

## 'Farmers' anger boils over in Brussels' from Le Sillon belge (27 March 1971)

**Caption:** In its coverage of the farmers' demonstration, held in Brussels on 23 March 1971, the Belgian farming weekly Le Sillon belge describes the confusion of European farmers over planned reform of the common agricultural policy (CAP).

**Source:** Le Sillon belge. dir. de publ. M. Feltus. 27.03.1971, n° 1479; 40e année. Bruxelles. "La colère paysanne explose à Bruxelles", p. 1;3.

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## Farmers' anger boils over in Brussels

It would be no exaggeration to describe the events of 23 March as a revelation, even for those most aware of the farmers' plight. On that day, it became clear that the farmers' suffering runs much deeper than anyone had imagined. People had spoken of despair, and they were right. This was, perhaps, the first time that participants in a mass demonstration had nothing left to lose. Some of them were ruined. And we do not use the word lightly. [...] And then, when we add that the EEC is playing into the hands of monopolies which pitilessly crush small farmers, it is perfectly understandable that these people should be directing their anger at the soulless technocrats.