

**Question for written answer E-007968/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: CAP and green payment

The new CAP, adopted in 2013, aims to make agriculture more sustainable through a number of measures, including the introduction of a green payment which must make up 30% of all aid and is subject to a number of environmental rules.

One of these environmental rules obliges farms with between 10 and 30 ha to grow at least two different crops, none of which may take up more than 75% of the utilised agricultural area.

The land-ownership structure in Portugal means that this measure is causing difficulties for the vast majority of milk producers. Maize growing is vital to provide feed for the cattle, and no other plant offers similar levels of productivity.

Two alternative proposals could help overcome this problem:

1. The first possibility is to raise the size threshold for mandatory crop diversification from 10 to 30 ha.
2. The second possibility is to take a more flexible approach to diversification and expand this concept to include annual rotation between two crops.

Is the Commission prepared to consider these two alternative proposals?