

**Question for written answer E-002126/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Type-approval of anti-varroaosis products

Varroaosis, which was detected in Portugal in the mid 1980s, has been subject to a control and eradication plan via the use of type-approved medicines. It appears that this treatment is subject to distortions with Spanish and French beekeepers, because Portuguese beekeepers do not have access to the same type-approved products.

In fact, many of the products that are banned in Portugal – because they are not type-approved for use in Portuguese apiaries – are freely sold in other EU Member States, such as Spain and France. In particular, synthetic chemical acaricides that are prone to leaving honey and wax residues. Type-approved products available in a number of Member States are still being sold at different prices, and more often than not, the prices are higher in Portugal.

Portuguese beekeepers and consumers are thus at a double disadvantage: they are not allowed to use cheaper products, constituting a loss of competitiveness, and many of the same products available in Portugal are marketed in other EU Member States at a lower price.

Can the Commission state what conditions are in place to resolve this issue, either with regard to type-approved products or public sale price levels?