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PRESS RELEASE

Commission proposes next year's cereal prices.

The Commission has submitted to the Council two draft regulations on cereal prices for 1965/66.

Cereals (other than rice)

Article 6(4) of Regulation No. 19 requires that disparities between target prices for cereals must be gradually narrowed so that there will be a common target price for each type of cereal by the end of the transition period. It is also laid down that the Council shall each year, on a proposal by the Commission, decide what prices are to be applied by Member States.

However, following a proposal by the Commission for the alignment of cereal prices in a single operation, the Council fixed the level of the common target prices on 15 December 1964 and decided to put them into effect from 1 July 1967. The pace at which adjustments are made towards this level can be left to the discretion of each Member State. Consequently the Commission proposes that the 1964/65 price brackets be extended for the year beginning 1 July 1965.

Rice

For price measures to be applied by producing Member States, the Commission has taken into account the proposal on other cereal prices for 1965/66. As this provides for an extension of the limits of target prices laid down for the preceding year, no change is proposed in the limits of the target prices for rice.

The common threshold price for rice in non-producing Member States is to be at least equal to the lowest threshold price in force in producing Member States.

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The difference of 3.53 u.a./100 kg<sup>(1)</sup> between the current threshold price applying in Italy and the threshold price in non-producing Member States is therefore to be narrowed by three stages of 1.17 u.a. each year until 1967.

The threshold price proposed for non-producing Member States for the year beginning 1 September 1965 is thus 15.37 u.a./100 kg, rounded off to 15.40 u.a.

The current threshold prices for broken rice will be maintained. These are:

10.24 u.a./100 kg for France  
10.80 u.a./100 kg for Italy  
9.66 u.a./100 kg for non-producing countries.

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1) 1 u.a. = 1 US dollar.