

**Question for written answer E-006198/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Annual EFSA study of pesticide residues in food

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published its annual report on pesticide residues in food on 12 March. The study monitored 80 967 food products in all EU Member States, Norway and Iceland. It shows that 97.4 % of the products tested contain pesticide residues that fall within the legal limits: 1.5 % of the products clearly exceeded the legal limits and residues were still found in 44 % of the products, but were within the legal limits.

1. How does the Commission view the finding of the EFSA study that 44 % of our food still contains pesticide residues, and does it believe that action should be taken?
2. 27.3 % of the products contain residues of different pesticides. Will the Commission take action on this, for example by asking the EFSA to investigate the possible cumulative or 'cocktail' effects of various pesticide residues in food?
3. Will the Commission set a limit for the maximum total quantity of pesticides in food products?