



European  
Commission

## **Voluntary coupled support – Other Sectors supported\***

### **Notification of decisions taken by Member States by 1 August 2014**

*The synthesis presented in this document reflects the content of Member States' notifications available to the Commission services to date. It is made available without prejudice to any finding in respect of their compliance with the regulatory framework.*

*Informative note  
December 2015*

**\* This note is complementary to the informative note of 30 July 2015  
'Voluntary coupled support – Sectors mostly supported'.  
([http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/direct-support/direct-payments/docs/voluntary-coupled-support-note\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/direct-support/direct-payments/docs/voluntary-coupled-support-note_en.pdf))**

## Voluntary coupled support

Chapter 1 of Title IV of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council (EU) No 1307/2013 provides for the possibility for Member States to use up to a maximum percentage of their annual national ceiling for direct payments to finance **voluntary coupled support (VCS)**.

That support can only be granted to a list of sectors and productions<sup>1</sup>, to the extent necessary to create an incentive **to maintain current levels of production** in sectors or regions where specific types of farming or specific agricultural sectors particularly important for economic, social or environmental reasons **undergo certain difficulties**. Coupled support shall take the form of an annual payment and shall be granted **within defined quantitative limits** in accordance with Article 52(6) of Regulation No 1307/2013. In this context, for each measure, a **quantitative limit (QL)** shall be determined by Member States in order to remain in compliance with the WTO' 'blue box' criteria. The limit shall reflect the production levels in the targeted region or sector in at least one year in the period of 5 years that precedes the year of the decision about VCS.

In order to limit the potential use of coupled support, a budgetary limit per Member State is also in place. This is 8+2% of the annual national ceiling available for the purpose of direct payments which, under certain conditions, may be increased to 13+2%. Further increase is possible only if certain specific needs require so, in which case the decision of the Member State is also subject to approval by the Commission.

In 2014, 27 Member States decided to apply VCS between 2015 and 2020. From the EUR 41-42 billion per year available to direct payments (EU-28), they earmarked **EUR 4.1-4.2 billion per year** to this purpose. Member States may **revise their VCS decisions** by 1 August 2016 so that the intended changes, if any, shall apply as from 2017.

## Overview of the Member State decisions with regard to VCS<sup>2</sup>

By 1 August 2014, **13 Member States** have notified the Commission of their decision to grant VCS for the benefit of one or more of the following sectors: cereals, oilseeds, grain legumes, flax, hemp, rice, nuts, starch potato, seeds, olive oil, silkworms and hops. No Member State decided to support the following sectors: short rotation coppice, dried fodder and cane & chicory.

Based upon their decision, some **0.68% of the annual amount available for granting direct support in EU-28, i.e. 6.82% of the amounts earmarked to VCS**, will be available for VCS measures targeting the above specified sector.

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<sup>1</sup> Cereals, oilseeds, protein crops, grain legumes, flax, hemp, rice, nuts, starch potato, milk and milk products, seeds, sheepmeat and goatmeat, beef and veal, olive oil, silkworms, dried fodder, hops, sugar beet, cane and chicory, fruit and vegetables and short rotation coppice

<sup>2</sup> Some 93% of the monetary resources under VCS was earmarked for six sectors (beef & veal, milk & milk products, sheep & goat, protein crops, fruit & vegetables and sugar beet). The Commission has already published a similar summary about those sectors (see reference on the 1st page). The present document aims at complementing that document with a similar summary of the Member State decision as far as the other, from the VCS' point of view 'smaller' sectors are concerned.

Overview at EU-28 level:

Targeted sector	MS	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Total amount of aid, 2015-2020 (6 years)	Share from the total amounts earmarked for VCS (%)
Cereals	FR, IT, EL, FI, LV, SI	1 935 435	535 712	2,13%
Olive oil	IT	886 704	409 742	1,72%
Rice	ES, IT, RO, HU, PT, EL	447 431	336 376	1,39%
Grain legumes	ES, IT, RO, EL	252 983	106 358	0,44%
Starch potato	FR, PL, CZ, FI, LV	58 145	105 484	0,43%
Nuts	ES	418 000	84 000	0,34%
Seed	FR, RO, EL, LV	28 238	32 464	0,13%
Hops	FR, PL, RO, CZ, SK	8 869	27 173	0,11%
Hemp	FR, PL, RO	13 787	11 756	0,05%
Oilseeds	LV	76 285	15 579	0,04%
Silkworms	RO, EL	11 000 (boxes)	4 835	0,02%
Flax	PL	3 936	3 403	0,01%
Short rotation coppice	-	0	0	0%
Cane and Chicory	-	0	0	0%
Dried fodder	-	0	0	0%

## DETAILS PER MEASURE

For each notified measure, the following elements shall be determined: a quantitative limit (3rd column), the unitary amount of aid per head/hectare per year<sup>3</sup> (4th column of the table broken down per year) and the total amount of aid allocated per year (5th column, broken down per year).

