

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr DELATTE, Mr MAHER, Mrs MARTIN, Mr GOERENS
Mr DAVERN and Mr MOUCHEL

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the establishment of young farmers within the
Community

The European Parliament,

- A. considering the large number of farmers aged 55 and over in the European Community,
 - B. considering that this situation will lead in time to the freeing of agricultural land that should for the most part be retained for agriculture,
 - C. considering that, although part of the land that comes free in this way may be used to enlarge existing holdings, it is nevertheless desirable that a large part of it should be taken over by young farmers wishing to set up on their own account,
 - D. considering that the Community has to date devoted little attention to the problem of the establishment of young farmers,
1. Urges the Commission to give serious consideration to the problem of the establishment of young farmers as it will become increasingly acute in the next decade;
 2. Notes the very great differences between Member States as regards
 - a) the various systems of farming (owner occupation, tenant farming, share farming),
 - b) rules of inheritance,
 - c) tax arrangements in respect of farming activities,
 - d) national aid schemes to promote the establishment of young farmers, which, non-existent in some states, are fairly advanced in others;
 3. Is of the opinion that the Community's few attempts, within the framework of the 1972 socio-structural directives to promote the establishment of young farmers have failed;
 4. Invites the Commission therefore to consider a directive specifically dealing with the establishment of young farmers within the Community, with a view to:

- a) giving direct aid for the establishment of young farmers, in particular substantial interest subsidies so as to reduce their often heavy debt burden, which arises from the necessary purchase or renting of land and stock-in-trade (buildings, equipment, fertilizers, feedingstuffs, etc.),
 - b) promoting, where appropriate, types of farming in partnership, if this makes it possible to get young farmers established in regions where the kind of agricultural production involved requires a large acreage and where the cost of land is high, always providing such arrangements are economically viable for each of the partners,
 - c) encouraging the training of young farmers, not only before they are established but afterwards as well, paying them a grant, if necessary, to enable them to hire an agricultural worker during their training period;
5. Proposes to extend these measures by setting up a special Community fund to guarantee loans granted by national public or private financial bodies;
 6. Is further of the opinion that young farmers wishing to set up on their own account should have the right of pre-emption on agricultural land that comes free, but at the same time asks that measures be taken to prevent real estate speculation in respect of such land;
 7. Stresses the need for such measures so that as many young farmers as possible may be kept on the land, both because of economic and social needs (economic crisis, unemployment) and because of the necessity of preserving the Community landscape, which is shaped by man's activity in the countryside;
 8. Stresses further that purely agricultural measures will not make it possible to keep all the young people in rural areas unless these offer certain services that are to be found in urban areas; emphasizes in this connection the need to establish small and medium-sized industries in the country so as to prevent a rural exodus, particularly by young women;
 9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission of the European Communities.

FOOD REQUIREMENTS IN FODDER UNITS (1000)

| EUR 10 | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| BOVINES | 172,139 | 170,119 | 169,125 |
| PIGS | 48,270 | 49,850 | 50,340 |
| AVICULTURE | 28,473 | 29,174 | 30,127 |
| OTHERS (sheep, goats, horses) | 25,530 | 26,123 | 26,255 |
| TOTAL | <u>274,412</u> | <u>275,266</u> | <u>275,847</u> |

COMMUNITY CEREAL PRODUCTION, ANIMAL FEED USE AND TRADE

| <u>WHEAT</u> | <u>1978/79</u> | <u>1979/80</u> | <u>1980/81</u> |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Production | 45,770 | 44,649 | 50,231 |
| Animal feed | 11,919 | 12,394 | 13,365 |
| Imports | 3,510 | 3,793 | 3,850 |
| Exports | 8,624 | 10,797 | 13,965 |
| | | | |
| <u>BARLEY</u> | | | |
| Production | 40,110 | 39,783 | 41,352 |
| Animal feed | 27,899 | 28,124 | 28,711 |
| Imports | 1,085 | 1,003 | 926 |
| Exports | 5,073 | 4,287 | 4,517 |
| | | | |
| <u>OATS</u> | | | |
| Production | 8,676 | 7,725 | 7,393 |
| Animal Feed | 7,956 | 7,336 | 6,721 |
| Imports | 368 | 241 | 214 |
| Exports | 167 | 127 | 132 |
| | | | |
| <u>MAIZE</u> | | | |
| Production | 16,858 | 18,100 | 17,714 |
| Animal Feed | 23,154 | 22,878 | 20,603 |
| Imports | 13,298 | 11,400 | 10,098 |
| Exports | 457 | 616 | 694 |
| | | | |
| <u>CEREALS</u> | | | |
| Animal Feed | 73,962 | 72,884 | 71,369 |