

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1301/03
by Emilia Müller (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Support for aquaculture under Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999

In its communication COM(2002) 511 – A strategy for the sustainable development of European aquaculture – the Commission points out that certain environmental aspects of ponds or other water bodies in use for aquaculture are eligible for EU support under Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999¹ (p. 20). Point 4.8 provides a list of environmental aspects eligible for support which includes, inter alia, action to 'recognise and strengthen the positive impact of extensive culture and re-stocking'.

1. Can support be provided under this scheme for extensively farmed ponds even where they are not economically viable?
2. What precise measures does the Commission consider must be taken for such aquaculture to be eligible for support?
3. What maximum rates would be set for such support?
4. What type of funding would be involved?

¹ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 80.