At EU level (i.e. 2nd line of the table), the "amount per unit" is the average amount of aid per hectare/box (per year) calculated on the basis of all the notified measures.

### Cereals

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total :</b>	<b>1 935 435</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>86 902</b>	<b>89 104</b>	<b>90 747</b>	<b>90 003</b>	<b>89 259</b>	<b>89 697</b>
Italy	Durum wheat (various regions)	1 218 866	49	48	48	47	47	47	59 877	59 091	58 304	57 573	56 843	56 843
France	Durum wheat	269 412	25	25	25	25	25	26	6 760	6 731	6 702	6 679	6 656	6 885
Greece	Durum Wheat	250 000	36	47	57	56	55	55	9 000	11 859	14 158	14 002	13 846	13 846
Latvia	Barley	109 520	26	28	30	32	34	36	2 865	3 074	3 283	3 492	3 700	3 909
Slovenia	Small grain cereals	60 687	114	112	112	111	111	111	6 899	6 850	6 800	6 757	6 714	6 714
Finland	Rye premium	26 950	56	56	56	56	56	56	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500

<sup>3</sup> To be noted that the actually paid amounts per unit may differ (up or down) from the indicated values, as the Member State may decide to calculate the per unit amounts on the basis of the number of eligible heads/hectares in the claim year in question (Article 53(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 639/2014).

## Olive oil

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>886 704</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>70 393</b>	<b>69 469</b>	<b>68 543</b>	<b>67 685</b>	<b>66 826</b>	<b>66 826</b>
Italy	Olive groves relevant for regional UAA (various regions)	588 704	75	74	73	72	71	71	44 210	43 630	43 049	42 509	41 970	41 970
	Olive groves in slope (Puglia, Calabria)	190 000	70	69	68	67	66	66	13 306	13 131	12 956	12 794	12 632	12 632
	Olive groves crucial for the territory	108 000	119	118	116	115	113	113	12 877	12 708	12 538	12 381	12 224	12 224

## Rice

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>447 431</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>56 670</b>	<b>56 402</b>	<b>56 133</b>	<b>55 897</b>	<b>55 660</b>	<b>55 614</b>
Italy	Coupled support for rice	247 653	92	91	89	88	87	87	22 749	22 450	22 151	21 874	21 596	21 596
Spain	Coupled support for rice	122 060	100	100	100	100	100	100	12 206	12 206	12 206	12 206	12 206	12 206
Portugal	Coupled support for rice	30 916	194	194	194	194	194	194	6 000	6 000	6 000	6 000	6 000	6 000
Greece	Coupled Support for rice	30 410	263	260	257	254	251	251	8 000	7 906	7 811	7 725	7 639	7 639
Romania	Coupled support for rice	12 700	450	460	470	480	490	495	5 715	5 842	5 969	6 096	6 223	6 287
Hungary	Coupled support for rice	3 692	542	541	541	541	541	511	2 000	1 998	1 996	1 996	1 996	1 886

## Grain legumes

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>252 983</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>18 164</b>	<b>17 970</b>	<b>17 776</b>	<b>17 598</b>	<b>17 421</b>	<b>17 431</b>
Italy	Coupled aid to grain legumes (various regions)	224 483	53	52	51	51	50	50	11 804	11 649	11 494	11 350	11 206	11 206
Greece	Coupled Support for the production of pulses (legumes for human consumption)	16 500	303	299	296	293	289	289	5 000	4 941	4 882	4 828	4 775	4 775
Spain	Coupled aid to quality grain legumes	10 000	100	100	100	100	100	100	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
Romania	Coupled support scheme for the industrialization beans	1 000	180	190	200	210	220	225	180	190	200	210	220	225
	Coupled support scheme for the industrialization peas	1 000	180	190	200	210	220	225	180	190	200	210	220	225
	<i>Total</i>	<i>2 000</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>420</i>	<i>440</i>	<i>450</i>

