Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 of 21 april 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers (repealed)

PART II

THE INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL SYSTEM

TITLE III

CONTROLS

CHAPTER I

COMMON RULES

Article 23

General principles

- Administrative and on-the-spot checks provided for in this Regulation shall be made in such a way as to ensure effective verification of compliance with the terms under which aids are granted and of the requirements and standards relevant for cross-compliance.
- 2 The applications for aid concerned shall be rejected if the farmer or his representative prevents an on-the-spot check from being carried out.

I^{F1}Article 23a

1 Provided that the purpose of the control is not jeopardised, on-the-spot checks may be announced. The announcement shall be strictly limited to the minimum time period necessary and shall not exceed 14 days.

However, for on-the-spot checks concerning livestock aid applications, the notice mentioned in the first subparagraph shall, except in duly justified cases, not exceed 48 hours. Furthermore, where the legislation applicable to the acts and standards relevant to cross-compliance requires the on-the-spot check to be unannounced, those rules shall also apply in the case of on-the-spot checks related to cross-compliance.

Where appropriate, on-the-spot checks provided for in this Regulation and any other checks provided for in Community rules shall be carried out at the same time.]

Textual Amendments

F1 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

CHAPTER II

CONTROLS WITH REGARD TO ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Section I

Administrative checks

Article 24

Cross-checks

- 1 The administrative checks referred to in Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 shall permit the detection of irregularities, in particular the automated detection using computerised means, including cross-checks:
 - a on declared payment entitlements and on declared parcels, respectively, in order to avoid undue multiple granting of the same aid in respect of the same calendar or marketing year and to prevent any undue cumulating of aid granted under area-related aid schemes listed in Annexes I and V to Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003;
 - b on the payment entitlements to verify their existence and the eligibility for aid;
 - c between the agricultural parcels as declared in the single application and the reference parcels as contained in the identification system for agricultural parcels to verify the eligibility for aid of the areas as such;
 - between the payment entitlements and the area determined in order to verify that the entitlements are accompanied by an equal number of eligible hectares as defined in Article 44(2) and Article 54(2), respectively, of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003;
 - e by means of the computerised database for bovine animals, to verify eligibility for the aid and to avoid undue multiple granting of the same aid in respect of the same calendar year;
 - [F2f] where supporting documents, contracts, growing declarations or written declarations in accordance with Article 33(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004 have to be submitted and where applicable, between the agricultural parcels as declared in the single application and in the supporting documents, contracts, growing declarations or written declarations in accordance with Article 33(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004 to verify the eligibility for aid of the area;]
 - g between the agricultural parcels as declared in the single application and plots subjected to official examination that have been found to comply with the requirements of the Directives referred to in Article 1(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1674/72 of 2 August 1972 laying down general rules for granting and financing aid for seed⁽¹⁾;
 - between the agricultural parcels declared by producer groups in accordance with Article 15a, the corresponding parcels declared by the members of the producer group in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 14(1), and the reference parcels as contained in the identification system for agricultural parcels to verify the eligibility for the aid;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- I^{F4}i between the agricultural parcels as declared in the single application and the parcels authorised for cotton production by the Member State in accordance with Article 110b of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003;
 - j between the declarations of the farmers in the single application to be a member of an approved inter-branch organisation, the information under Article 13(10)(b) of this Regulation and the information transmitted by the approved inter-branch organisations concerned, to verify eligibility for the increase of the aid provided for in Article 110f(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003[F5;]]
- [F6k] between the information provided in the delivery contract referred to in Article 110r of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and the information on deliveries provided by the sugar manufacturer.]
- 2 Indications of irregularities resulting from cross-checks shall be followed-up by any other appropriate administrative procedure, and where necessary, by an on-the-spot check.

[F4Where a reference parcel is subject to an aid application of two or more farmers under the same aid scheme and where the overall area declared exceeds the agricultural area with a difference which falls within the measurement tolerance defined in accordance with Article 30(1), Member States may provide for a proportional reduction of the areas concerned. In that case, farmers concerned may appeal against the decision of reduction on the grounds that any of the other farmers concerned over-declared their areas beyond that tolerance to his detriment.]

Textual Amendments

- F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F3 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 239/2005 of 11 February 2005 amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F4 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2184/2005 of 23 December 2005 amending Regulations (EC) No 796/2004 and (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F5 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F6 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Section II

On-the-spot checks

Sub-section I

Common provisions

F7Article 25

[F7General principles]

.....

Textual Amendments

F7 Deleted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 26

Control rate

[F2] The total number of on-the-spot checks carried out each year shall cover at least 5 % of all farmers applying for the single payment scheme or the single area payment scheme.

The Member States shall assure that on-the-spot checks cover at least 3 % of the farmers applying for aid under each of other area related aid schemes provided for under Titles III, IV and IVa of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003.]

