

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4545/08
by Christopher Heaton-Harris (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Threat to wildlife from packaging

The Commission will be aware that the packaging that binds beer cans together when they are sold in multiples is a threat to animal welfare. It is becoming more and more common to find birds (especially ducks and swans) and wild animals that have been injured or killed by discarded packaging of this type. The simple problem is that it is not disposed of properly, and as it is made of plastic, it does not decompose and so remains a threat to wildlife for many years.

The same packaging is available in cardboard or other biodegradable materials - is the Commission aware of the positive effect this could have on wildlife, and is it considering any action to promote the use of such materials, or any other related actions?