

Question for written answer E-005250/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Late payment of the 2015 compensatory allowance to Greek livestock farmers and protection of their acquired rights in the delimitation of pastures

According to the applicable EU legislation, subsidies and aid are provided for livestock farmers, as specified in particular in Greece in the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

However, as of the end of June, the balance of the 2015 compensatory allowance has not been given to Greek livestock farmers and, as a result, beneficiary livestock farmers are unable to meet their payments to OGA, the agricultural insurance scheme, and they are at risk of losing tax arrangements if they do not pay their instalments by 30 June 2016.

In his oral statement, the competent minister said that the architecture of the new CAP was responsible for the aforementioned delays in payment as, he claimed, it creates bureaucracy and delays.

What is more, livestock farmers are complaining about the arrangements made for the delimitation of permanent pastures, as the process for delimiting them does not take into account the intensely mountainous terrain in Greece, which will result in the limitation of the recognised pasture lands compared to the past and, consequently, in a decrease to the compensatory allowance paid.

What measures will the Commission take:

- to ensure that the subsidies and aid, particularly the 2015 compensatory allowance, are paid in full and on time to Greek livestock farmers?
- to safeguard the rights acquired by livestock farmers in view of the fact that Greece is very mountainous?