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**REGULATION No 79/65/EEC OF THE COUNCIL
of 15 June 1965**

**setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation
of agricultural holdings in the European Economic Community**

(OJ P 109, 23.6.1965, p. 1859)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
► <u>M1</u>	Regulation (EEC) No 2835/72 of the Council of 29 December 1972	L 298	47	31.12.1972
► <u>M2</u>	Regulation (EEC) No 2910/73 of the Council of 23 October 1973	L 299	1	27.10.1973
► <u>M3</u>	Council Regulation (EEC) No 2143/81 of 27 July 1981	L 210	1	30.7.1981
► <u>M4</u>	Council Regulation (EEC) No 3644/85 of 19 December 1985	L 348	4	24.12.1985
► <u>M5</u>	Council Regulation (EEC) No 3768/85 of 20 December 1985	L 362	8	31.12.1985
► <u>M6</u>	Council regulation (EEC) No 3577/90 of 4 December 1990	L 353	23	17.12.1990
► <u>M7</u>	Council Regulation (EC) No 2801/95 of 29 November 1995	L 291	3	6.12.1995
► <u>M8</u>	Council Regulation (EC) No 1256/97 of 25 June 1997	L 174	7	2.7.1997
► <u>M9</u>	Council Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 of 14 April 2003	L 122	1	16.5.2003
► <u>M10</u>	Council Regulation (EC) No 2059/2003 of 17 November 2003	L 308	1	25.11.2003

Amended by:

► <u>A1</u>	Act of Accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	L 73	14	27.3.1972
	(adapted by Council Decision of 1 January 1973)	L 2	1	1.1.1973
► <u>A2</u>	Act of Accession of Greece	L 291	17	19.11.1979
► <u>A3</u>	Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal	L 302	23	15.11.1985
► <u>A4</u>	Act of Accession of Austria, Sweden and Finland	C 241	21	29.8.1994
	(adapted by Council Decision 95/1/EC, Euratom, ECSC)	L 1	1	1.1.1995

Corrected by:

- **C1** Corrigendum, OJ L 63, 5.3.1974, p. 34 (2910/73)

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REGULATION No 79/65/EEC OF THE COUNCIL
of 15 June 1965

setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Economic Community

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY,

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

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas the development of the common agricultural policy requires that there should be available objective and relevant information on incomes in the various categories of agricultural holding and on the business operation of holdings coming within categories which call for special attention at Community level;

Whereas the accounts of agricultural holdings constitute the basic source of essential data for any assessment of incomes on agricultural holdings or study of their business operation;

Whereas the data collected must be obtained from agricultural holdings specially and suitably selected in accordance with common rules and must be based on verifiable facts; whereas such data must reflect technical, economic and social conditions on the holdings involved, be taken from individual holdings, be available as quickly as possible, be based on uniform definitions, be presented in a common form and be usable at all times and in full detail by the Commission;

Whereas these objectives can be attained only by means of a Community network for the collection of farm accountancy data, based on the farm accountancy offices existing in each Member State, enjoying the confidence of the parties concerned and relying on their voluntary participation;

Whereas the complexity, both at Community and at Member State level, of the work involved in creating a Community network for the collection of farm accountancy data is such that the setting up of the accounting system must proceed gradually, thus entailing for the first few years a limited field of survey;

Whereas in selecting agricultural holdings and analysing and evaluating the data collected it is necessary to refer to data derived from other sources;

Whereas farmers must be given an assurance that their accounts and all other individual details obtained in implementation of this Regulation will not be used for taxation purposes or divulged by persons participating or having participated in the Community farm accountancy data network;

Whereas, in order that it may satisfy itself as to the objectivity and relevance of the data collected, the Commission must be in a position to obtain all necessary details concerning the manner in which the bodies entrusted with the selection of agricultural holdings and the accountancy offices participating in the Community farm accountancy data network discharge their duties and, if necessary, to send experts to work on the spot with the collaboration of the competent national authorities;

Whereas, to facilitate implementation of the provisions envisaged, a procedure should be provided for whereby the Member States and the Commission may co-operate closely within a Community committee;

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 157, 30. 10. 1963, p. 2653/63.

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Whereas after the Community farm accountancy data network has been in operation for a few years the Commission will be in a position to report on experience gained and to propose any necessary amendments to this Regulation;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER I

Creation of a farm accountancy data network for the European Economic Community*Article 1*

1. To meet the needs of the common agricultural policy, there shall be set up a Community network for the collection of farm accountancy data, hereinafter called the 'data network'.

