

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

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DOCUMENT 1-164/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr GIUMMARRA, Mr COSTANZO,
Mr TRAVAGLINI, Mr ANTONIOZZI, Mr LIGIOS,
Mr LIMA, Mr GHERGO, Mr BARBAGLI, Mr NARDUCCI,
Mr MACARIO, Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI,
Mr LEGA, Mr COLLESELLI, Mr DIANA, Mr SASSANO,
Mr FILIPPI, Mr MODIANO, Mr STELLA, Mr PEDINA,
Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS, Mr BOURNIAS, Mr PROTOPADAKIS
and Mr KALLIAS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the measures required to prevent the
destruction of oranges withdrawn from the market

PE 78.467

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 39(2) of the EEC Treaty,
 - having regard to the continued erosion of the principle of Community preference and to the state of the Community's citrus fruit sector,
 - having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council for the amendment and improvement of Regulation (EEC) No. 2511/69 laying down special measures for improving the production and marketing of Community citrus fruit (COM(81) 402 final),
 - whereas the Commission's proposal, in its present form, cannot by itself bring about the early solution of the serious problems affecting this sector,
 - whereas the present Community arrangement should above all be changed so that large quantities of citrus fruit need not be withdrawn each year, despite the inadequacy of Community production, in order to stabilize a market noted for the absurd recurrence of crises and the collapse of producer prices,
 - whereas more than 90% of the products are destroyed after withdrawal and whereas this situation, in addition to humiliating the producer, angers the public and, furthermore, does not create but actually eliminates jobs in the regions concerned, thereby placing them among the less advantaged regions of the Community,
 - whereas the introduction of new measures, such as conversion incentives, would not only not place a fresh burden on the Community budget but actually result in a significant saving of some 15m ECU.
1. Considers it essential for the Commission to undertake to stabilize the situation in the Community's citrus fruit sector not only by implementing structural measures, such as its plan for the citrus fruit sector, but also by taking suitable measures to promote full use of the product and so avoid its withdrawal and subsequent destruction;
 2. Considers that the withdrawal of citrus fruit could be reduced substantially, if not eliminated, by introducing a conversion premium varying according to type of citrus fruit and by fixing the relative minimum prices at a level equal to or slightly higher than the withdrawal price;
 3. Considers that the conversion premiums should also apply to both second-grade blood oranges of the 'more', 'tarocco' and 'sanguigno' varieties - bearing in mind that these varieties account for more than 60% of total withdrawals - and to second-grade lemons;
 4. Considers that increasing the quantity of blood oranges converted would provide a greater incentive to produce juices which, with improvement in quality standards, should not have any difficulty in penetrating the market, as distinct from juices of 'biondo' oranges, which face very strong competition (Mediterranean countries, Brazil, etc.);
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.