- 2 The total number of on-the-spot checks carried out each year shall, moreover, cover at least:
 - a the minimum control rate of 30 % or 20 % of the areas declared for the production of hemp as referred to in Article 52 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003.
 - Where a Member State has already introduced a system of prior approval for such cultivation and has already notified the Commission of its detailed rules and conditions linked to that system prior to the entry into force of this Regulation, any amendments to those detailed rules or conditions shall be notified to the Commission without undue delay;
 - b 5 % of all farmers applying for aid under the bovine aid schemes. However, where the computerised database for bovine animals does not offer the level of assurance and implementation necessary for the proper management of the aid schemes involved the percentage shall be increased to 10 %. Those on-the-spot checks shall also cover at least 5 % of all animals per aid scheme for which aid is applied for;
 - [F2c 5 % of all farmers applying for aid under the ovine/caprine aid scheme irrespective of whether the aid applications are being submitted as part of the single application or

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

independently; those on-the-spot checks shall also cover at least 5 % of all animals for which aid is applied for; however, where the computerised database for ovine/caprine animals provided for in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 does not offer the level of assurance and implementation necessary for the proper management of the aid schemes involved, the percentage shall be increased to 10 % of the farmers;]

- d 2 % of all milk producers applying for the dairy premium and/or additional payments[F8;]
- [F2e 3 % of all farmers whose agricultural parcels are being declared by a producer group applying for hops payments in accordance with Article 15a;]
- [F4f] as regards aid applications for the crop specific payment for cotton in accordance with Chapter 10a of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, 20 % of the inter-branch organisations approved in accordance with Article 110d of that Regulation and of which farmers declare to be a member in their single applications;
 - g as regards applications for the tobacco aid in accordance with Chapter 10c of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, 5 % of first processors as regards checks during first processing and market preparation [F5;]]
- [F6h] as regards applications for the aid for sugar beet and cane producers provided for in Chapter 10f of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, concerning controls at the sugar manufacturers on the quantity quota sugar obtained from sugar beets and cane delivered in accordance with Article 110r of that Regulation, at least 5 % of the applicants delivering to the manufacturer concerned.]
- 3 Should on-the-spot checks reveal significant irregularities in the context of a given aid scheme or in a region or part of a region, the competent authority shall appropriately increase the number of on-the-spot checks during the current year and shall appropriately increase the percentage of farmers to be checked on-the-spot in the following year.
- Where it is provided that particular elements of an on-the-spot check may be carried out on the basis of a sample, that sample shall guarantee a reliable and representative level of control. Member States shall establish the criteria for the selection of the sample. If the checks on that sample reveal irregularities, the extent and scope of the sample shall be extended appropriately.

Textual Amendments

- F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F4 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2184/2005 of 23 December 2005 amending Regulations (EC) No 796/2004 and (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F5 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- **F6** Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

F8 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 239/2005 of 11 February 2005 amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 27

Selection of the control sample

- 1 [F2Control samples for on-the-spot checks under this Regulation shall be selected by the competent authority on the basis of a risk analysis and representativeness of the aid applications submitted. The effectiveness of risk analysis shall be assessed and updated on an annual basis:
 - a by establishing the relevance of each risk factor;
 - b by comparing the results of the risk based and randomly selected sample referred to in the second subparagraph;
 - c by taking into account the specific situation in the Member State.]

To provide the element of representativeness, the Member States shall select randomly between 20 % and 25 % of the minimum number of farmers to be subjected to on-the-spot checks as provided for in Article 26(1) and (2).

[F6However, if the number of farmers to be subjected to on-the-spot checks exceeds the minimum number of farmers to be subjected to on-the-spot checks as provided for in Article 26(1) and (2), the percentage of randomly selected farmers in the additional sample should not exceed 25 %.]

| F92 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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- 3 The competent authority shall keep records of the reasons for the selection of each farmer for an on-the-spot check. The inspector carrying out the on-the-spot check shall be informed accordingly prior to the commencement of the on-the-spot check.
- [F104] A partial selection of the control sample may, where appropriate, be made before the end of the application period in question, on the basis of available information. The provisional sample shall be completed when all relevant applications are available.]

Textual Amendments

- **F2** Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F6 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- F9 Deleted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F10 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 28

Control report

- 1 Every on-the-spot check under this Section shall be the subject of a control report which makes it possible to review the details of the checks carried out. The report shall indicate in particular:
 - a the aid schemes and applications checked;
 - b the persons present;
- [FIIc the agricultural parcels checked, the agricultural parcels measured including, where applicable, the number of olive trees and their positioning in the parcel, the result of the measurements per measured agricultural parcel and the measuring methods used;]
- [F2d] the number and type of animals found and, where applicable, the ear tag numbers, entries in the register and in the computerised databases for bovine and/or ovine/caprine animals and any supporting documents checked, the results of the checks and, where applicable, particular observations in respect of individual animals and/or their identification code;]
 - e whether notice was given to the farmer of the visit and, if so, the period of advance notification;
 - f indications of any specific control measures to be carried out in the context of individual aid schemes;
 - g indication of any further control measures carried out.
- The farmer shall be given the opportunity to sign the report to attest his presence at the check and to add observations. Where irregularities are found the farmer shall receive a copy of the control report.

