

OILSEEDS AND THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

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In his speech Marc d'Anglejan will endeavour to explain the mechanisms used by the E.E.C. which have enabled it over the past twenty years to become self-sufficient and sometimes even an exporter in the vegetable oil field.

Thus, in 1987, thanks to the system of deficiency payments, the E.E.C. produced 6.3 of the 7.3 million tonnes of oil which it consumes annually without infringing the rules of international competition.

However, if complementary adjustments (guaranteed maximum quantities, stabilizers and support prices) had not been devised in the end the drop in world prices for most oilseeds together with the fall in the value of the dollar, would have ended up by creating financing problems for the FEOGA.

In his conclusion, Marc d'Anglejan will show that thanks to progress in genetics and agronomic techniques, increased yields, by compensating to a very large extent for the fall in prices, have enabled European farmers who produce oilseeds to enjoy a steadily rising income over the years.