

Question for written answer E-003083/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Georg Mayer (NI)

Subject: Bee die-off and ban on pesticides

On 1 December 2013, the Commission's decision to ban clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam entered into force. The reason for banning these pesticides lay in their suspected association with the massive bee die-off. Producers were not very happy about the ban, and warned of the consequences: in particular, the need to make greater use of GM varieties because of the abandonment of pesticides.

1. A year has now passed since the ban became effective. Are there already any initial indications of its impact on bee die-off, and has it been possible to establish a significant link between the use of pesticides and the die-off?
2. Have those farmers who used to be dependent on the above pesticides suffered losses?