Where the on-the-spot check is carried out by means of remote sensing in accordance with Article 32, the Member States may decide not to give the farmer or his representative the opportunity to sign the control report if no irregularities are revealed during the check by remote-sensing. If irregularities are revealed as a consequence of such checks the opportunity to sign the report shall be given before the competent authority draws its conclusions from the findings with regard to any resulting reductions or exclusions.

Textual Amendments

F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F11 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2184/2005 of 23 December 2005 amending Regulations (EC) No 796/2004 and (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Sub-section II

On-the-spot checks of the Single applications with regard to area-related aid schemes

I^{F2}Article 29

Elements of on-the-spot checks

On-the-spot checks shall cover all the agricultural parcels for which aid is requested under aid schemes listed in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, except those related to applications for seed aid in accordance with Article 99 of that Regulation. Nevertheless, the actual determination of the areas as part of an on-the-spot check may be limited to a sample of at least 50 % of the agricultural parcels for which an application has been submitted under the aid schemes established in Titles III, IV and IVa of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 provided that the sample guarantees a reliable and representative level of control both in respect of area checked and aid claimed. When this sample check reveals anomalies the sample of agricultural parcels actually inspected shall be increased.

Member States may make use of remote sensing and Global Navigation Satellite Systems techniques.]

Textual Amendments

Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 30

Determination of areas

[F2] Agricultural parcel areas shall be determined by any means proven to assure measurement of quality at least equivalent to that required by applicable technical standard, as drawn up at Community level.

A measurement tolerance shall be defined by a buffer of maximum 1,5 m applied to the perimeter of the agricultural parcel. The maximum tolerance with regard to each agricultural parcel shall not, in absolute terms, exceed 1,0 ha.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

The tolerance provided for in the second subparagraph shall not apply to olive parcels for which the area is expressed in olive GIS-ha in accordance with points 2 and 3 of Annex XXIV to Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004.]

The total area of an agricultural parcel may be taken into account provided that it is fully utilized in accordance with the customary standards of the Member State or region concerned. In other cases the area actually utilized shall be taken into account.

In respect of the regions where certain features, in particular hedges, ditches and walls, are traditionally part of good agriculture cropping or utilisation practices, the Member States may decide that the corresponding area is to be considered part of the fully utilised area on condition that it does not exceed a total width to be determined by the Member States. That width must correspond to a traditional width in the region in question and shall not exceed 2 metres.

Member States may, after prior notification to the Commission, allow a width greater than 2 metres if the arable crop areas concerned were taken into account for the fixing of the yields of the regions concerned.

- [F123] Further to paragraph 2, any features referred to in the acts listed in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 or which may form part of the good agricultural and environmental condition as referred to in Article 5 of that Regulation and Annex IV thereto shall form part of the total area of an agricultural parcel.]
- The eligibility of agricultural parcels shall be verified by any appropriate means. To that end, additional proof shall be requested where necessary.

Textual Amendments

- **F2** Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F12 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2025/2006 of 22 December 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 31

Elements of the on-the-spot checks related to applications for seed aid

On-the-spot checks related to applications for seed aid in accordance with Article 99 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 shall cover in particular:

- (a) checks at the level of the farmer applying for the aid:
 - (i) on all parcels to verify the species or variety group of seeds sown on each parcel declared;
 - (ii) on documents to verify at least the first destination of seed for which aid has been claimed;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- (iii) any checks deemed necessary by the Member States to ensure that aid is not paid with regard to uncertified seed or seed from third countries;
- (b) if the first destination of the seed is a breeder or a seed establishment, additional checks at their premises to ensure that:
 - (i) the seed has actually been bought and paid by the breeder or seed establishment in accordance with the growing contract;
 - (ii) the payment of the seed is reflected in the financial accounts of the breeder or seed establishment;
 - (iii) the seed has actually been marketed for sowing. Marketed shall mean holding available or in stock, displaying for sale, offering for sale, sale or delivery to another person. For that purpose, physical and documentary checks of the stock and financial accounts of the breeder or seed establishment shall be carried out;
- (c) where appropriate, checks at the level of the end users.

I^{F4}Article 31a

On-the-spot checks on approved inter-branch organisations

On-the-spot checks on approved inter-branch organisations in the framework of applications for aid under the crop specific payment for cotton provided for in Chapter 10a of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 shall verify the respect of the criteria for approval of those organisations, the list of their members and the scale referred to in Article 110e of that Regulation.]

