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Agric. Econ. – Czech

M. Schneider

Austrian agriculture: experience with the CAP and the anticipated effects of the EU' s Eastern enlargement

Agric. Econ. – Czech, 49 (2003): 80-86

The transition to the CAP and admission to the internal market triggered a shock wave in Austria which caused fundamental changes in the country' s farming and food industries. Behavioural

patterns stuck in traditional routines and petrified structures began to break up. The resulting thrust towards modernisation has been a major success of the EU integration.

Eastern enlargement, about to be embarked on by the European Union, will have a greater impact on Austrian agriculture than the country's accession to the EU ever had. Farmers will have to brace for a loss of market shares and an additional pressure to adjust. The rural regions bordering the accession candidates will be particularly hit and thus require special attention in terms of economic policy measures. Agriculture and rural regions in Eastern Europe will profit from the EU-membership.

Keywords:

agriculture, Common Agricultural Policy, EU-enlargement, Austria

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