

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

relating to the definitive balance-sheet for the
1972/73 wine-growing year

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Article 3(3) of Regulation No 24 stipulates that, for each wine-growing year and for the first time before 16 April 1971, "the Commission must provide the Council with a definitive balance-sheet of Community resources and the use made of these resources in the previous wine-growing year".

The definitive balance-sheet for the 1972/1973 wine-growing year is attached to this communication.

It shows that as compared with 1971/72 :

- total production dropped by 5 million hectolitres;
- imports from third countries increased by approximately 5 million hectolitres, due on one hand to the poor harvest and on the other hand to the enlargement of the Community,
- 2 million hectolitres less were processed,
- losses were reduced by some 0.1 million hectolitres,
- end-of-year stocks were down by 11 million hectolitres.

The Community harvest in Autumn 1972 was at a low level with 127.720 million hectolitres.

All producer Member States had poor harvests.

The quality of the harvest was generally better than that of the previous wine-growing year.

Total home utilization increased to 143.700 million hectolitres, of which 140.316 million hectolitres was accounted for by the Community as originally constituted and 3.384 million hectolitres by the new Member States.

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Definitive balance-sheet for the 1972/1973 wine growing year

EUR-9

(1000 hl)

HEADINGS	Global volume	Red and rosé	White
1. Total production	127.720	:	:
2. Proportion intended for processing as grape juice	416	:	:
3. Proportion intended for vinification	127.304	76.922	50.382
4. Stock at start of year	73.114	47.236	25.878
-in production	36.750	25.322	11.428
-in the trade	36.364	21.914	14.450
5. Availabilities at start of year (3 + 4)	200.418	124.158	76.260
6. Imports	7.954		
7. Total availabilities (5 + 6)	208.372		
8. Total home utilization	143.700		
- direct human consumption	130.420		
- processing	12.083		
of which distillation	11.325		
of which vinegar production	758		
- losses in production	690		
- losses in the trade	507		
9. Exports	3.378		
10. Stock at end of year	61.294	37.190	24.104
11. Variations in stocks (10 - 4)	- 11.820		
12. Degree self-sufficiency (3 : 8)	88,6		
13. Per capita consumption (litres per annum)	51,0		

SOURCE : EUROSTAT