Textual Amendments

F4 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2184/2005 of 23 December 2005 amending Regulations (EC) No 796/2004 and (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

I^{F6}Article 31b

On-the-spot checks on sugar manufacturers

On-the-spot checks on sugar manufacturers in the framework of applications for sugar beet aid for sugar beet and cane producers provided for in Chapter 10f of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 shall verify:

- (a) the information in the delivery contracts provided by the farmer;
- (b) the correctness of the information on deliveries provided to the competent authority;
- (c) the certification of the weighting scales used for deliveries;
- (d) the results of the official laboratory analyses performed to determine the percentage of sucrose of the sugar beets and cane delivered.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F6 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

I^{F2}Article 32

Remote sensing

- Where a Member State applies the possibility, provided for in the second paragraph of Article 29, to carry out on-the-spot checks by remote sensing, it shall:
 - a perform photo interpretation of satellite images or aerial photographs of all agricultural parcels per application to be checked with a view to recognising the ground cover and measuring the area;
 - b carry out physical inspections in the field of all agricultural parcels for which photo interpretation does not make it possible to verify the accuracy of the declaration to the satisfaction of the competent authority.
- 2 The additional checks referred to in Article 26(3) shall be carried out by means of traditional on-the-spot checks if it is no longer possible to carry them out by means of remote sensing within the current year.]

Textual Amendments

F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 33

Verification of the tetrahydrocannabinol content in hemp growth

- 1 The system to be used by the Member States in accordance with Article 52(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 in order to determine the tetrahydrocannabinol (hereinafter referred to as 'THC') content of the crops grown shall be as set out in Annex I to this Regulation.
- 2 Member States shall send the Commission, by 15 November of the marketing year in question at the latest, a report on the THC content findings. The report shall indicate, for each variety:
 - a for procedure A as provided for in Annex I, an indication of the point at which the sample was taken;
 - b the number of tests carried out;
 - c the results in terms of THC content, shown separately for each 0,1 %;
 - d measures taken at national level.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- Where the checks show, for a significant number of samples of a given variety, THC contents exceeding that laid down in Article 52(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, it may be decided, without prejudice to any other measures the Commission might take and in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 144(2) of that Regulation, to use procedure B as provided for in Annex I to this Regulation for the variety concerned in the course of the following calendar year.
- 4 Varieties of hemp [F13 grown for fibre]eligible for direct payments are listed in Annex II. Requests by a Member State to include a variety of hemp in that Annex shall be accompanied by a report giving the findings of analyses carried out in accordance with procedure B provided for in Annex I and a description of the variety in question.
- [F35] Crops of hemp [F13] grown for fibre]must continue to be cultivated under normal growing conditions in accordance with local practice for at least 10 days from the date of the end of flowering so that the checks provided for in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 can be made.

However, the Member States may authorise hemp [F13 grown for fibre] to be harvested after flowering has begun but before the end of the 10-day period after the end of flowering, provided the inspectors indicate which representative parts of each plot concerned must continue to be cultivated for at least 10 days following the end of flowering for inspection purposes, in accordance with the method laid down in Annex I.]

Textual Amendments

- F3 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 239/2005 of 11 February 2005 amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F13 Deleted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 381/2007 of 4 April 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 as regards the support schemes provided for in Titles IV and IVa of that Regulation and the use of land set aside for the production of raw materials.

[F3Sub-section IIa

On-the-spot checks of aid applications for hops payments by recognised producer groups

Article 33a

Elements of the on-the-spot-checks

[F2The on-the-spot checks referred to in Article 26(2)(e) shall be carried out by way of application of the provisions of Article 29, Article 30(1), the first and second subparagraphs of Article 30(2), Article 30(3), Article 30(4) and Article 32 mutatis mutandis.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Those on-the-spot checks shall verify whether the conditions, as provided for in Article 171 of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004, are respected.]

Textual Amendments

F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

[F4Subsection IIb

On-the-spot checks related to the applications for tobacco aid

Article 33b

Checks of deliveries

- 1 With regard to applications for the aid for tobacco provided for in Chapter 10c of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, all deliveries shall be checked. Each delivery shall be authorised by the competent authority which shall be informed in advance so that it can determine the date of delivery. During a check, the competent authority shall verify that it has authorised the delivery in advance.
- 2 If delivery is made to an approved purchasing centre as provided for in Article 171ck(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004, unprocessed tobacco, once checked, may leave the purchasing centre solely for the purpose of being transferred to the processing plant. After the checks have been made, the tobacco shall be assembled in distinct quantities.

The transfer of those quantities to the processing plant shall be authorised in writing by the competent authority which shall be informed in advance so that it can accurately identify the means of transport used, the route, the time of departure and arrival and the quantities of tobacco transported in each separate instance.

When the tobacco reaches the processing plant, the competent control body shall verify that the separate quantities checked in the purchasing centres are those actually delivered, in particular by weighing them.

The competent authority may lay down any special conditions it deems necessary for checking the operations.

Article 33c

Placing under supervision and checks during first processing and market preparation

1 Member States shall take the appropriate measures to ensure that raw tobacco is placed under supervision at the moment when it is delivered from the farmer to the first-processing undertaking.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Placing under supervision shall ensure that raw tobacco cannot be released before the first processing and market preparation operations are completed and that no raw tobacco is submitted more than once for checking.

