

Farmers don't be fooled – There will be *no veto* after Lisbon!

- 1. There are no current provisions for vetoing an international trade agreement with *only* agricultural goods in it. It must be packaged with services that can be vetoed and then *the complete package*, including the agricultural elements, can be vetoed.
- 2. The agricultural veto was surrendered at Maastricht.
- 3. The only way an international trade deal in agricultural goods *could* be vetoed is if it were bundled in a package of free-trade measures that involved one or more of the following: educational services, health services, social services or cultural and audiovisual services. Now, pre-Lisbon, EU Member States have a veto on these five remaining special services areas in the free-trade system. This, and only this, facilitates the rejection of an entire WTO deal.
- 4. The Lisbon treaty would remove the automatic veto on international trade agreements including the WTO in the five areas outlined above. In its place would be put an undefined set of circumstances in which a Member State *could* argue at the European Court of Justice that they should be allowed to retain a veto in one or more of these five special services areas. The ECJ is most likely to invoke 'distortion of competition' rules and the application is most likely to fail.

Vote No to Lisbon! Keep the limited veto.