Question for written answer E-014798/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Current situation as regards Xylella fastidiosa in the EU

Xylella fastidiosa, a bacterium which kills olive trees, is present in southern Italy and is having a dramatic impact on agricultural production in affected regions. This summer, a new outbreak was discovered in Corsica. Recently in September, a third outbreak was discovered in southern France in the region of Nice. It seems that the strain of bacteria was different on each occasion, which leads one to conclude that other regions could be affected.

- 1. What measures is the Commission taking in terms of research aimed at fighting Xylella fastidiosa?
- 2. Can the Commission give an update on the current situation as regards the spread of the bacteria across the EU?

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