Introduction

Because of the important rôle played by zootechny in the overall national economy of Romania, the State takes measures each year in the context of the "National programme for development of zootechny and animal production"; as a result, this sector is to account for at least 50 per cent of total agricultural production.

Whereas at the end of 1978, milk production totalled 54,285,000 hl (of which 50,863,000 hl of cow's milk and buffalo's milk), production for 1981 is forecast at 56,300,000 hl of cow's milk (of which 6,220,000 hl of milk for direct consumption).

In 1981, Romania's production of butter will reach 41,100 tons and cheese production 126,000 tons.

Average annual per capita consumption of milk and milk products (excluding butter) reached 200 litres in 1980, representing an increase by 1.9 times in relation to 1950.

A. Production

Support measures for milk production

The State grants favourable contractual and purchase prices, together with a series of premiums and long-term credits, to agricultural production cooperatives, State agricultural enterprises and also to individual producers in order to increase production of milk intended for processing.

The premiums granted by the State to individual producers represent approximately 12 per cent of the purchase price per litre, for deliveries up to 500 litres of milk per cow or buffalo, and approximately 23 per cent of the purchase price per litre for deliveries exceeding 500 litres of milk per cow or
buffalo, each year; in addition, the State grants premiums to agricultural production co-operatives representing approximately 23 per cent of the purchase price per litre for all quantities delivered, on condition that deliveries increase from one year to the next by approximately 150 litres of milk per cow and that the herd target is achieved in respect of milch cows and in-calf heifers (see Decree No. 410/1973 - Official Gazette No. 103 of 3 July 1973).

In addition, the State grants long-term credits to individual producers for the purchase of livestock, reimbursable in kind, in particular in milk and milk products (see Resolution of the Council of Ministers No. 886/1971 - Official Gazette No. 89 of 29 July 1971).

B. International prices and consumption

Retail prices for milk and milk products in the domestic market are subsidized by the State and are as follows:

- Liquid milk (for direct consumption) lei 2.30/litre
- Table butter, 74 per cent fat, prime quality lei 8.00/block of 200 grs.
- Telemea cheese (of cow's milk) 42 per cent fat, prime quality lei 16.60/kg.
- Telemea cheese (ewe's milk), prime quality lei 23.00/kg.
- Cashcaval (cow's milk) lei 27.00/kg.
- Cashcaval (ewe's milk) lei 34.00/kg.
- Cashcaval (mixed milks) lei 32.00/kg.

C. Measures at the frontier

Tariff

The customs duties on dairy products, as published in the import tariff of Romania, are as follows: 80 per cent for butter, 40 per cent for cheese, 10 per cent for casein, 25 per cent for fresh milk, 50 per cent for milk powder.

Romania does not apply any quantitative restrictions nor any other measures limiting or protecting imports.

D. Bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral agreements

In 1969 and 1970 Romania concluded a technical arrangement with the European Economic Community in respect of certain cheeses, for example Telemea, Cashcaval and Tilsit (ewe's milk or buffalo's milk).