- 2 Checks during first processing and market preparation of the tobacco shall verify compliance with Article 171cb of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004, in particular relating to the quantities of raw tobacco in each undertaking being checked, distinguishing between raw tobacco produced in the Community and raw tobacco originating in or coming from third countries. To that end, those checks shall include:
 - a checks of the processing undertaking's stocks;
 - b checks when the tobacco leaves the place in which it was under supervision, having undergone first processing and market preparation;
 - c all additional control measures that Member States deem necessary, in particular to ensure that no premium is paid for raw tobacco originating in or coming from third countries.
- Checks pursuant to this Article shall be undertaken in the place where the raw tobacco is processed. Within a time-limit to be determined by the Member State, the undertakings involved shall notify their competent bodies, in writing, of the places where processing will take place. To that end, Member States may specify the information to be provided by the first-processing undertakings to the competent bodies.
- 4 Checks pursuant to this Article shall in all cases be unannounced.]

Sub-section III

On-the-spot checks of livestock aid applications

Article 34

Timing of on-the-spot checks

For aid schemes other than those provided for in Articles 123(6) and 130 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, at least 60 % of the minimum rate of on-the-spot checks provided for in the last sentence of Article 26(2)(b) of this Regulation shall be conducted throughout the retention period of the aid scheme concerned. The remaining percentage of on-the-spot checks shall be conducted throughout the retention period of at least one of those aid schemes.

However, where a Member State makes use of the possibilities provided for in Article 68 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, the minimum rate of on-the-spot checks provided for in the last sentence of Article 26(2)(b) shall be fully conducted throughout the retention period of the aid scheme concerned.

At least 50 % of the minimum rate of on-the-spot checks provided for in Article 26(2) (c) shall be conducted throughout the retention period. However, the minimum rate of on-the-spot checks shall be fully conducted throughout the retention period in Member States where the system established by Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 as concerns ovines and caprines, in particular in relation to the identification of animals and the proper keeping of registers, is not fully implemented and applied.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Article 35

Elements of the on-the-spot checks

- On-the-spot checks shall cover all livestock for which aid applications have been submitted under the aid schemes to be checked and, in the case of checks of the bovine aid schemes, also the unclaimed bovine animals.
- 2 On-the-spot checks shall include in particular:
 - a check that the number of animals present on the holding for which aid applications have been submitted and the number of unclaimed bovine animals corresponds to the number of animals entered in the registers and, in the case of bovine animals, to the number of animals notified to the computerised database for bovine animals;
 - b in relation to the bovine aid schemes, checks
 - [F20f the correctness of entries in the register and the notifications to the computerised database for bovine animals on the basis of a sample of supporting documents such as purchase and sales invoices, slaughter certificates, veterinary certificates and, where applicable, animal passports, in relation to animals for which aid applications were submitted in the six months prior to the on-the-spot check; however if anomalies are found, the check shall be extended to 12 months prior to the on-the-spot check,
 - that information held in the computerised database for bovine animals corresponds to the information given in the register on the basis of a sample in relation to animals for which aid applications were submitted in the six months prior to the on-the-spot check; however if anomalies are found the check shall be extended to 12 months prior to the on-the-spot check,]
 - that all animals present on the holding and still kept under the retention obligation are eligible for the aid claimed,
 - that all bovine animals present on the holding are identified by ear tags and accompanied, where applicable, by animal passports and that they are recorded in the register and have been duly notified to the computerised database for bovine animals.

[XI] The checks referred to in the fourth indent shall be made individually for each individual male bovine still kept under the retention obligation, for which an application has been submitted for the special beef premium with the exception of those submitted in accordance with Article 123(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003.] In all other cases, the check on correct recording in the animal passports, the register and notification to the database may be made on the basis of a sample;

[F2c in relation to the ovine/caprine aid scheme:

- a check on the basis of the register that all the animals for which aid application were submitted have been kept on the holding throughout the retention period,
- a check of the correctness of entries in the register in the six months prior to the on-the-spot check, based on a sample of supporting documents such as purchase and sales invoices and veterinary certificates covering the six months prior to the on-the-spot check; however if anomalies are found the check shall be extended to 12 months prior to the on-the-spot check.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Editorial Information

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 of 21 April 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers (Official Journal of the European Union L 141 of 30 April 2004).

Textual Amendments

F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 36

Control measures as regards on-the-spot checks in slaughterhouses

- As regards the special beef premium provided for in Article 123(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and the slaughter premium provided for in Article 130 of that Regulation and in cases where a Member State makes use of the possibilities provided for in Article 68 of that Regulation, on-the-spot checks shall be carried out in the slaughterhouses. In that case, Member States shall carry out on-the-spot checks either:
 - a in at least 30 % of all slaughterhouses, selected on the basis of a risk analysis, in which case the controls shall cover a sample of 5 % of the total number of bovine animals which have been slaughtered in the slaughterhouse concerned during the 12 months prior to the on-the-spot check, or
 - b in at least 20 % of the slaughterhouses which have been approved beforehand in accordance with particular criteria of reliability to be determined by the Member States and which are selected on the basis of a risk analysis, in which case the controls shall cover a sample of 2 % of the total number of bovine animals which have been slaughtered in the slaughterhouse concerned during the 12 months prior to the on-the-spot check.

