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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(81) 759 final

Brussels, 4 December 1981



Proposal for an
Estimate

concerning young male bovine animals weighing 300 kgs or less and
intended for fattening for the period 1 January to 31 December 1982

Proposal for an
Estimate

of supply and demand for beef and veal in the processing industry
for the period 1 January to 31 December 1982

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(81) 759 final

PROPOSAL

Estimate concerning young male bovine animals weighing 300 kilograms or less and intended for fattening for the period 1 January to 31 December 1982

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal (1), as last amended by the 1979 Act of Accession, and in particular Article 13 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

HAS ADOPTED THIS ESTIMATE:

PRELIMINARY REMARK

Article 13 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 provides that the Council shall, each year before 1 December, draw up on a proposal from the Commission and by qualified majority vote, an estimate of the young male bovine animals which may be imported under the system laid down under the said Article. This estimate is to take account both of the forecast supplies of young bovine animals intended for fattening within the Community and of Community breeders' requirements.

In order to establish the volume of imports to be carried out under this estimate as from 1981, in accordance with the Community's undertaking within GATT, consultations are held between the Commission and representatives of some non-member countries before the annual draft estimate is put forward.

(1) OJ No L 148, 28.06.1968, p. 24

(2) OJ No L 329, 24.12.1979, p. 15

INTRODUCTION

Before drawing up this estimate, the Commission held consultations with representatives of the following non-member countries: Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia.

These consultations included an exchange of views on the beef and veal market as a whole, the production and consumption prospects within the Community and on the scope for exports of young male bovine animals by non-member countries.

This estimate relates to the period 1 January to 31 December 1982. It has been prepared in the light of information available to the Commission and on the basis of the foreseeable trend for 1982 of supplies of and requirements for young male bovine animals intended for fattening in the Community.

1. Assessment of Community supplies for 1982

In view of the number of breeding females (cows and heifers) anticipated for 1982 (about 35 897 000), some 31 570 000 births of calves are expected during that year. Production over the year of male calves would therefore be about 15 785 000 head, of which losses of about 1 190 000 (\pm 7.5%) should be provided for. The net number of young bovine animals of Community origin should therefore be about 14 595 000 in 1982.

2. Estimated Community requirements for 1982

- 2.1. The number of slaughterings of male calves envisaged for 1982, on the basis of data collected from Member States, should be about 4 330 000 head.
- 2.2. The number of male animals intended for slaughter as fattened young bulls of bulls or for breeding should be about 6 968 000 head.
- 2.3. The number of male animals intended for slaughter as bullocks should be about 3 517 000 head.
- 2.4. In the light of information provided by Member States and of the above, it is expected that in 1982, the requirements of Community breeders in young male bovine animals for fattening will be 10 485 000 head.
- 2.5. From considerations set out in 2.1. and 2.4. it follows that the Community's overall requirements in male calves will be 14 815 000 head in 1982.

These requirements will only be partly satisfied by Community supplies of these animals which, as shown in 1, amount to about 14 595 000 head.

The foreseeable Community shortfall for 1982 in male calves for fattening will therefore be around 220 000 head.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of these considerations set out above, the estimate for young male bovine animals intended for fattening which may be imported in 1982 under the arrangements provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 is fixed at 220 000 head.

Done at

For the Council

MEMORANDUM

In accordance with the undertakings made within the Multi-lateral Tariff Negotiations, the Commission held bilateral consultations with Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland on the estimate concerning young male bovine animals intended for fattening for 1982; the results are as follows:

1. The Yugoslavian representatives informed the Commission that they wished to export a quantity of 80 000 head in 1982 on the usual terms, namely a 70% reduction in the levy.
2. The Hungarian representatives stated that their country would be able to supply up to 10 000 head of unfattened animals for export to the Community in 1982.
3. The Polish representatives announced that about 150 000 head of unfattened animals would be available for export in 1982, 40% of which could be exported during the first six months and 60% during the second half of the year. The Polish representatives requested that this quantity be allowed to constitute a quota reserved for Poland within the context of the quarterly balance sheets. Finally, they expressed the wish that the whole of this quantity could be exported and that the estimate could enter into force from the beginning of the year.

