

EN  
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Answer given by Mr Andriukaitis  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(3.12.2018)

1. and 2. Discussion with Member States experts on possible risk management measures at EU level as regards the presence in feed and food of deoxynivalenol and its acetylated and modified forms has been initiated following the publication of the European Food Safety Authority opinion<sup>1</sup>. In line with the conclusions<sup>2</sup> of the Conference “Climate change and mycotoxins in feed and food: a challenge for feed and food supply and safety” held on 5 June 2015 in Milan, it is appropriate to address the presence of deoxynivalenol in feed and food in a comprehensive way, also including agricultural and environmental aspects. The review of the current EU maximum levels in food<sup>3</sup> and guideline levels in feed<sup>4</sup> of deoxynivalenol, in particular with respect to the acetylated and modified forms, is an important element in this comprehensive approach to ensure a high level of human and animal health protection.

3. The EU legislation<sup>5</sup> allows Member States to allocate a (limited) share of their direct payment envelope in the form of coupled support to specific sectors, inter alia cereals, which are particularly important for social, economic or environmental reasons and undergo certain difficulties.

Italy decided to grant such support, as a regional support measure that is also available in Sicily, to durum wheat. The respective (annual) financial envelope was originally fixed at EUR 57-60 million (i.e. estimated per unit amount as 47-49 EUR/ha) from 2015. This was increased to EUR 65-66 million (54 EUR/ha) from 2017 and further to EUR 80.5 million (i.e. 66 EUR/ha) from 2019.

More general information is available on Europa<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> EFSA opinion “Risks to human and animal health related to the presence of deoxynivalenol and its acetylated and modified forms in food and feed” <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4718>

<sup>2</sup> Summary report of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed on 23 June 2015, point A3 [https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/reg-com\\_toxic\\_20150623\\_sum.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/reg-com_toxic_20150623_sum.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 of 19 December 2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs OJ L 364, 20.12.2006, p. 5

<sup>4</sup> Commission Recommendation of 17 August 2006 on the presence of deoxynivalenol, zearalenone, ochratoxin A, T-2 and HT-2 and fumonisins in products intended for animal feeding, OJ L 229, 23.8.2006, p. 7

<sup>5</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 637/2008 and Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013.

<sup>6</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/direct-support/direct-payments/docs/voluntary-coupled-support-note-revised\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/direct-support/direct-payments/docs/voluntary-coupled-support-note-revised_en.pdf)