible supply the information required in close collaboration with the other Member States and the Commission, particular attention being paid to the need to guarantee statistical confidentiality.

Article 14

Member States shall receive a flat-rate contribution to the costs in connection with Section M of the list of characteristics of $1\frac{1}{2}$ units of account in respect of each of the holdings for which the information referred to in that Section is supplied to the Commission.

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

Done at Brussels,.....

For the Council

The President

A N N E X

LIST OF CHARACTERISTICS

A. Geographical situation of the holding

- 01 District
- 02 Handicapped area yes/no

B. Legal personality and management of the holding
(on the day of the survey)

- 01 Is the legal and economic responsibility of the holding assumed by a natural person? yes/no
- 02 If yes,
is this person (the holder) also the manager yes/no
- 03 Managers' agricultural training yes/no
 - primary yes/no
 - secondary yes/no
 - higher yes/no
- 04 Are accounts kept for the holding yes/no

C. Type of tenure (in relation to the holder)
(on the day of the survey)

- Agricultural area utilized : ha/ are
- 01 for owner farming/.....
 - 02 for tenant farming/.....
 - 03 for share farming or other modes/.....

D. Arable land (as used for 1977 harvest) ha/are

- Cereals for the production of grain (including seed) :
- 01 Common wheat and spelt/.....
 - 02 Durum wheat/.....
 - 03 Rye/.....
 - 04 Barley/.....
 - 05 Oats/.....
 - 06 Grain maize/.....
 - 07 Rice/.....
 - 08 Other cereals/.....

	ha/acre
09 Dried vegetables (including seed and mixtures of cereals and dried vegetables)/.....
10 Potatoes (including early potatoes and sets)/.....
11 Sugar beet (excluding seeds)/.....
12 Forage roots and tubers (excluding seeds)/.....
13 Industrial plants (including seeds for herbaceous oleaginous plants; excluding seeds for textile plants, hops, tobacco and other industrial plants) of which : (1)	
13a tobacco/.....
13b hops/.....
13c oilseeds and textile plants/.....
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberries :	
14 - outdoor :	
(a) open field/.....
(b) market gardening/.....
15 - under glass/.....
Flowers and ornamental plants (excluding seedlings):	
16 - outdoor/.....
17 - under glass/.....
18 Forage plants	
18a temporary grass/.....
18b other/.....
19 Horticultural seeds and other arable land seeds or plants (excluding cereals, dried vegetables, potatoes and oleaginous plants)/.....
20 Other arable land crops/.....
21 Fallow land/.....
E. <u>Kitchen gardens</u>	ha/acre
F. <u>Permanent pasture and meadow</u>	ha/acre
01 Pasture and meadow, excluding rough grazings/.....
02 Rough grazings/.....

<u>G. Permanent crops</u>	ha/are
01 Fruit and berry plantations/.....
02 Citrus plantations/.....
03 Olive plantations/.....
04 Vineyards, of which producing (1) :/.....
04a quality wine/.....
04b ordinary wine/.....
04c table grapes/.....
05 Nurseries/.....
06 Other permanent crops/.....
07 Permanent crops under glass/.....

<u>H. Other land</u>	ha/are
01 Unutilized agricultural area (agricultural land which is no longer farmed, for economic, social or other reasons and which is not used in the crop rotation system)/.....
02 Woodland/.....
03 Other land (land covered by buildings, farmyards, tracks, ponds, quarries, infertile land, rock, etc.)/.....

<u>I. Successive cropping, mushrooms, irrigation, greenhouses</u>	ha/are
01 Successive secondary crops (excluding market garden crops and crops under glass)/.....
02 Mushrooms/.....
03 Area capable of being irrigated/.....
Ground area covered by greenhouses in use	
04 without heating installation/.....
05 with heating installation/.....

<u>J. Livestock (as of ...)(date to be determined)</u>	Head
01 Equidae
Bovine animals :	
02 Under one year old :
02a of which females not intended for slaughter as calves (1)
over one but under two years old

	head
03 Male animals
04 Female animals :
04a of which not slaughter animals (1)
two years old and over
05 Male animals
06 Heifers
06a of which not slaughter animals (1)
07 Dairy cows
08 Other cows
09 Sheep (all ages)
09a of which ewes (1)
10 Goats (all ages)
Pigs :	head
11 Piglets of live weight under 20 kg
12 Breeding sows weighing 50 kg and over
13 Other pigs
Poultry :
14 Broilers
15 Laying hens
16 Other poultry (ducks, turkeys, geese, guinea-fowl)

L. Farm labour force (in the 12 months preceding the day of the survey)

Farm labour force	Sex		Age groups						Farm work for holding (2)						
	m.	f.	... (1) 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 and above	Part time with working hours of:				full-time		
									< 25%	< 50%	< 75%	< 100%			
													of annual time worked by a full-time farm worker		
(tick)		(tick)						(tick)							
01 Holder															
02 Spouse carrying out farm work for holding															
03a Other members of holders family: male (3)	Farm work for holding as % of annual time worked by a full-time farm worker		Age groups												
			... (1) 24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and above							
	> 0 - < 25														
	25 - < 50														
	50 - < 75														
	75 - < 100														
04b Non family labour regularly employed: female (3)	100														
	Non-family work force not regularly employed		Number of working days												
05 Male															
06 Female															

07 Does the holder or his spouse or any member of his family engaged in the farm work of the holding have any other gainful activity yes / no

- (1) From school-leaving age
- (2) Apart from house-work
- (3) Table to be prepared for each of group separately (03a to 04b)

2. Other gainful activity by the holder or members of his family engaged in the farm work of the holding

	sex		ages groups						Gainful factivity other than the farm work of the holding			not self-employed (3)
	m.	f.	(2)	25	35	45	55	65	Time worked as % of annual full-time work	self-employed	type	
			24	34	44	54	64	+				
01 Holder												
02 Spouse												
03 Other members of holders family (4)												

- (1) To be completed only for sample holdings (10% sample) and when the answer to question L/07 is "yes".
- Include all individual entered in headings L/01, L/02, L/03
- (2) From school-leaving age
- (3) Code a = on same holding
 - b = outside.
 - 1 = agricultural and forestry
 - 2 = fishery
 - 3 = tourism and ancillary activities
 - 4 = craft industries
 - 5 = other
- (4) Specify individually.

(Example : A caravan site on the holding = a3)

NOTE

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the organization of a survey on the structure of agricultural holdings for 1979

Financial effect of the proposal on the budget of the European Communities

Expenditure arising out of Article 14

The main costs of the survey fall to the Member states in view of their commitment to carry out a major 10 yearly survey as recommended by F.A.O.

The regulation envisages a flat rate contribution at the rate of 1½ U.A. per supplementary questionnaire completed. The holdings concerned are those within a 10% sample where either the holder or his spouse, or a member of their family working on the holding has a lucrative activity outside the agricultural work of the holding. The (theoretical) maximum community financial commitment is thus 10% of all holdings surveyed (i.e. 10% of c. 5 million holdings) times 1½ U.A. or c. 750,000 U.A. Since not all the sample holdings will have such an external income source the actual community payment will be less. No comprehensive figures are available on which to base an exact estimate. However the community financial contribution is unlikely to exceed 400,000 U.A.

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