

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

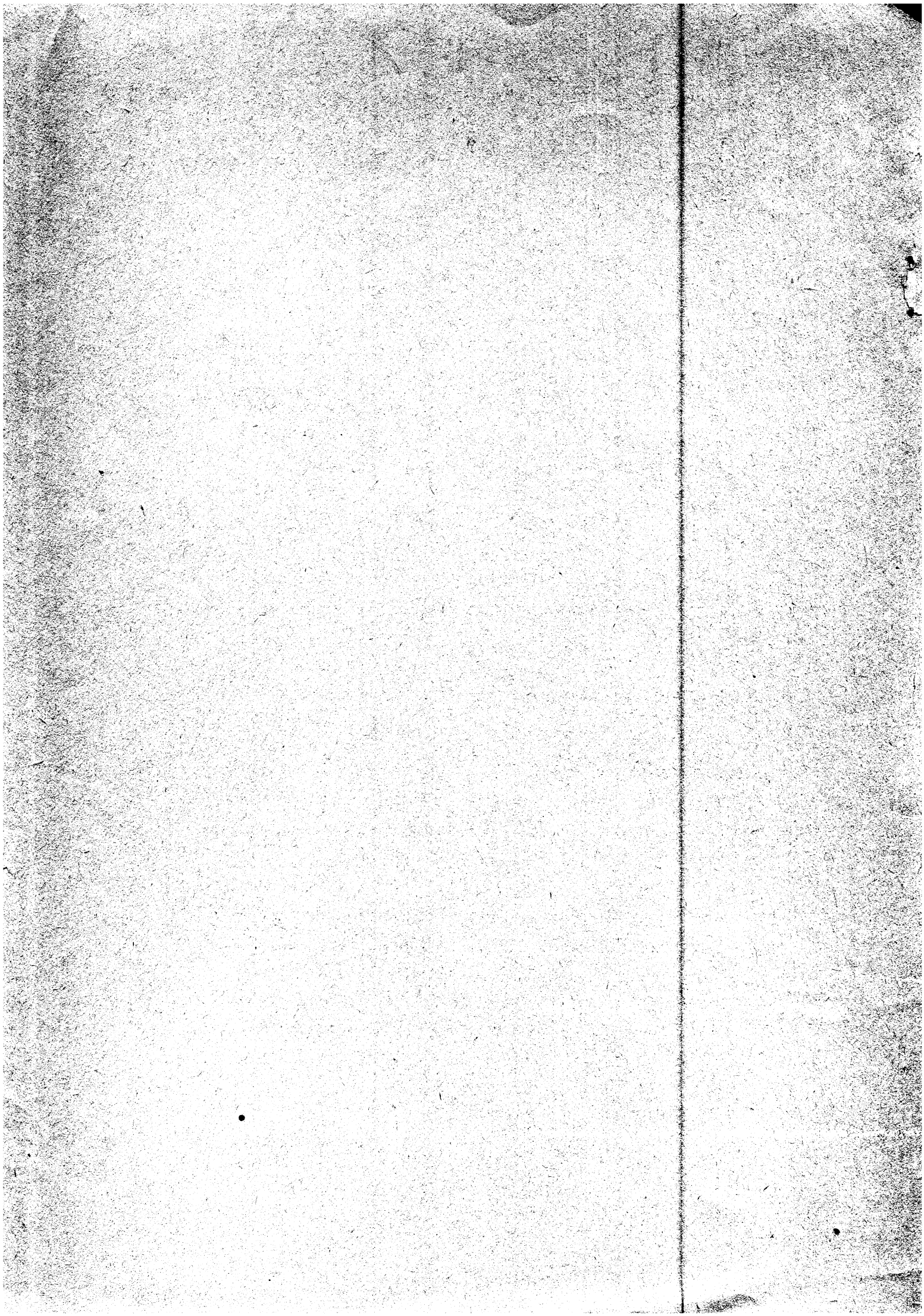
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Brussels, 19 July 1978

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

concerning the final estimates for the 1976/77 wine-growing year

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Pursuant to Article 3 (3) of Regulation N° 24, "For each wine-growing year, and for the first time before 16 April 1971, the Commission shall provide the Council with final estimates of Community resources and uses in the preceding wine-growing year".

The final estimates for the 1976/77 wine-growing year are annexed to this Communication.

Compared with the 1975/76 estimates, it can be seen that :

- overall production increased by about 3.1 million hl ;
- imports from non-member countries increased by 0.5 million hl ;
- processing declined by about 0.4 million ha ;
- losses declined by 0.1 million hl ;
- stocks at the end of the wine-growing year increased by about 3.8 million hl.

The Community harvest of 148 416 000 hl in the autumn of 1976 was 2 914 000 hl more than total domestic uses.

On the whole the harvest was of good quality.

Total domestic uses, including quantities distilled pursuant to Regulation (EEC) N° 816/70, dropped by about 3.7 million hl.

Excluding the quantities affected by the distillation measures, total domestic uses declined by 6.8 million hl, of which 3.2 million hl for direct human consumption.

Final estimates for the 1976/77 wine-growing year

(in '000 hl)

HEADINGS	Total volume	Red and Rosé	White
1. Total production	148 850		
2. Part of the production used for the preparation of grape juice	434		
3. Production used for wine-making	148 416	93 380	55 036
4. Stocks at the beginning of the wine- growing year	77 833	48 490	29 343
- held by growers	41 107	27 658	13 449
- held by the trade	36 726	20 832	15 894
5. Availabilities at the beginning of the wine year (3 + 4)	226 249	141 870	84 379
6. Imports	5 496		
7. Total availabilities (5 + 6)	231 745		
8. Total domestic uses	145 502		
- direct human consumption	127 059		
- processing	17 707		
- distilling	16 978		
- vinegar-making	729		
- production losses	407		
- trade losses	329		
9. Exports	4 660		
10. Stocks at the end of the wine year	81 583	51 452	30 131
11. Changes in stocks (10 - 4)	+ 3 750	+ 2 962	+ 788
12. Degree of self-supply (3 : 8) (1)	105,9		
13. Annual per capita consumption (litres)	49,1		

Source : EUROSTAT

(1) Excluding quantities distilled under intervention measures (5 313 000 1)