2. The purpose of the data network shall be to collect the accountancy data needed for, in particular:

- (a) an annual determination of incomes on agricultural holdings coming within the field of survey defined in Article 4; and
- (b) a business analysis of agricultural holdings.

▼M2

3. The data obtained pursuant to this Regulation ►C1 shall, in particular, serve as the basis ◀ for the drawing up of reports by the Commission on the situation of agriculture and of agricultural markets as well as on farm incomes in the Community; the reports are to be submitted annually to the Council and the European Parliament, in particular for the annual fixing of prices of agricultural produce.

▼B*Article 2*

For the purposes of this Regulation:

- (a) 'operator' means the natural person responsible for the day-to-day management of an agricultural holding;

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- (b) 'category of holding' means a group of agricultural holdings which belong to the same categories as regards type of farming and economic size as defined in the Community typology for agricultural holdings established by Decision 78/463/EEC (1);

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- (c) 'returning holding' means any agricultural holding making returns for the purposes of the data network;
- (d) 'division' means the territory of a Member State, or any part thereof as delimited with a view to the selection or returning holdings; a list of such divisions appears in the Annex to the Regulation.
- (e) 'accountancy data' means any technical, financial or economic data relating to an agricultural holding derived from accounts consisting of entries made systematically and regularly throughout the accounting year.

▼M10*Article 2a*

At the request of a Member State the list of divisions shall be amended in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19, provided that the request concerns the Member State's divisions.

(1) OJ No L 148, 5. 6. 1978, p. 1.

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CHAPTER II

Determination of incomes on agricultural holdings*Article 3*

The provisions of this Chapter concern the collection of accountancy data for the purpose of making an annual determination of incomes on agricultural holdings.

▼ M7*Article 4*

1. The field of survey referred to in Article 1 (2) (a) shall cover the agricultural holdings having an economic size equal to, or greater than, a threshold expressed in European size units (ESU), as defined in the Community typology.
2. To qualify as a returning holding, an agricultural holding shall:
 - (a) have an economic size equal to, or greater than, a threshold to be determined in accordance with paragraph 1;
 - (b) be farmed by a farmer holding accounts or willing and able to keep farm accounts and willing to allow the accountancy data from his holding to be made available to the Commission;
 - (c) be representative, together with the other holdings and at the level of each division, of the field of survey.
3. The maximum number of returning holdings shall be 80 000 for the Community.
4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular the threshold for the economic size and the number of returning holdings per division, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

▼ M3*Article 5*

1. Each Member State shall, before 1 February 1982, set up a national committee for the data network, hereinafter called 'National Committee'. ► A4 Austria, Finland and Sweden shall set up the said Committee within a period of 6 months from their accession. ◀
2. The National Committee shall be responsible for the selection of returning holdings. To this end, its duties shall, in particular, include approval of:
 - (a) the plan for the selection of returning holdings, specifying in particular the distribution of returning holdings per category of holding and the detailed rules for selecting the said holdings;
 - (b) the report on the implementation of the plan for the selection of returning holdings.
3. The chairman of the National Committee shall be appointed by the Member State from among the members of this Committee.

The National Committee shall take its decisions unanimously; in the event of unanimity not being achieved, decisions shall be taken by an authority appointed by the Member State.

4. Member States which have several divisions may, for each of the divisions under their jurisdiction, set up a regional committee of the data network, hereinafter called 'Regional Committee'.

The Regional Committee shall in particular have the duty of cooperating with the liaison agency referred to in Article 6 in selecting the returning holdings.

5. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted pursuant to the procedure laid down in Article 19.

▼ **M3***Article 6*

1. Each Member State shall appoint a liaison agency whose duties shall be:
 - (a) to inform the National Committee, the Regional Committees and the accountancy offices of the detailed rules of application concerning them and to ensure that those rules are properly implemented;
 - (b) to draw up and submit to the National Committee for its approval, and thereafter to forward to the Commission:
 - the plan for the selection of returning holdings, which plan shall be drawn up on the basis of the most recent statistical data, presented in accordance with the Community typology of agricultural holdings,
 - the report on the implementation of the plan for the selection of returning holdings;
 - (c) to compile:
 - the list of returning holdings,
 - the list of the accountancy offices willing and able to complete farm returns in accordance with the terms of the contracts provided for in Articles 9 and 14;
 - (d) to assemble the farm returns sent to it by the accountancy offices and to verify on the basis of a common inspection programme that they have been duly completed;
 - (e) to forward the duly completed farm returns to the Commission immediately after verification;
 - (f) to transmit to the National Committee, the Regional Committees and the accountancy offices the requests for information mentioned in Article 16 and to forward the relevant answers to the Commission.
2. The detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

