

ORAL QUESTION H-0207/04

for Question Time at the part-session in April 2004
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Efstratios Korakas
to the Commission

Subject: Immediate payment of subsidies to Greek olive growers for actual production in the 2002-2003 marketing year

Thousands of Greek olive growers are in a dire situation as they have not yet received, after a year and a half, even the advance payment for their 2002-2003 crop and they run the risk of not being subsidised for the actual quantities of olive oil produced. The previous government arbitrarily tried to reject significant quantities of olive oil eligible for subsidy and scaled down total subsidised production to an extremely low quota of 419 500 tonnes, thereby creating serious problems as actual production was much higher. Before the elections, members of the present government promised olive growers immediate payment of the advances for all actual production, whereas now they are causing problems and using various pretexts to obstruct the process.

What steps will the Commission take to end the mockery of the olive growers, pay them their advance immediately and subsidise all the actual production for 2002-2003?

Tabled: 05.04.2004
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