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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Romania completed the RED transposition process

Report Categories:

Bio-fuels

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Report Highlights:

Romania finalized transposition of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28 into national legislation with the latest order that describes certification processes and documentation requirements attesting that the biomass observes sustainability criteria.

General Information:

In August 2010 Romania began the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) transposition process with publication of Law 139/2010 concerning the promotion of renewable energy production. Included in the law were several RED articles covering definitions, mandatory national objectives, the national action plan, and calculation of the energy share, transfers among the MS, and possible common projects and their effects.

A year later the Romanian Government approved Decision No. 935/2011 concerning the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources. Apart from eliminating import barriers imposed on third-country origin bio-fuels and feedstock (imposed by the Government Decision 829/2010), the decision transposed several RED articles and reconfirmed bio-fuels blend rates.

Order 136/2012, the latest piece of legislation regarding bio-fuels and bio-liquids certification, was the final step in the process of transposing the RED directive into national legislation. The order approves the evaluation requests for sustainability compliance, as well as assessment and recognition of certifying bodies. Sustainability criteria are to be applied to economic operators placed along the whole chain of bio-fuels and bio-liquids production, processing and distribution. The new order describes the certification and its requirements, documents and verification processes applicable to all phases along biomass production which observes the sustainability criteria.

The order also lists the voluntary schemes recognized by the European Commission, in order to demonstrate the compliance with the sustainability criteria. Economic operators which show proof of respecting sustainability criteria and data obtained according to these schemes or another national certification scheme approved by another Member State are not required to provide additional documents.

Economic operators are also required to submit with each lot of bio-fuels introduced on the market information that shows the lot certified or accepted as fulfilling the requirements of a voluntary scheme, as well as the name of the voluntary scheme.

In terms of bio-fuel production, although official data shows national production capacity at 300,000 MT/year for biodiesel and 120,000 MT/year for bio-ethanol, Romanian fuel retailers cover a major part of the bio-fuels necessary for blending mandates through imports. According to Ministry of Economy data, in 2010 Romania imported 59,000 MT of biodiesel and 58,000 MT of bio-ethanol, which represents about 41 percent of total consumption in the case of biodiesel (142,431 MT) and 52 percent in the case of bio-ethanol (110,900 MT).

Related report: [Trade barrier on bio-fuels removed](#)