▼ **B***Article 7*

1. Each returning holding shall be the subject of an individual and anonymous farm return.
2. The accountancy data provided by each farm return must be such that it is possible:
 - to characterise the accounting holding by reference to the main elements of its factors of production;
 - to assess the income of the holding in its various forms;
 - to test by means of spot-checks the veracity of the information given.
3. The type of accountancy data to be given in a farm return, the form in which such data are to be presented and the definitions and instructions relating thereto shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

Article 8

A farmer whose holding is selected as a returning holding shall choose from a list compiled for the purpose by the liaison agency an accountancy office willing to complete the return for his holding in accordance with the terms of the contract provided for in Article 9.

Article 9

1. A contract shall be concluded annually on the authority of the Member State between the competent authority designated by the latter and each accountancy office chosen as provided in Article 8. Under this contract the accountancy office will undertake, in consideration of

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a standard fee, to complete farm returns in a manner consistent with the provisions of Article 7.

2. The terms of this contract, which must be uniform in all Member States, shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

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3. Where the duties of an accountancy office are carried out by an administrative department, the latter shall be notified as to its duties through the normal administrative channels.

CHAPTER III

Collection of accountancy data for the purpose of a business analysis of agricultural holdings*Article 10*

The provisions of this Chapter concern the collection of accountancy data for the purpose of a business analysis of agricultural holdings.

Article 11

There shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19:

- the subjects of the analyses mentioned in Article 1 (2) (b);
- detailed rules concerning the selection and number of returning holdings, these being established according to the objectives of each particular analysis.

Article 12

1. Each returning holding selected in accordance with the second indent of Article 11 shall be subject of a special farm return, which shall be individual to that holding and anonymous. This farm return shall include the accountancy data required under Article 7 (2) and all such further accountancy items and details as each particular analysis may require.

2. The type of accountancy data to be given in a special farm return, the form in which such data are to be presented and the definitions and instructions relating thereto shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

3. Special farm returns shall be completed by the various accountancy offices chosen as provided in Article 13.

Article 13

A farmer whose holding is selected in accordance with the second indent of Article 11 shall choose from a list compiled for the purpose by the liaison agency an accountancy office willing to complete the special return for his holding in accordance with the terms of the contract provided for in Article 14.

Article 14

1. A contract shall be concluded on the authority of the Member State between the competent authority designated by the latter and each accountancy office chosen as provided in Article 13. Under this contract the accountancy office will undertake, in consideration of a standard fee, to complete special farm returns in a manner consistent with the provisions of Article 12.

2. The terms of this contract, which must be uniform in all Member States, shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

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The supplementary terms which may be included in this contract by Member States shall be determined in accordance with the same procedure.

3. Where the duties of a (SIC! an) accountancy office are carried out by an administrative department, the latter shall be notified as to its duties through the normal administrative channels.

CHAPTER IV

General provisions*Article 15***▼M8**

1. It shall be prohibited to use for taxation purposes any individual accountancy data or other individual details obtained in implementation of this Regulation, or to divulge or use such data for purposes other than those specified in Article 1.

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2. It shall be prohibited for any person participating or having participated in the data network to divulge any individual accountancy data or any other individual details of which knowledge was acquired in the exercise of his duties or otherwise incidentally to such exercise.

3. Member States shall take all appropriate measures to penalise infringement of the provisions of paragraph 2.

*Article 16***▼M3**

1. The National Committee, the Regional Committees, the liaison agency and the accountancy offices shall be bound, within their respective areas of responsibility, to furnish the Commission with any information which the latter may request of them regarding the discharge of their duties under this Regulation.

Such requests for information made to the National Committee, the Regional Committees or to the accountancy offices and the relevant answers shall be forwarded in writing through the liaison agency.

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2. If the information supplied is inadequate or if such information fails to arrive in good time, the Commission may, with the collaboration of the liaison agency, send experts to work on the spot.

Article 17

There is hereby set up a Community Committee for the Farm Accountancy Data Network, hereinafter called the 'Community Committee'.

▼M9*Article 18*

The Community Committee shall consist of representatives of the Member States and be chaired by the Commission representative.

Article 19

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Community Committee for the Farm Accountancy Data Network.

2. Where reference is made to this Article, Articles 4 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC ⁽¹⁾ shall apply.

The period laid down in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at one month.

