

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 1291/2009**of 18 December 2009****concerning the selection of returning holdings for the purpose of determining incomes of agricultural holdings**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 of 30 November 2009 setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Community ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 5(4), 6(5) and 7(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1859/82 of 12 July 1982 concerning the selection of returning holdings for the purpose of determining incomes of agricultural holdings ⁽²⁾ established the threshold for the economic size of holdings and the number of returning holdings for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009.
- (2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1242/2008 of 8 December 2008 establishing a Community typology for agricultural holdings ⁽³⁾ introduced a new concept of 'economic size', which is now expressed in euros, and amended some other criteria of the typology.
- (3) As a consequence of the amendment made by Council Regulation (EC) No 1791/2006 ⁽⁴⁾, the divisions of Bulgaria and Romania need to be taken into account. Some additional changes to Regulation (EEC) No 1859/82 need to be made for more precision. Therefore, in the interests of clarity, Regulation (EEC) No 1859/82 should be repealed and replaced by this Regulation.
- (4) Returning holdings must be selected in a uniform manner in each division and to that end detailed rules should be laid down to implement the relevant provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009.
- (5) The holdings to be studied in connection with the farm accountancy data network fall within the field of survey of the structure surveys and of Community or national censuses of agricultural holdings.
- (6) The data available for the purposes of drawing up the plan for the selection of holdings (selection plan) for each accounting year and the difference in the agricultural situation as between the different Member States require that thresholds of economic size which vary by Member State, and even in some cases by division, be adopted.
- (7) Experience shows that operation of the data network is facilitated if the number of returning holdings selected per division is allowed to differ by up to 20 % in either direction provided that this does not entail a reduction in the total number of returning holdings per Member State.
- (8) As the financial management of such a measure is difficult, a limitation per Member State as to the total number of duly completed farm returns eligible for Community financing is introduced in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1915/83 of 13 July 1983 on certain detailed implementing rules concerning the keeping of accounts for the purpose of determining the incomes of agricultural holdings ⁽⁵⁾. For reasons of clarity and coherence, this should be reflected in this Regulation. Flexibility in the number of returning holdings per division should be allowed, as long as the total number of the returning holdings of the Member State concerned is respected.
- (9) The selection plan should include a minimum number of elements enabling its validity in relation to the objectives of the farm accountancy data network to be assessed.
- (10) For the purpose of the selection plan, the field of survey should be stratified according to the divisions listed in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 and according to the types of farming and economic size classes defined in Regulation (EC) No 1242/2008.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 328, 15.12.2009, p. 27.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 205, 13.7.1982, p. 5.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 335, 13.12.2008, p. 3.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 190, 14.7.1983, p. 25.

- (11) The selection plan should be drawn up prior to the beginning of the corresponding accounting year so that it can be approved before being used for the selection of returning holdings. For the accounting year 2010, however, the Member States need a longer period to draw up the selection plan, because all the necessary reference sources are not available long enough beforehand. Therefore, it is appropriate to provide for a different time-limit for the notification of the selection plan for that accounting year.
- (12) Since Regulation (EC) No 1242/2008 applies from the accounting year 2010, this Regulation should apply as from the same year.
- (13) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Community Committee for the Farm Accountancy Data Network,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) 'holding' means a farm business as defined in the context of the Community agricultural surveys and censuses;
- (b) 'typology' means the Community typology for agricultural holdings established by Regulation (EC) No 1242/2008.

