



Plenary sitting

B8-0272/2018

29.5.2018

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on the welfare of dairy cows in the European Union

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Motion for a resolution on the welfare of dairy cows in the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas in the European Union, 23.5 million dairy cows are kept, producing 168 million tonnes of milk per year, whereas milk makes up 15% of agricultural production in the EU and whereas, as a result of genetic selection, production per cow has risen steadily over the last three decades;
- B. whereas in the absence of a specific text, dairy farming is regulated by Directive 98/68/EC, but whereas, according to EFSA recommendation Q-2006-113 and a 2017 DG Health and Food Safety report, shortcomings in dairy farming remain as regards housing, feed and excessive genetic selection;
- C. whereas zero-grazing systems in particular have a major impact on the welfare of cattle;
1. Encourages the Commission to issue recommendations on keeping dairy cows modelled on the World Organisation for Animal Health's standards on the welfare of dairy cattle (May 2015) and based on harmonised welfare indicators;
 2. Encourages the Commission to support national strategies on and veterinary practitioners' associations in the development of good practice guides.