

Question for written answer E-006120/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Compensation payments for garlic producers in Vissa, in the municipality of Orestiada, for damage to crops caused by heavy rainfall

According to the ACPPM, the Agricultural Cooperative for Production, Processing and Marketing of Vissa garlic, over 50% of the garlic crop has been destroyed this year.

Recent heavy rainfalls in the region coincided with the ripening season, destroying the entire crop of certain producers and leaving others with very small harvests.

According to initial estimates, the 240 hectares sown this year were expected to produce a total crop of 800 tonnes, the cultivation cost per hectare being calculated at EUR 12 000 resulting in a financial return of EUR 30 000 per hectare, assuming that no losses were incurred.

Despite the fact that the price has been calculated at EUR 0.20 per head of garlic, producers will be unable to recover financially. Indeed, their representatives are of the opinion that the 2017 crop will also suffer because of the reduced quantity of seed from this year's crop.

In view of this:

- What measures are being envisaged by the Commission to assist garlic producers in Vissa and elsewhere in the municipality of Orestiada in Thrace and how soon can they be taken, with a view to compensating producers for losses resulting from the heavy rainfalls?