

# AGRI NEWS

European Parliament Committee on  
Agriculture and Rural Development  
Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 8/2015

Meeting of 16 June

15:00 – 18:30

and 17 June 2015

9:00 – 12:30 – 15.00 – 18.30

Room: JAN 6Q2



## Highlights

### Farmland grabbing in the EU: study presentation



Sylvia Kay and Jonathan Peuch of the Transnational Institute will present and discuss with Members a study on the extent of farmland grabbing in the EU. This study looks at the rise of large-scale land deals and finds significant evidence that 'farmland grabbing' is underway in the EU today. It discusses a number of the drivers of such developments and examines the impacts of farmland grabbing for European food security and food sovereignty, rural employment and vitality, and environmental sustainability. It argues that farmland grabbing, especially when connected to other burning European land issues, calls for a reform of European land governance (presentation and debate on Wednesday 17 June in the morning after the votes).

### Outlook and prospects for the sugar market: debate with Commission



Sugar prices have decreased significantly since last year and representatives of the sector fear that the end of the EU quota system in 2017 and the expected increase in EU production will push further down market prices. AGRI Members have therefore asked for an update from, and debate with, the Commission on the situation on the market and the prospects for the sugar sector in general (Wednesday 17 June at 16.00).



## Work in progress

### Animal health: result of trilogues negotiations



Rapporteur Marit Paulsen (ADLE, SE) will present the results of trilogue negotiations with the Council and Commission on the so-called 'animal health law'. The main achievements for Parliament include a list of diseases to be established on the principles of transparency and science-based decisions, and the inclusion for the first time of a link between animal welfare and animal health (Tuesday 16 June at 15.00).

### Medicated feed: presentation of draft report



Rapporteur Clara Aguilera García (S&D, ES) will present her draft report on the medicated feed proposal which emphasises that medicated feed constitutes an efficient and economic tool for farmers needing to treat groups of sick animals. Since rigorous standards are applied in its production, medicines are distributed in a homogeneous manner in the feed, ensuring that animals have access to the same amount of feed and in the correct quantities for a prescribed treatment to be effective (Tuesday 16 June, afternoon).

### Veterinary medicinal products and EU Medicines Agency: debate on amendments



460 amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal on a new Veterinary Regulation including 33 from the draftsman for the AGRI opinion Marit Paulsen (ALDE, SE), whereas the amendments tabled on the related proposal to amend Regulation 726/2004 (on a European Medicine Agency) were 39 including 10 by the AGRI draftsman Stanislav Polcak (EPP,CZ). AGRI Members will hold a debate on those amendments. The vote on the two draft opinions will take place on 15/16 July. ENVI, the Committee on Environment, Health and Food Safety, is the lead committee on both files (Tuesday 16 June, afternoon).



## Restricting the use of GMOs in Member States: debate with Commission



The Commission will present and debate with Members their proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation No 1829/2003 as regards the possibility for Member States to restrict or prohibit the use of genetically modified food and feed on their territory. Following the decision by the Commission that each Member State has the right to decide on its own whether to allow the production of GMO's on their territory, the Commission has now brought forward a similar proposal for the placing of GMO feed and food on the market (Tuesday 16 June afternoon).

## 2016 budget : presentation and debate with AGRI draftsman



Following the vote of the AGRI opinion on the Parliament's resolution (mandate) on the 2016 budget, the Committee will start its work on the budgetary amendments. Draftsman Jean-Paul Denanot (S&D, FR) will make a first presentation and debate with Members on the implications that the draft budget proposed by the Commission will have on the agriculture and rural development heading of the budget with a view to feed into the draft opinion that he will prepare for the Committee (Wednesday 17 June afternoon).

## Votes on 17 June 2015

### Towards performance-based controls of the CAP



121 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion by Jens Gieseke (EPP, DE) in view of the Parliament's own-initiative report on protecting the EU's financial interests. The AGRI draftsman is proposing 8 compromises with a view to facilitate the vote. CONT, the Committee on Budgetary Control, is the lead Committee on this report.



## Animal health: vote on result of trilogues negotiations



Following the presentation on 16 June of the results of trilogue negotiations with the Council and Commission on the so-called 'animal health law' by rapporteur Marit Paulsen (ADLE, SE), the compromise elaborated as a result of these negotiations will be submitted to a single vote.

## Cloning: joint vote AGRI-ENVI on the Commission proposal



On 17 June at 15.00, AGRI and ENVI Members will vote on a joint draft report on the Commission proposal aimed at banning the use of the cloning technique in the EU for farm animals and the placing on the market of clones. 172 amendments have been tabled, including 36 tabled by the co-rapporteurs, Renate Sommer (ENVI) and Giulia Moi (AGRI). Moreover, the INTA opinion consists of 17 additional proposed amendments. Several compromise amendments will also be put to the vote.

## Next committee meeting

15-16 July 2015

Brussels

Room: to be confirmed

## Useful links

[AGRI website](#)

[Webstreaming](#)

[Meeting documents](#)

[Calendar of AGRI meetings](#)

[EP Press releases on agriculture and rural development](#)

[Minutes of previous meetings](#)