

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 699 final

Brussels 5 November 1982

Annual report on the estimated clearings and new
plantations of certain types of fruit trees

Submitted by the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council
in conformity with Article 8 of the Council Directive of 20 July 1976 (76/625/EEC)
as amended by Article 1 of the Council Directive of 14 February 1977 (77/159/EEC).

COM(82) 699 final

1

Explanatory Memorandum

1. Under Article 8 of Council Directive 76/625/EEC, as amended by Article 1 of Council Directive 77/159/EEC, the Commission must present to the European Parliament and the Council from 1 January 1977 annual reports on the estimated clearings and plantings of certain types of fruit trees (apples, pears, peaches and oranges).
2. The fifth report presented by the Commission refers to the estimates by Member States of the clearings and plantings during the 1979/80 season.
3. The report indicates the extent and direction of estimated changes in the total area under the four species of fruit trees within individual Member States.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Council Directive of 20 July 1976, 76/625/EEC¹⁾, as amended by Council Directive 77/159/EEC²⁾ of 14 February 1977 and Council Directive 81/1015/EEC³⁾ of 15 December 1981, concerning the statistical surveys to be carried out by Member States in order to determine the production potential of plantations of certain species of fruit trees, requires in Article 8 that the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council from 1 January 1977 annual reports on the subject of Articles 5 and 6.
2. This fifth report relates to estimates made by Member States of the areas of fruit trees cleared and newly planted during the 1979/80 season.

II. OBJECTIVE

3. The objective of Articles 5 and 6 of the Directive is to provide the Commission with annual estimates of changes in the area of certain species of fruit trees (dessert apples, dessert pears, peaches and oranges). These estimates give an indication of the trend in the area under fruit trees between the quinquennial surveys on fruit tree plantations, the last one having been conducted in 1977.

III. INFORMATION RECEIVED

4. The Directive requires Member States to supply annual estimates of the areas of fruit trees cleared and newly planted by species. The estimates must distinguish between varieties "in so far as possible", but some Member States are unable to make this distinction. This report is therefore restricted to changes in the total area of the four species.

IV. AREAS CLEARED (Table 1)

5. The total area of apple, pear, peach and orange trees cleared in 1979/80 was 19567 hectares, an increase of 3716 hectares (23%) compared with the 1978/79 total. Most of the increased clearings were of apple trees which, at 8973 hectares, were almost 50% higher than the previous season. The increase occurred in all Member States except France and Luxembourg, and was particularly marked in the Netherlands.
6. Clearings of pear trees were 25% higher than the previous season, with increases in Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom being only partially offset by decreases in other Member States.

1) O.J. N° L 218, 11.8.1976, p. 10

2) O.J. No L 48, 19.2.1977, p. 31

3) O.J. No L 367, 23.12.1981, p. 31

7. Clearings of peach trees were slightly above the previous season's level, with a reduction in France being more than offset by an increase in Italy. Clearings of orange trees were about 8% lower than in 1978/79.

V. AREAS PLANTED (Table 2)

8. New plantations of apple, pear, peach and orange trees in 1979/80 amounted to 15892 hectares, which was slightly below the 1978/79 total. New plantations of apple trees were only marginally lower, whilst plantings of pear trees were some 700 hectares higher due mainly to an increased rate of planting in Italy.

9. New plantations of peach trees were at a lower level in Italy, and plantings of orange trees also declined slightly.

VI. NET CHANGE IN AREA (Table 3)

10. Decreases in the area under apples, pears and peaches during 1979/80 has led to an estimated reduction of some 3700 hectares in the area under the four species in 1980. However this represents a reduction of less than 1% compared with the estimated total area of commercial orchards of these species in 1979.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

11. As a result of discussions with the Member States, it has been decided to wait until the results of the 1982 Community survey of orchard fruit trees have been analysed before assessing the reliability of the estimates and their suitability for use with a simplified forecasting model developed by EUROSTAT. Meanwhile, necessary steps could be taken by the services of the Commission in collaboration with national experts to up-date, if necessary, the yield curves required for forecasting production potential and to take a final decision on the most suitable forecasting model for this purpose.

Table 1: Area and proportion¹⁾ of orchard fruit cleared in 1979/80
by country and species

Country	Apples		Pears		Peaches		Oranges	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
BR Deutschland	834	3.1	20	0.8	8	2.8	-	-
France	821	1.3	934	3.9	1 555	4.0	-	-
Italia	2 279	3.3	2 365	5.3	4 366	5.5	753	0.7
Nederland	2 500	12.5	385	6.7	-	-	-	-
Belgique/België	368	4.4	24	0.7	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	13	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	1 484	7.7	134	2.8	-	-	-	-
Ireland	59	12.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Danmark	615	10.2	50	6.9	-	-	-	-
EUR-9	8 973	4.2	3 912	4.6	5 929	5.0	753	0.7

Table 2 : Area and proportion¹⁾ of orchard fruit planted in 1979/80
by country and species

	Apples		Pears		Peaches		Oranges	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
BR Deutschland	752	2.8	22	0.9	3	1.1	-	-
France	1 901	3.1	580	2.4	2 025	5.2	-	-
Italia	3 189	4.6	1 632	3.7	3 638	4.6	868	0.8
Nederland	520	2.6	190	3.3	-	-	-	-
Belgique/België	140	1.7	61	1.7	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	3	0.5	1	8.3	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	243	1.3	37	0.8	-	-	-	-
Ireland	4	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Danmark	74	1.2	9	1.2	-	-	-	-
EUR-9	6 826	3.2	2 532	2.9	5 666	4.7	868	0.8

1) Areas cleared and planted as a proportion of the areas recorded at the 1977 orchard fruit survey

Table 3 : Net change in area under orchard fruit in 1979/80

ha

Country	Apples	Pears	Peaches	Oranges
BR Deutschland	- 82	+ 2	- 5	-
France	+ 1080	- 354	+ 470	-
Italia	+ 910	- 733	- 728	+ 115
Nederland	- 1980	- 195	-	-
Belgique/België	- 228	+ 37	-	-
Luxembourg	- 10	+ 1	-	-
United Kingdom	- 1241	- 97	-	-
Ireland	- 55	-	-	-
Danmark	- 541	- 41	-	-
EUR-9	- 2147	-1380	- 263	+ 115

Table 4 : Estimated area under orchard fruit in 1980¹⁾

ha

Country	Apples	Pears	Peaches	Oranges
BR Deutschland	27 266	2 422	267	-
France	62 240	22 977	37 501	-
Italia	73 575	42 524	83 030	103 439
Nederland	17 207	5 113	-	-
Belgique/België	8 114	3 652	-	-
Luxembourg	623	14	-	-
United Kingdom	17 207	4 391	-	-
Ireland	412	-	-	-
Danmark	5 037	540	-	-
EUR-9	211 681	81 633	120 798	103 439

1) Areas recorded at the 1977 orchard fruit survey adjusted by the net change in area in 1977/78, 1978/79 and 1979/80.

