

AGRI NEWS

European Parliament Committee on
Agriculture and Rural Development
Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 4/2016

Meeting of
Monday 14 March, 15:00-18:30 and
Tuesday 15 March 09.00-12.30 and
15.00-18.30
PHS 3C50



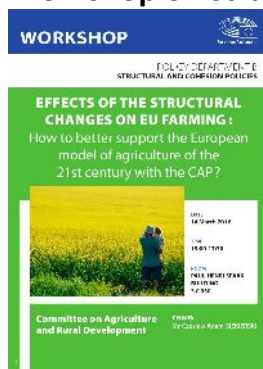
Highlights

Debate with Health and Food Safety Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis



Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis, responsible for Health and Food Safety, will address the AGRI Members in the framework of the "structured dialogue" foreseen in the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission. Likely topics to be addressed include animal welfare issues, new plant breeding techniques, plant protection products including glyphosate, the honey fraud scandal and antimicrobial resistance.

Workshop on structural change in EU farming



AGRI is organising on 14 March at 15.00 a workshop on the "Structural change in EU farming: How can the CAP support a 21st century European model of agriculture?". Three experts have been invited to address Members and reply to their questions: Prof. Dr. Ir. Jan Douwe van der Ploeg, Chair of Rural Sociology of the Wageningen University in the Netherlands, Ms Anikó Juhász, General Director of the Research Institute of Agricultural Economics (AKI) of Budapest (Hungary) and Mr Alessandro Sorrentino, Professor of Agri-food Economics at Tuscia University in Italy.



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Fraudulent practices in the marketing of honey: update by Commission



The Commission is going to present the state of play concerning possible fraudulent practices regarding the marketing of honey in the EU. In fact, there is suspicion that substantial quantities of adulterated honey circulate on the EU market. Members would like to hear about the outcome of the coordinated control plan that was launched last year, and the next steps the Commission is planning to take in order to tackle the problem.

Work in progress

Organic farming: update on ongoing trilogue negotiations



The EP rapporteur for the proposal for a new regulation on organic farming, Martin Häusling (Greens, DE), will report once more to AGRI Members on ongoing trilogue negotiations. The 4th trilogue took place on 29 February. This was the 2nd trilogue under the Dutch Presidency.

EU's multi-annual financial framework revision: Parliament's input



At the time the Union's multi-annual financing framework (MFF) for the 2014-2020 period was concluded in 2013, the EU Institutions agreed to have a mid-term review. The Committee on Budgets (BUDG) will prepare the Parliament's contribution to this review. As agriculture and rural development (Heading 2 of the MFF) have a significant share of the MFF budget, the AGRI Committee will draw up an opinion for which Peter Jahr (EPP, DE) has been named as draftsman. This opinion will be prepared in a context where price volatility on the agricultural market increased significantly over the past years and the margin of Heading 2 has become much smaller in comparison to previous MFFs, meaning that less money will be available for crisis situations.

An EU strategy for the Alpine region: presentation of draft opinion



Ulrike Müller (ALDE, DE) will present her draft opinion on the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region, which aims to ensure that agriculture and the specific problems of farmers in that region are duly taken into account. In July 2015, the Commission had published a Communication and an Action Plan on the Strategy, which is the EU's fourth macro-regional strategy and will affect 80 million people living in seven countries. REGI, the Regional Affairs Committee is the lead Committee on that own-initiative report.



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Votes on 15 March

Medicated feed: adoption of AGRI mandate



A total of 346 amendments have been tabled to the draft report by Clara Eugenia Aguilera Garcia (S&D, ES) on the Commission proposal related to the manufacture, placing on the market and use of medicated feed. The ENVI Committee has also adopted an opinion containing 55 amendments. 11 compromise amendments have been negotiated with a view to ease the vote.

Enhancing innovation in farm management : adoption of own-initiative report



312 amendments have been tabled to the draft own-initiative report by Jan Huitema on enhancing innovation and economic development in future European farm management. To streamline the vote, 18 compromise amendments have been put forward by the rapporteur.

The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition: adoption of opinion



152 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion by Molly Scott Cato (Verts/ALE, UK) on the New Alliance for food security and nutrition, which was launched in May 2012 under the auspices of the G8. Seven compromises have been negotiated with a view to ease the vote. DEVE, the Committee on Development, is the lead Committee for this own-initiative report.

Next committee meeting

25 April (15.00-18.30) and 26 April (09.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30) -Brussels

Useful links

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