Proposed

Estimate of supply and demand for beef and veal in the processing
industry for the period 1 January to 31 December 1982

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2966/80 (2), and in particular Article 14(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

HAS ADOPTED THIS ESTIMATE:

Foreword

Article 14(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 provides that each year before 1 December, the Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall draw up an estimate of meat which may be imported under the arrangements laid down in that Article. This estimate shall take account, on the one hand, of the expected Community supplies of meat of a quality and type of cut suitable for industrial use and, on the other, of industrial need.

This estimate shall mention separately the qualities of meat

- (a) intended for the manufacture of preserved food which does not contain characteristic components other than beef and jelly;
- (b) intended for the processing industry for the manufacture of products other than preserved food referred to in (a).

(1) OJ No L 148, 28. 6.1968, p. 24.

(2) OJ No L 307, 18.11.1980, p. 5.

INTRODUCTION

The annual presentation of the draft Balance Sheets is preceded by consultations between the Commission and certain third countries. The objectives of these meetings are to have an exchange of views on the whole situation of the beef market in the EEC and in third countries as well as the forecasts of production and consumption, in order to proceed with an analysis by both sides of the elements which would help to establish the estimates of Community needs for frozen beef for processing and to exchange information concerning export possibilities.

Consultations were undertaken by the Commission with representatives of the Argentine, Australian, Hungarian, New Zealand, Polish, Rumanian and Uruguayan governments.

Chapter I

Supplies of meat for processing

According to information supplied to the Commission by the Member States in September 1981, Community supplies of home-produced fresh meat for processing for 1982 can be estimated at 1 000 000 tonnes of meat on the bone.

It is also estimated that at the end of 1981 the Community will hold a public stock of meat as a result of standing intervention purchases. The quantity of this meat satisfying the requirements of meat for processing can be estimated at 68 000 tonnes of meat on the bone.

With effect from January 1982 the Community is to open a tariff quota for 50 000 tonnes of boned frozen meat, which corresponds to 65 000 tonnes of meat on the bone.

Experience shows that under this quota 11 000 tonnes of frozen meat on the bone will be imported in 1982 for processing.

In 1982 the quantity of meat to be imported into the Community and originating from Botswana, Kenya, Madagascar or Swaziland which satisfies the requirements for processing is estimated at 9 000 tonnes of meat on the bone.

For 1982 the total available supplies suitable for processing will thus be as follows:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Fresh meat: | 1 000 000 tonnes |
| Frozen meat taken over at intervention: | 68 000 tonnes |
| Frozen meat imported under GATT quota: | 11 000 tonnes |
| Frozen meat imported under A.C.P. agreement: | 9 000 tonnes |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1 088 000 tonnes |
| | <hr/> |

CHAPTER II

Industrial demand for meat for processing

According to information supplied to the Commission by the Member States in September 1981, Community demand for meat for processing in 1982 can be estimated at 1 148 000 tonnes of meat on the bone. This figure includes quantities required for the preparation of preserved foods as specified in Article 14(1)(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68. This latter quantity is estimated at 126 000 tonnes.

CONCLUSION

1. The arrangements for beef resulting from the 1973-79 Multilateral Trade Negotiations between the Community and the main suppliers of this meat (°) provide that, in the establishment of the level of imports in the balance sheets of beef for processing put forward for the years following 1980, the balance sheet is to be drawn up and administered by the Commission in conformity with the Commitment assumed by the Community in the GATT exchange of letters in such a way as to ensure the regular supply of the Community market and permit an increase in imports in proportion to the increase in Community consumption taking into account the foreseeable expansion of the market, and with the expectation that the annual level of imports of frozen beef for the processing industry under the balance sheet will increase, year by year, in proportion to the increase in Community consumption, over the current level of imports at the time of the 1979 exchange of letters.
2. This estimate covers the period 1 January to 31 December 1982. It has been prepared in the light of information available to the Commission and on the basis of current forecasts. It is derived from estimates of demand in the industry and of Community supplies of meat of qualities and types of cut suitable for industrial use, hereinafter referred to as 'meat for processing'.

Demand in the industry for meat for processing has been assessed by the reference to the quantities of fresh and frozen meat used each year.

(°) OJ No L 71, 17.3.1980, pp 152 et seq.

Community supplies of meat for processing have been estimated by reference to the quantities of fresh and frozen meat normally used for this purpose.