Article 2

Threshold for the economic size

For the accounting year 2010 (a period of 12 consecutive months beginning between 1 January 2010 and 1 July 2010) and for subsequent accounting years, the threshold of economic size as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 shall be as follows:

— Belgium:	EUR 25 000
— Bulgaria:	EUR 2 000
— Czech Republic:	EUR 8 000
— Denmark:	EUR 15 000
— Germany:	EUR 25 000
— Estonia:	EUR 4 000
— Ireland:	EUR 4 000
— Greece:	EUR 4 000
— Spain:	EUR 4 000
— France:	EUR 25 000
— Italy:	EUR 4 000
— Cyprus:	EUR 4 000

— Latvia:	EUR 4 000
— Lithuania:	EUR 4 000
— Luxembourg:	EUR 25 000
— Hungary:	EUR 4 000
— Malta:	EUR 4 000
— Netherlands:	EUR 25 000
— Austria:	EUR 8 000
— Poland:	EUR 4 000
— Portugal:	EUR 4 000
— Romania:	EUR 2 000
— Slovenia:	EUR 4 000
— Slovakia:	EUR 15 000
— Finland:	EUR 8 000
— Sweden:	EUR 15 000
— United Kingdom (with the exception of Northern Ireland):	EUR 25 000
— United Kingdom (only Northern Ireland):	EUR 15 000.

Article 3

Number of returning holdings

The number of returning holdings per Member State as well as per division shall be as laid down in the Annex.

The number of returning holdings to be selected per division may differ from that laid down in the Annex by up to 20 % in either direction provided that the total number of the returning holdings of the Member State concerned is respected.

Article 4

Selection plan

The plan for the selection of returning holdings shall ensure the representativeness of the returning holdings as a whole.

It shall include:

- (a) the elements on which it is based, namely:
- particulars of the statistical reference sources,
 - the procedures for stratifying the field of survey in accordance with the divisions listed in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009, the types of farming and economic size classes defined in the typology,
 - the procedures for determining the selection rate chosen for each stratum,
 - the procedures for the selection of returning holdings;

- (b) the breakdown of holdings in the field of survey by types of farming and economic size classes defined in the typology (corresponding at least to the principal types), and
- (c) the number of returning holdings to be selected for each of the strata adopted.

Article 5

Notification

Each year the Member States shall notify the selection plan referred to in Article 4 to the Commission not later than two months before the beginning of the accounting year to which it relates.

However, for the accounting year 2010 it shall be notified not later than one month before the beginning of the accounting year.

Notification shall be done electronically via the information systems made available to the competent authorities by the Commission or by the Member States.

The form and content of the information to be notified shall be in conformity with models made available to the Member States through the information systems. Those models and the methods to be used shall be adapted and updated after the

Community Committee for the Farm Accountancy Data Network has been informed.

Data relating to notifications shall be entered and updated in the information systems under the responsibility of the competent authorities of the Member State, in accordance with the access rights granted by the authorities concerned.

Article 6

Repeal

Regulation (EEC) No 1859/82 is repealed with effect from 30 June 2010.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation.

Article 7

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from the accounting year 2010.

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

Done at Brussels, 18 December 2009.

For the Commission
The President
José Manuel BARROSO

ANNEX

Reference number	Name of division	Number of returning holdings per accounting year
	BELGIUM	
341	Vlaanderen	720
342	Bruxelles-Brussel	—
343	Wallonie	480
Total Belgium		1 200
	BULGARIA	
831	Северозападен, (Severozapaden)	346
832	Северен централен, (Severen tsentralen)	358
833	Североизточен, (Severoiztochen)	373
834	Югозападен, (Yugozapaden)	335
835	Южен централен, (Yuzhen tsentralen)	394
836	Югоизточен, (Yugoiztochen)	396
Total Bulgaria		2 202
745	CZECH REPUBLIC	1 417
370	DENMARK	2 150
	GERMANY	
010	Schleswig-Holstein	565
020	Hamburg	97
030	Niedersachsen	1 307
040	Bremen	—
050	Nordrhein-Westfalen	1 010
060	Hessen	558
070	Rheinland-Pfalz	887
080	Baden-Württemberg	1 190
090	Bayern	1 678
100	Saarland	90
110	Berlin	—
112	Brandenburg	284
113	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	268
114	Sachsen	313
115	Sachsen-Anhalt	270
116	Thüringen	283
Total Germany		8 800