**Starch potato**

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>58 145</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>17 649</b>	<b>17 684</b>	<b>17 717</b>	<b>17 761</b>	<b>17 803</b>	<b>16 870</b>
France	Support for starch potatoes	23 540	82	82	82	82	82	83	1 930	1 922	1 913	1 907	1 900	1 965
Poland	Support for starch potatoes	23 000	377	379	380	383	385	341	8 664	8 707	8 749	8 799	8 848	7 850
Finland	Starch potato premium, whole Finland	6 720	551	551	551	551	551	551	3 700	3 700	3 700	3 700	3 700	3 700
Czech Republic	Support for starch potatoes	4 378	719	719	719	719	719	719	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148
Latvia	Support for starch potatoes	507	409	409	409	409	409	409	207	207	207	207	207	207



**Nuts**

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>418 000</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14 000</b>	<b>14 000</b>	<b>14 000</b>	<b>14 000</b>	<b>14 000</b>	<b>14 000</b>
Spain	Coupled support for nuts : mainland	390 500	33	33	33	33	33	33	12 956	12 956	12 956	12 956	12 956	12 956
	Coupled support for nuts : insular regions	27 500	38	38	38	38	38	38	1 044	1 044	1 044	1 044	1 044	1 044

## Seeds

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>28 238</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>5 472</b>	<b>5 444</b>	<b>5 413</b>	<b>5 389</b>	<b>5 364</b>	<b>5 384</b>
France	Support for the production of grass seed	13 250	36	36	36	36	36	37	483	481	479	477	476	492
Latvia	Support for certified cereal seed	7 034	104	104	104	104	104	104	731	731	731	731	731	731
	Support for certified seeds of grasses and fodder crops	2 512	116	116	116	116	116	116	291	291	291	291	291	291
	Support for seed potatoes	317	505	505	505	505	505	505	160	160	160	160	160	160
	<i>Total:</i>	9 863	120	120	120	120	120	120	1 182	1 183	1 183	1 183	1 183	1 183
Greece	Support for seed production	4285	700	684	684	676	668	668	3 000	2 965	2 929	2 897	2 865	2 865
Romania	Support for seed potato	840	960	970	980	990	1 000	1 005	806	815	823	832	840	844

**Hops**

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total :</b>	<b>8 869</b>	511	511	512	513	514	503	<b>4 530</b>	<b>4 536</b>	<b>4 542</b>	<b>4 548</b>	<b>4 556</b>	<b>4 461</b>
Czech Republic	Coupled support for hops production	5 307	593	593	593	593	593	593	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148	3 148
Poland	Coupled support for hops production (various regions)	2 291	365	367	369	371	373	331	837	841	845	850	855	759
France	Coupled support for hops production	791	427	425	424	422	421	435	338	337	335	334	333	344
Romania	Coupled support for hops production	244	500	510	520	530	540	545	122	124	127	129	132	133
Slovakia	Coupled support for hops production	236	362	365	368	371	373	326	85	86	87	87	88	77

## Oilseeds

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>76 285</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>1 432</b>	<b>1 894</b>	<b>2 382</b>	<b>2 845</b>	<b>3 307</b>	<b>3 719</b>
Latvia	Support for spring rape	76 285	19	25	31	37	43	49	1 432	1 894	2 382	2 845	3 307	3 719

## Hemp

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>13 787</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>1 946</b>	<b>1 948</b>	<b>1 949</b>	<b>1 952</b>	<b>1 955</b>	<b>2 006</b>
France	Coupled support for hemp production	12 000	141	140	140	139	139	143	1 690	1 683	1 675	1 670	1 664	1 721
Poland	Coupled support for hemp production	947	98	99	99	100	100	89	93	93	94	94	95	84
Romania	Coupled support for oil and fiber hemp	840	194	204	214	224	234	239	163	171	180	188	197	201

**Silkworms**

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (boxes)	Amount per unit (box), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>11 000</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>791</b>
Romania	Support for silkworm rearing	6 000	5	5	5	5	5	5	27	27	27	27	27	27
Greece	Support for silkworms	5 000	160	158	156	155	153	153	800	791	781	773	764	764

**Flax**

MS	Measure	Applicable quantitative limit (ha)	Amount per unit (ha), in EUR						Total amount of aid, in '000 EUR					
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3 936</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>518</b>
Poland	Payment flax	3 936	145	146	147	147	148	132	571	574	577	580	583	518