3. The Community Committee shall adopt its Rules of Procedure.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

▼ M3*Article 20*

1. The Community Committee shall be consulted
 - (a) for the purpose of verifying that the plans for the selection of returning holdings are in conformity with the provisions of Article 4;
 - (b) for the purpose of analyzing and evaluating the weighted annual results furnished by the data network, having regard in particular to data deriving from other sources *inter alia* from farm accounts and statistics generally and from national accounts.
2. The Community Committee may examine any other matter raised by its chairman, either on his own initiative or at the request of a representative of a Member State.

It shall examine each year, in October, the trend of farm incomes in the Community, referring in particular to the updated results of the data network.

It shall be kept regularly informed of the working of the data network.

▼ B*Article 21*

The Chairman shall convene the meetings of the Community Committee.

Secretarial services for the Community Committee shall be provided by the Commission.

The Community Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure.

Article 22▼ M10

1. Appropriations to be included in the general budget of the European Union, in the Commission section, shall cover:
 - (a) those costs of the data network attributable to payment of fees to accountancy offices in consideration of their performance of the duties referred to in Articles 9 and 14;
 - (b) all the costs of the computerised systems operated by the Commission for the reception, verification, processing and analysis of accountancy data supplied by the Member States.

The costs referred to in point (b) include, where appropriate, the costs of disseminating the results of those operations and the costs of studies into, and development of, other aspects of the data network.

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2. Costs in respect of the setting up and operation of the National Committee, Regional Committees and liaison agencies shall not be included in the Community budget.

▼ B*Article 23*▼ M2

Before ► M3 1 January 1990 ◀ the Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on the operation of the data network together with any proposal for amending this Regulation, as appropriate.

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

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ANNEX

List of divisions referred to in Article 2 (d)*Germany*

1. Schleswig-Holstein
2. Hamburg
3. Niedersachsen
4. Bremen
5. Nordrhein-Westfalen
6. Hessen
7. Rheinland-Pfalz
8. Baden-Württemberg
9. Bayern
10. Saarland
11. Berlin

▼M6

11. Berlin (SIC!)
12. Brandenburg
13. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
14. Sachsen
15. Sachsen-Anhalt
16. Thüringen.

▼M3*France*

1. Île de France
2. Champagne-Ardenne
3. Picardie
4. Haute-Normandie
5. Centre
6. Basse-Normandie
7. Bourgogne
8. Nord-Pas de Calais
9. Lorraine
10. Alsace
11. Franche-Comté
12. Pays de la Loire
13. Bretagne
14. Poitou-Charentes
15. Aquitaine
16. Midi-Pyrénées
17. Limousin
18. Rhône-Alpes
19. Auvergne
20. Languedoc-Roussillon
21. Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
22. Corse

Italy

1. Piemonte
2. Valle d'Aosta
3. Lombardia
4. Alto Adige
5. Trentino

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6. Veneto
7. Friuli — Venezia Giulia
8. Liguria
9. Emilia — Romagna
10. Toscana
11. Umbria
12. Marche
13. Lazio
14. Abruzzi
15. Molise
16. Campania
17. Puglia
18. Basilicata
19. Calabria
20. Sicilia
21. Sardegna

Belgium

Constitutes a single division

Luxembourg

Constitutes a single division

Netherlands

Constitutes a single division

Denmark

Constitutes a single division

Ireland

Constitutes a single division

United Kingdom

1. England — north region
2. England — east region
3. England — west region
4. Wales
5. Scotland
6. Northern Ireland

Greece

1. Μακεδονία — Θράκη,
2. Ήπειρος — Πελοπόννησος — Νήσοι Ιονίου,
3. Θεσσαλία,
4. Στερεά Ελλάδα — Νήσοι Αιγαίου — Κρήτη.

▼ **M4***Spain*

1. Galicia,
2. Asturias,
3. Cantabria,
4. País Vasco,
5. Navarra,
6. La Rioja,
7. Aragón,
8. Cataluña,
9. Baleares,
10. Castilla-León,
11. Madrid,

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12. Castilla-La Mancha,
13. Comunidad Valenciana,
14. Murcia,
15. Extremadura,
16. Andalucía,
17. Canarias.

Portugal

1. Entre-Douro-e-Minho e Beira Litoral,
2. Trás-os-Montes e Beira Interior,
3. Ribatejo-Oeste,
4. Alentejo e Algarve,
5. Açores e Madeira.

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Austria

constitutes a single division

Finland

1. Etelä-Suomi
2. Sisä-Suomi
3. Pohjanmaa
4. Pohjois-Suomi

Sweden

1. Plains of Southern and Central Sweden
2. Forest and mixed agricultural and forest areas of Southern and Central Sweden
3. Areas of Northern Sweden