[F5The on-the-spot checks in slaughterhouses shall comprise a posteriori scrutiny of documents, a comparison with the entries in the computerised database for bovine animals and checks of summaries relating to the slaughter certificates or information in place thereof, which were sent to other Member States in accordance with Article 121(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1973/2004.]

2 On-the-spot checks in slaughterhouses shall comprise physical checks of slaughtering procedures carried out on the day of the on-the-spot check on the basis of a sample. Where necessary, it shall be checked whether the carcasses presented for weighing are eligible for aid.

Textual Amendments

F5 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 659/2006 of 27 April 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 37

Control measures as regards the premium granted after export

- As regards the slaughter premium granted for bovine animals exported to third countries in accordance with Article 130 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and where a Member State makes use of the possibilities provided for in Article 68 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, all loading operations shall be subject to on-the-spot checks, which shall be carried out as follows:
 - a at the time of loading, it shall be verified that all bovine animals are identified by ear tags. Furthermore, at least 10 % of the bovine animals so verified shall be checked individually with a view to verifying their identification;
 - b at the time of the departure from the Community territory:
 - where an official customs seal has been applied to the means of transport, it shall be checked that the seal is undamaged. If the seal is undamaged a sample check shall only be carried out if there are doubts as to the regularity of the load,
 - where no official customs seal has been applied to the means of transport or where a customs seal is damaged, at least 50 % of bovine animals that were individually checked at the time of loading shall be checked again.
- 2 The animal passports shall be surrendered to the competent authority in accordance with Article 6(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.
- The Paying Agency shall scrutinize the aid applications on the basis of the payment files and other available information, paying particular attention to the documents relating to the export and the comments of the competent control authorities and shall check whether the animal passports have been surrendered in accordance with paragraph 2.

I^{F11}Article 38

Special provisions as regards additional payments

[F2As regards the additional payment to be granted for specific types of farming or for quality production as provided for in Article 69 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003, the Member States shall, where appropriate, apply the provisions of this Title.] If this is not appropriate because of the structure of the scheme concerned, the Member States shall provide controls ensuring a control level equivalent to that laid down in this Title.]

Textual Amendments

- F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2007 of 20 August 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.
- F11 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2184/2005 of 23 December 2005 amending Regulations (EC) No 796/2004 and (EC) No 1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 39

Special provisions as regards the control report

- Where Member States carry out on-the-spot checks pursuant to this Regulation in conjunction with inspections pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 the control report provided for in Article 28 of this Regulation shall be supplemented by reports in accordance with Article 2(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003.
- With regard to the checks in slaughterhouses provided for in Article 36(1), the control report provided for in Article 28 may consist of an indication in the slaughterhouse accounts showing which animals have been subject to the checks.

With regard to the checks provided for in Article 36(2), the report shall include, inter alia, the identification numbers, the carcass weights and the dates of slaughter in relation to all animals slaughtered and checked on the day of the on-the-spot check.

- With regard to the checks provided for in Article 37, the control report may consist only of an indication of the animals so checked.
- Where on-the-spot checks conducted in accordance with this Regulation reveal cases of non-compliance with the provisions of Title I of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, copies of the control report provided for in Article 28 of this Regulation shall be sent without delay to the authorities responsible for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003.

Sub-section IV

On-the-spot checks with regard to aid applications for the dairy premium and additional payments

Article 40

On-the-spot checks with regard to aid applications for the dairy premium and additional payments

On-the-spot checks shall cover the eligibility conditions, in particular on the basis of the farmers accounting or other registers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

CHAPTER III

CONTROLS RELATING TO CROSS-COMPLIANCE

Section I

Common provisions

Article 41

General principles and definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following general principles and definitions shall apply:

- (a) A 'repeated' non-compliance shall mean the non-compliance with the same requirement, standard or obligation referred to in Article 4 determined more than once within a consecutive period of three years, provided the farmer has been informed of a previous non-compliance and, as the case may be, has had the possibility to take the necessary measures to terminate that previous non-compliance;
- (b) The 'extent' of a non-compliance shall be determined taking account, in particular, of whether the non-compliance has a far-reaching impact or whether it is limited to the farm itself;
- (c) The 'severity' of a non-compliance shall depend, in particular, on the importance of the consequences of the non-compliance taking account of the aims of the requirement or standard concerned;
- (d) Whether a non-compliance is of 'permanence' shall depend, in particular, on the length of time for which the effect lasts or the potential for terminating those effects by reasonable means.

Article 42

Competent control authority

1 The specialised control bodies shall bear the responsibility to carry out the controls on the respect of the requirements and standards in question.

The Paying Agencies shall bear the responsibility for the fixing of reductions or exclusions in individual cases in accordance with Chapter II of Title IV of this Regulation.

