Question for written answer E-009020/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Pesticides in non-organic muesli

According to a study by the association Générations futures, 100% of samples of the major nonorganic muesli brands marketed in France (Kellogg's, Carrefour, Jordans, Nestlé, Auchan) contained pesticide residues; out of the 141 pesticides detected, 81 are suspected endocrine disruptors. These include pyrimethanil, a powerful fungicide, which is said to cause cancer and hormonal disorders. Molecules of this type are also thought to cause obesity, cardiovascular diseases, fertility problems, impaired growth, sleep disorders, and even mental deficiency.

For comparison, out of 49 samples of strawberries analysed in 2013, 71% were found to contain endocrine disruptors, and 31 tests carried out on lettuce in 2015 showed that 67% of the samples were similarly contaminated. Finally, the chemical residue level measured in laboratory testing, 0.177 mg/kg, is apparently 354 times higher than the maximum tolerated concentration in drinks.

- 1. Is the Commission alarmed at these revelations?
- 2. Does it intend to review its criteria for defining endocrine disruptors?

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