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E-004752/2025

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.1.2026)

The main EU instrument for co-financing emergency veterinary measures is the Single Market Programme (SMP) under Regulation (EU) 2021/690¹. It covers in particular co-financing Member States for the cost to compensate farmers for the killing of animals in outbreak farms and, if needed, for preventive killing in farms at risk. The co-financing rate is 20% (increased to 30% for Member States whose gross national income per inhabitant is less than 90% of the Union average).

Preventive measures can be supported through Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans. Spain can use Intervention 6841.2 on 'Aid for investments in modernisation or improvement of holdings' to finance the restoration of agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events.

Exceptional support under article 220 of the Common Market Organisation Regulation² may be granted, at the request of the Member State concerned, to take account of veterinary movement restrictions on intra-Union and third-country trade. The related support could cover market losses incurred by farmers located in an area put under movement restriction by veterinary measures, but not on an infected farm³.

The current State aid rules provide Member States with flexible tools to address such crises without the need for relaxation. Member States can grant aid of up to 100% to cover the costs of prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases and aid to make good the damage caused by animal diseases. Such aid can be granted under the Agricultural Block Exemption Regulation (ABER)⁴ or, with prior notification, under the Agricultural State aid Guidelines⁵. Limited support can also be granted in application of the Agricultural *de minimis* Regulation⁶.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2013
<http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/690/oj>.

² Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1308/2024-11-08>).

³ These measures are by nature limited in time, for the duration strictly necessary to support the market concerned and they require a clear start and end of the episode, and all losses specifically documented before the Commission can design a measure and propose it for the opinion of the Member States.

⁴ Commission Regulation (EU) 2022/2472 of 14 December 2022 declaring certain categories of aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (OJ L 327, 21.12.2022, p. 1).

⁵ Guidelines for State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas (OJ C 485, 21.12.2022, p. 1).

⁶ Commission Regulation (EU) No 1408/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid in the agriculture sector (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 9).