By way of derogation from paragraph 1, Member States may decide that controls in relation to all or certain requirements, standards, acts, or areas of cross-compliance shall be carried out by the Paying Agency provided that the Member State guarantees that the effectiveness of the controls is at least equal to the one achieved in the case where the controls are carried out by a specialised control body.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Section II

Administrative checks

Article 43

Administrative checks

[XI]Depending of the requirements, standards, acts or areas] of cross-compliance in question, Member States may decide to carry out administrative checks, in particular those already provided for under the control systems applicable to the respective requirement, standard, act or area of cross-compliance.

Editorial Information

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 of 21 April 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers (Official Journal of the European Union L 141 of 30 April 2004).

Section III

On-the-spot checks

IF14 Article 44

Minimum control rate

The competent control authority shall, with regard to the requirements and standards for which it is responsible, carry out checks on at least 1 % of all farmers submitting aid applications under support schemes for direct payments within the meaning of Article 2(d) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and for which the competent control authority in question is responsible.

The minimum control rate referred to in the first subparagraph may be reached at the level of each competent control authority or at the level of each act or standard or group of acts or standards. In the cases where the controls are not carried out by the Paying Agencies as provided for in Article 42, this minimum control rate may however be reached at the level of each Paying Agency.

Where the legislation applicable to the act and standards already fix minimum control rates, that rate shall insofar be applied instead of the minimum rate mentioned in the first subparagraph. Alternatively, Member States may decide that any instances of non-compliance detected in the course of any on-the-spot checks under the legislation applicable to the acts and standards which are performed outside the sample mentioned in the first subparagraph, shall be reported to, and followed up by, the competent control authority in charge of the act or standard concerned. The provisions under this Title shall apply.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

2 Should on-the-spot checks reveal a significant degree of non-compliance with a given act or standard, the number of on-the-spot checks to be carried out for this act or standard in the following control period shall be increased.

Textual Amendments

F14 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 45

Selection of the control sample

Without prejudice to checks carried out as a follow-up of non-compliances brought to the attention of the competent control authority in any other way, the selection of each of the samples of farms to be checked in accordance with Article 44 shall be based, where applicable, on a risk analysis according to the applicable legislation, or on a risk analysis appropriate to the requirements or standards. That risk analysis may be based on the level of an individual farm or on the level of categories of farms or geographical zones or, in the case of point (b) of the second subparagraph of paragraph 3 of this Article, on the level of undertakings.

The risk analysis may take into account one or both of following:

- a a farmer's participation in the farm advisory system provided for in Articles 13 and 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003;
- b a farmer's participation in a certification system if the scheme in question is relevant for the requirements and standards concerned.
- To provide the element of representativeness, between 20 % and 25 % of the minimum number of farmers to be subject to on-the-spot checks as provided for in the first subparagraph of Article 44(1), shall be selected randomly.

However, if the number of farmers to be subject to on-the-spot checks exceeds the minimum number of farmers to be subject to on-the-spot checks as provided for in the first subparagraph of Article 44(1), the percentage of randomly selected farmers in the additional sample should not exceed 25 %.

- 1b A partial selection of the control sample may, where appropriate, be made before the end of the application period in question, on the basis of available information. The provisional sample shall be completed when all relevant applications are available.
- 2 The samples of farmers to be checked in accordance with Article 44 shall be selected from the samples of farmers which were already selected pursuant to Articles 26 and 27 and to whom the relevant requirements or standards apply.
- By way of derogation from paragraph 2, the samples of farmers to be checked in accordance with Article 44 may be selected amongst the population of farmers submitting aid applications under support schemes for direct payments within the meaning of Article 2(d) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and who are under the obligation to respect the relevant requirements or standards.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

In that case:

- a where it is concluded, on the basis of the risk analysis applied at farm level, that nonbeneficiaries of direct aid represent a higher risk than the farmers who applied for aid, farmers who applied for aid may be replaced by non-beneficiaries; in that case, the overall number of farmers checked shall, nevertheless, attain the control rate provided for in Article 44(1); the reasons for such replacements shall be properly justified and documented;
- b if more effective, the risk analysis may be performed at the level of undertakings, in particular slaughterhouses, traders or suppliers rather than at farm level; in that case, the farmers thus checked may be counted towards the control rate provided for in Article 44(1).
- It may be decided to proceed by a combination of the procedures set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 in the case where such a combination increases the effectiveness of the control system.]

Textual Amendments

F14 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Article 46

Determination of the compliance with the requirements and standards

- Where applicable, the respect of the requirements and standards shall be determined by the use of means as stipulated in the legislation applicable to the requirement or standard in question.
- In other cases and where appropriate, the determination shall be carried out by the use of any appropriate means defined by the competent control authority which ensure precision at least equivalent to that required for official determinations under the national rules.
- Where appropriate, the on-the-spot checks may be conducted by the application of remote-sensing techniques.

