



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate F – Outreach, Research & Geographical Indications

Brussels,
AGRI.F.3/

Subject: Amendments to a product specification

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your email from 17/09/2024, in which you enquire about the scope of temporary amendments.

You explain that you envisage a temporary (five-year) reduction of the percentage of white varieties for the wine Cviček PDO to allow producers to restructure their existing vineyards by planting white varieties and reach, at the end of the period, the percentage required in the product specification.

Temporary amendments cannot be as long as five years. A temporary amendment can change the product specification only for a short period of time. In addition, the amendment should be directly linked to a natural disaster or adverse weather conditions, provided these are formally recognised as such by the competent authorities.

Therefore, if adverse weather conditions have disrupted the production of a specific white grape variety, a temporary amendment could consist in the reduction of the percentage of that variety for one specific harvest year to temporarily remedy the unexpected situation. A five-year measure aiming at boosting the percentage and the distribution of specific plant varieties in the area is a structural measure that cannot be considered as a punctual remedy to overcome a temporary difficulty.

In the situation at hand, we would recommend that you explore proceeding with a standard amendment, provided that the reduction of the percentage of white varieties does not risk voiding the link, in which case a Union amendment would be necessary.

The above information is based solely on the facts set out in your email of 17/09/2024, expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission.

In the event of a dispute involving Union law it is, under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours sincerely,



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