



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

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## European Union

### Tree Nuts

### Spanish Aid for 2003 to Nut Producers

**2003**

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**Report Highlights:**

On December 9, 2003, the newly-formed Management Committee for Direct Aid Payments supported a Commission proposal to approve a Spanish national aid of maximum EUR 241.50 per hectare for 2003 to support their nut growers.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Brussels USEU [BE2]  
[E2]

### Spanish aid for 2003 to nut producers

On December 9, 2003, the newly-formed Management Committee for Direct Aid Payments supported a Commission proposal to approve a Spanish national aid of maximum EUR 241.50 per hectare for 2003 to support their nut growers. Spain's quality improvement and marketing programs, approved under the former common market organization for fruit and vegetables, finished in 2002. New support measures for nut growers were agreed in the CAP reform deal (1782/2003) but will not come into force until January 2004. Under the new rules, the EU nut regime involves a European subsidy of EUR 120.75 per hectare, with member states allowed to top up the EU aid by EUR 120.75 per hectare. The proposed Spanish national aid is meant to bridge the one-year gap between the old and the new arrangements. The Spanish state aid amounts to EUR 67.5 million for an estimated area of 280,000 hectares. The proposal will now be formally adopted by the Commission.

The new rules for nut aid (Regulation 1782/2003, Chapter 4, art. 83-87) can be downloaded from the Internet at [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l\\_270/l\\_27020031021en00010069.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_270/l_27020031021en00010069.pdf).

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