Article 47

Elements of the on-the-spot checks

In performing the checks on the sample provided for in Article 44, the competent control authority shall ensure that all farmers thus selected are checked with regard to their compliance with the requirements and standards for which it is responsible.

[F1]Notwithstanding the first subparagraph, where the minimum control rate is reached at the level of each act or standard or group of acts or standards as provided for in the second subparagraph of Article 44(1), the farmers selected shall be checked with regard to their compliance with the act or standard or group of acts and standards in question.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

In general, each farmer selected for an on-the-spot check shall be controlled at a time when most requirements and standards for which he was selected may be checked. However, Member States shall ensure that an appropriate level of control for all requirements and standards is achieved during the year.]

[F11a On-the-spot checks shall, where applicable, cover all the agricultural land of the holding. Nevertheless, the actual inspection in the field as part of an on-the-spot check may be limited to a sample of at least half of the agricultural parcels concerned by the requirement or standard on the holding provided that such sample guarantees a reliable and representative level of control in respect of requirements and standards. When this sample check reveals non-compliances, the sample of agricultural parcels actually inspected shall be increased.

Furthermore, where the legislation applicable to the act or standards provides so, the actual inspection of the compliance with the requirements and standards as part of an on-the-spot check may be limited to a representative sample of the objects to check. However, the Member States shall assure that the checks are carried out on all requirements and standards for which the compliance may be checked at the time of the visit.]

- The checks referred to in paragraph 1 shall, as a general rule, be carried out as part of one control visit and shall consist of a verification of the requirements and standards the compliance with which may be checked at the time of that visit, aiming to detect any possible non-compliance with those requirements and standards and, in addition, to identify cases to be submitted for further checks.
- Provided that the Member State ensures that the effectiveness of the controls is at least equal to the one achieved in the case where the controls are carried out by on-the-spot checks, controls at farm level may be replaced by administrative checks or checks at the level of undertakings as referred to in point (b) of the second subparagraph of Article 45(3).
- 4 In performing the on-the-spot checks, Member States may make use of objective control indicators specific to certain requirements and standards provided they ensure that the effectiveness of the control of the requirements and standards concerned is at least equal to on-the-spot checks performed without the use of indicators.

The indicators shall have a direct link to the requirements or standards they represent and cover all elements to be checked when controlling that or those requirements or standards.

5 On-the-spot checks related to the sample provided for in Article 44(1) shall be carried out within the same calendar year where the aid applications are submitted.]

Textual Amendments

F1 Inserted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Article 48

Control report

1 Every on-the-spot check under this Chapter, regardless whether the farmer in question was selected for the on-the-spot check in accordance with Article 45 or as a follow-up of non-compliances brought to the attention of the competent control authority in any other way, shall be the subject of a control report to be established by the competent control authority.

The report shall be divided into the following parts:

- a a general part containing, in particular, the following information:
 - (i) the farmer selected for the on-the-spot check;
 - (ii) the persons present;
 - (iii) whether notice of the visit was given to the farmer and, if so, the period of advance notification;
- b a part reflecting separately the checks carried out in respect of each of the acts and standards and containing, in particular, the following information:
 - (i) the requirements and standards subject to the on-the-spot check;
 - (ii) the nature and extent of checks carried out;
 - (iii) the findings;
 - (iv) the acts and standards in relation to which non-compliances are found;
- an evaluation part giving an assessment of the importance of the non-compliance in respect of each act and/or standard on the basis of the criteria 'severity', 'extent', 'permanence' and 'repetition' in accordance with Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 with an indication of any factors that should lead to an increase or decrease of the reduction to be applied.

Where provisions relating to the requirement or standard in question leave a margin not to further pursue the non-compliance found, the report shall make a corresponding indication. The same shall apply in the case where a Member State grants a period for the compliance with a new standard as referred to in Article 5(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 of 17 May 1999 on support for rural development from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)⁽²⁾ or a period for the compliance of young farmers with the minimum standards referred to in Article 4(2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 445/2002 of 26 February 2002 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999⁽³⁾.

- [F142] The farmer shall be informed of any determined non-compliance within three months after the date of the on-the-spot check.]
- Without prejudice to any particular provisions contained in the legislation applicable to the requirements and standards, the control report shall be finalised within one month of the on-the-spot check. However, that period may be extended to three months under duly justified circumstances, in particular if chemical or physical analysis so require.

Where the competent control authority is not the Paying Agency, the report shall be sent to the Paying Agency within a month of its finalisation.

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Status: Point in time view as at 24/12/2007.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F14 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1550/2007 of 20 December 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III. (See end of Document for details)

- **(1)** OJ L 177, 4.8.1972, p. 1.
- (2) OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 80. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1783/2003 (OJ L 270, 21.10.2003, p. 70).
- (3) OJ L 74, 15.3.2002, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 963/20003 (OJ L 138, 5.6.2003, p. 32).

Status:

Point in time view as at 24/12/2007.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EC) No 796/2004 (repealed), TITLE III.