

**Question for written answer E-013484/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Wojciech Michał Olejniczak (S&D)

Subject: Accounting for tree purchases in operational programmes

Pursuant to point 1 of Annex IX to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 of 7 June 2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 in respect of the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables sectors, general production costs borne by producer organisations are in principle ineligible for financial assistance. However, specific costs linked with quality improvement measures are an exception to this rule. In all cases, costs for (even certified) mycelium, seeds and non-perennial plants are not eligible.

In this connection, and given that establishing an orchard bears the characteristics of an investment, could the Commission please explain which of the following should be done in order to calculate the amount of assistance when purchasing fruit trees (perennial plants) as part of the aforementioned programme:

1. submit the entire cost of purchasing the trees for assistance, or
2. take account solely of the specific costs (defined as the difference between the conventional costs and the costs actually incurred, as referred to in Annex IX(1), indent 1 to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011)?