

Question for written answer E-012235/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: The future of Uhudler wine in Austria

Since 2003, under EU rules on the organisation of the market in wine, it has been illegal to plant vines of the Uhudler variety. Many wine growers in the Burgenland region of Austria are being forced to grub up recently planted Uhudler vineyards on suspicion of illegally planting new Uhudler vines. Uhudler wine growers say that Southern Burgenland does not want to lose this wine, which attracts more than 120 000 visitors to the region every year and provides a livelihood to 340 farmers.

Many wine growers could not continue in business without the Uhudler grape, and no evidence of wrongdoing has yet been produced. What alternatives does the Commission propose to ensure a future for these farmers?