Reference number	Name of division	Number of returning holdings per accounting year
755	ESTONIA	658
380	IRELAND	1 300
	GREECE	
450	Macedonia-Thrace	2 000
460	Epirus-Peloponnese-Ionian Islands	1 350
470	Thessaly	700
480	Continental Greece, Aegean Islands, Crete	1 450
	Total Greece	5 500
	SPAIN	
500	Galicia	450
505	Asturias	190
510	Cantabria	150
515	País Vasco	352
520	Navarra	316
525	La Rioja	244
530	Aragón	676
535	Cataluña	664
540	Illes Balears	180
545	Castilla y León	950
550	Madrid	190
555	Castilla-La Mancha	900
560	Comunidad Valenciana	638
565	Murcia	348
570	Extremadura	718
575	Andalucía	1 504
580	Canarias	230
	Total Spain	8 700
	FRANCE	
121	Île-de-France	210
131	Champagne-Ardenne	380
132	Picardie	270
133	Haute-Normandie	170
134	Centre	410
135	Basse-Normandie	240
136	Bourgogne	360

Reference number	Name of division	Number of returning holdings per accounting year
141	Nord-Pas-de-Calais	290
151	Lorraine	240
152	Alsace	200
153	Franche-Comté	220
162	Pays de la Loire	460
163	Bretagne	480
164	Poitou-Charentes	370
182	Aquitaine	550
183	Midi-Pyrénées	490
184	Limousin	230
192	Rhône-Alpes	480
193	Auvergne	380
201	Languedoc-Roussillon	430
203	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	440
204	Corse	170
Total France		7 470
	ITALY	
221	Valle d'Aosta	159
222	Piemonte	598
230	Lombardia	657
241	Trentino	279
242	Alto Adige	262
243	Veneto	741
244	Friuli-Venezia Giulia	549
250	Liguria	559
260	Emilia-Romagna	857
270	Toscana	635
281	Marche	493
282	Umbria	512
291	Lazio	550
292	Abruzzo	444
301	Molise	359
302	Campania	597
303	Calabria	479
311	Puglia	748

Reference number	Name of division	Number of returning holdings per accounting year
312	Basilicata	430
320	Sicilia	672
330	Sardegna	557
Total Italy		11 137
740	CYPRUS	500
770	LATVIA	1 000
775	LITHUANIA	1 000
350	LUXEMBOURG	450
HUNGARY		
760	Közép-Magyarország	166
761	Közép-Dunántúl	187
762	Nyugat-Dunántúl	228
763	Dél-Dunántúl	260
764	Észak- Magyarország	209
765	Észak-Alföld	380
766	Dél-Alföld	470
Total Hungary		1 900
780	MALTA	536
360	NETHERLANDS	1 500
660	AUSTRIA	2 000
POLAND		
785	Pomorze and Mazury	1 860
790	Wielkopolska and Śląsk	4 350
795	Mazowsze and Podlasie	4 490
800	Małopolska and Pogórze	1 400
Total Poland		12 100
PORTUGAL		
615	Norte e Centro	1 233
630	Ribatejo e Oeste	351
640	Alentejo e Algarve	399
650	Açores e Madeira	317
Total Portugal		2 300
ROMANIA		
840	Nord-Est	852
841	Sud-Est	1 074

Reference number	Name of division	Number of returning holdings per accounting year
842	Sud-Muntenia	1 008
843	Sud-Vest-Oltenia	611
844	Vest	703
845	Nord-Vest	825
846	Centru	834
847	Bucureşti-Ilfov	93
Total Romania		6 000
820	SLOVENIA	908
810	SLOVAKIA	523
FINLAND		
670	Etelä-Suomi	461
680	Sisä-Suomi	251
690	Pohjanmaa	221
700	Pohjois-Suomi	167
Total Finland		1 100
SWEDEN		
710	Plains of southern and central Sweden	637
720	Forest and mixed agricultural and forest areas of southern and central Sweden	258
730	Areas of northern Sweden	130
Total Sweden		1 025
UNITED KINGDOM		
411	England — North Region	420
412	England — East Region	650
413	England — West Region	430
421	Wales	300
431	Scotland	380
441	Northern Ireland	320
Total United Kingdom		2 500