

**Question for written answer E-006794/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Agricultural area eligible for single farm payments

Under CAP rules, so-called permanent scrubland is excluded for the purposes of calculating single farm payments, thus penalising many smallholders, in particular those whose livelihoods depend on sheep- and goat-herding in mountain areas.

Common land falls under the heading of 'permanent grassland', as part of 'established local practices', thus meaning that only half of this area can be taken into account for calculating the single payment.

Can the Commission say whether the possibility of remedying this injustice is being considered in discussions on the Omnibus Regulation, and including 100% of the grazing scrubland of farmers in mountainous or other disadvantaged areas – particularly those raising small ruminants – for the purposes of calculating the single payment?