

**Question for written answer E-009338/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Agricultural sciences in the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020)

Agricultural sciences are distinguished by a marked environmental, local, regional and national specificity. In view of this specificity, many of the problems relating to agricultural production arise, and should be tackled, not on a global or even a European scale but on a more local or regional scale. This fact may however give rise to certain problems in terms of access to funding, specifically with regard to the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020), since the underlying philosophy of this Programme is that of tendering in large international consortia, where Europe-wide problems exist, which is plainly not consistent with the specificity of agricultural sciences.

In view of the above, could the Commission inform us of the specific categorisation given to agricultural sciences in the Horizon 2020 Programme and to what extent the specificities mentioned above have or have not been taken into account. Has the Commission considered the possibility of proposing amendments to the philosophy and rules of the Programme so as to take these specificities into account?