3. The Commission does not consider that there will be a growth in the estimated consumption in 1982.

The Commission therefore proposes that the quantity for import under the balance sheet in 1982 should be set at 60 000 tonnes.

It is proposed to apportion this tonnage, as required by Article 14(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68, so that:

- (a) 30 000 tonnes of meat intended for the manufacture of preserved food which does not contain characteristic components other than beef and jelly shall qualify for the total suspension of the levy, and
- (b) 30 000 tonnes of meat intended for the processing industry for the manufacture of products other than the preserved food referred to in (a) shall qualify for the total or partial suspension of the levy.

MEMORANDUM

Set out below are the main points of view expressed at the bilateral consultative meetings held between representatives of the Argentine, Australian, Hungarian, New Zealand, Polish and Uruguayan governments and the Commission. A number of these delegations considered that the information available was not sufficiently detailed for analysis.

- ARGENTINE
- The 1 000 000 tonnes of fresh beef available for processing was excessive and did not take account of :
 - (a) foreseen expansion in the market with increased consumption;
 - (b) reduction in production;
 - (c) the enlargement of the Community with the accession of Greece.
 - The availability of 68 000 tonnes of beef from intervention stocks for processing was considered too high.
 - The provision of 11 000 tonnes from the GATT quota and 9 000 tonnes from the ACP arrangements was excessive.
 - It was considered that the total availability of beef suitable for processing would not exceed 1 058 000 tonnes.
 - Attention was drawn to the fact that the requirements of the processing industry did not reflect the general increase in consumption for the beef sector as a whole.
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- In the opinion of the Argentine the balance sheet for 1982 should be 80 000 tonnes.
 - The Commission should ensure that the reduction in levy under the "system (b)" is fixed at a level to ensure all the total quantity is imported.

AUSTRALIA

- In view of the forecast increase in beef consumption coupled with the reduction in production in the Community, the demand for beef for processing should be increased above 1 145 000 tonnes and the availability of fresh beef should be less than 1 000 000 tonnes.
- With the 1981 year end stocks of beef held in intervention likely to be less than the previous year, the tonnage of beef available for processing in 1982 should be substantially less than 70 000 tonnes.
- The beef imported under the GATT quota and ACP arrangements is not used for processing.
- To take account of the accession of Greece to the Community the requirements of beef for processing should be increased.
- In the opinion of Australia the balance sheet for 1982 should be fixed at 80 - 100 000 tonnes.
- The Commission should administer the balance sheet in such a manner that will permit entry for the full quantity of imports established.

HUNGARY

- The export of frozen manufacturing beef did not form part of their export programme in 1982.

NEW ZEALAND

- The exchange of letters between New Zealand and the Community provides for the quantity of frozen beef imported to increase in proportion to the growth in Community beef consumption. New Zealand would expect to see the requirements for imports of frozen beef for processing to increase in future years in accordance with the trends forecast.
- It was difficult to reconcile an increased consumption combined with a fall in production resulting in the same amount of fresh beef being available for processing (i.e. 1 000 000 tonnes) as in the previous year.

- The proportion of beef imported under the GATT quota and ACP arrangements going to the manufacturing industry was considered unduly high.
- It was contended that in the past the quantity of beef suitable for processing which was purchased from intervention stocks had been substantially lower than estimated. On this basis the estimate (68 000 tonnes) for 1982 should be significantly reduced.
- The requirements of frozen beef for the processing industry should be higher in 1982 than in 1981.
- The Community should take account of the accession of Greece.
- The balance sheet for 1982 should be fixed at the highest level possible.

POLAND

- The export of frozen manufacturing beef does not form part of their export programme in 1982.

URUGUAY

- Taking account of the increased consumption and reduced production in the Community, the availability of fresh beef for processing (i.e. 1 000 000 tonnes) should be reduced.
- The tonnages of beef going to processing which is imported under the GATT quota and ACP arrangements are excessive.
- It is considered that the total available beef suitable for processing should be reduced below 1 088 000 tonnes.
- For 1982 the current balance sheet of 60 000 tonnes should be increased:
 - (a) by the increase in Community consumption in accordance with the arrangement between the EEC and Uruguay , and
 - (b) the amount by which the total availability of beef suitable for processing has been reduced, referred to above.

