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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2001 No. 3020**

**AGRICULTURE**

**The Common Agricultural Policy (Paying Agencies: Competent Authority and Co-ordinating Body) Regulations 2001**

*Made* - - - - *4th September 2001*  
*Laid before Parliament* *6th September 2001*  
*Coming into force* - - *1st October 2001*

The Secretary of State, being a Minister designated<sup>(1)</sup> for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972<sup>(2)</sup> in relation to the common agricultural policy of the European Community, in exercise of the powers conferred on her by the said section 2(2) and of all other powers enabling her in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations—

**Title and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Common Agricultural Policy (Paying Agencies: Competent Authority and Co-ordinating Body) Regulations 2001, and shall come into force on 1st October 2001.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Regulations—

“the Commission Regulation” means Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1663/95 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 729/70 regarding the procedure for the clearance of the accounts of the EAGGF Guarantee Section<sup>(3)</sup>;

“the competent authority” means the competent authority responsible, in the United Kingdom, for the issue and withdrawal of accreditation of paying agencies, as described in Article 4(1) (a) of the Council Regulation and Article 1(2), (3) and (4) of the Commission Regulation;

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(1) S.I.1972/1811; the continued power of the Secretary of State to make regulations for Scotland is confirmed by section 57(1) of the Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46), for Wales by article 3(4) of S.I. 1999/2788 and for Northern Ireland by article 3(2) of S.I. 2000/2812.  
(2) 1972 c. 68.  
(3) OJ No. L158, 8.7.95, p.6, as amended and rectified by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 896/97 (OJ No. L128, 21.5.97, p.8) and as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2245/1999 (OJ No. L273, 23.10.1999, p.5). Council Regulation (EEC) No. 729/70 was repealed and replaced by Council Regulation (EC) No. 1258/1999 and the detailed rules contained in the Commission Regulation are now to be read as supplementing the latter Council Regulation.

“the co-ordinating body” means the co-ordinating body responsible, in the United Kingdom, for bringing together and supplying information to the Commission and for promoting the harmonised application of Community rules between paying agencies, as described in Article 4(1)(b) of the Council Regulation and Article 2(1) of the Commission Regulation;

“the Council Regulation” means Council Regulation (EC) No. 1258/1999 on the financing of the common agricultural policy<sup>(4)</sup>;

“the Ministers” means the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Ministers, the National Assembly for Wales, and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, acting jointly.

**Competent authority**

3. The functions of the competent authority shall be exercisable by the Ministers.

**Co-ordinating body**

4. The functions of the co-ordinating body shall be exercisable by the Ministers.

4th September 2001

*Whitty*  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs

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(4) OJ No. L160, 26.6.1999, p.103.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations, which come into force on 1st October 2001, prescribe that the Ministers (that is, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Ministers, the National Assembly for Wales, and the Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture and Rural Development), acting jointly, shall exercise the functions of the “competent authority” (as described in Article 4(1) (a) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1258/1999 (OJ No. L160, 26.6.1999, p.103) and Article 1 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1663/95 (OJ No. L158, 8.7.95, p.6), as amended and rectified) and the “co-ordinating body” (as described in Article 4(1)(b) of the Council Regulation and Article 2(1) of the Commission Regulation). The former is responsible for the issue and withdrawal of accreditation of paying agencies in respect of the common agricultural policy in the United Kingdom. The latter is responsible for bringing together and supplying required information to the Commission and for promoting the harmonised application of Community rules between paying agencies in the United Kingdom.