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PRESS RELEASE

Proposed rice prices for the coming marketing year

The Commission has just submitted to the Council a draft regulation on rice prices for the marketing year 1966/67.

The basic regulation for this sector lays down that the differences between threshold prices and those between target prices shall be gradually reduced until a single price system is achieved at the end of the transition period. However, it is now planned to attain these single prices by the beginning of the 1967/68 marketing year. Thus the step-by-step narrowing of these differences must take place within the single marketing year 1966/67. The Commission therefore proposes that the difference between the prices adopted for 1965/66 and the single prices which it has planned be reduced by half, with all factors adjusted equally to take account of the taxes still in force.

With this in view the Commission makes the following proposal for the marketing year beginning on 1 September next:

Derived target prices applicable in the marketing centre of the area having the largest surplus in each producing state.

	for 100 kg of husked rice	1964/66	<u> 1967/68</u>
Upper limit F 90.00	Lit 11 394 18.23 u.a. 1 Lit 9 719 15.55 u.a.	18.32 u.a.	18.92 u.a. (1)
Lower limit F 76.77	Lit 9 719 15.55 u.a.	15.29 u.a.	17.21 u.a.

Threshold prices

For non-producing Member States

	<u> 1964/66</u>	<u> 1967/68</u>
16.00 u.a. per 100 kg of husked rice	14.20	17.78
10.55 u.a. per 100 kg of broken rice	9.66	-

Pending a thorough study of standards for fixing the future common threshold price of broken "it" would seem advisable to maintain a percentage similar to that adopted during the first two marketing years between the threshold price of brokens and that of husked rice. These percentages are 60.7% for Italy, 52% for France and 66% for non-producing countries.

⁽¹⁾ Proposed target price at Arles, but with taxes

⁽²⁾ Proposed target price at Vercelli, but with taxes.