

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2081/92**  
**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION: Art. 17**  
PDO ( X ) PGI ( )

1. **Responsible department in the Member State:**  
Name: Institut National des Appellations d'Origine  
Address: 138, Champs Élysées  
75008 PARIS  
Tel: (1) 53.89.80.00 Fax: (1) 42.25.57.97
2. **Applicant group:**  
(a) Name: Comité du Foin de Crau  
(b) Address: Place du Château  
13930 Aureille  
(b) Composition : producer/processor ( X ) other ( )
3. **Name of product:** Foin de Crau
4. **Type of product:** (see list in Annex VI) Class 3-1: Hay
5. **Specification:**  
(summary of requirements under Art. 4(2))
  - (a) name: (see 3) Foin de Crau
  - (b) description: Hay with a characteristic appearance: coarse stems, no leaves, green colour; strong, flowery fragrance. This hay is exceptionally appetizing and digestible.
  - (c) geographical area: Crau hay is produced within an area whose boundary falls within the following municipalities of the department of Bouches-du-Rhône: Arles, Aureille, Eyguières, Fos sur Mer, Grans, Istres, Lamanon, Miramas, Mouries, St Martin de Crau, Salon de Provence. The plain of Crau, formerly the stony delta of the Durance, is bordered by the Alpilles to the North, the hills of Salon de Provence and the lake of Berre to the east and the Rhône to the west.
  - (d) proof of origin: In 1923 the producers' union for Crau hay was set up, to advertise the high quality of the product and to defend its reputation, using all legal means of preventing the sale of fodder of any other origin under the label "foin de Crau", and granting a certificate of origin for exceptionally high-quality hay. In 1941 the Prefect of Bouches-du-Rhône issued a decree defining the general boundary of the geographical area of production. "Foin de Crau" was declared to be a designation of origin in 1951, in accordance with a judgment by the supreme court of appeal.
  - (e) method of production: The registered designation of origin "foin de Crau" is for hay from meadows with a specific floral balance, where the main components are tall oatgrass, cocksfoot, red clover and creeping clover. From March to October, the meadows are flooded from irrigation ditches once every eight to ten days, and remain under

water for several hours, depending on the distribution of the water circuit. There are three mowings of Crau hay each year; the hay must not stay for more than five days in the field after the first and the third mowings, or for more than three days after the second mowing.

(f) link:

The Crau region is a triangle in the department of Bouches-du-Rhône, to the east of the Camargue. It is a desert plain covered with pebbles, corresponding to the former stream channel of the Durance. Irrigation work began at the end of the 16th century, when Adam de Craponne undertook the construction of canals, using the waters of the Durance to improve opportunities for cultivation. Crau meadow is a permanent, natural meadow, with specific features. The quality of the hay is due to the proportions of the different meadow species present. The permeable soil and the loamy, fertilizing waters of the Durance, combined with appropriate manuring and the Mediterranean climate (sun and wind) combine to make possible the production of "foin de Crau", hay with protected designation of origin.

(g) inspection body:

INAO, 138, Champs Élysées, 75008 Paris  
DGCCRF, 59, Bd Vincent Auriol, 75073 Paris CEDEX 13

(h) labelling:

(i) national requirements:  
(if any)

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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMMISSION**

EC No: G/FR00200/940124

Date of receipt of the full application: 20/05/1997