WRITTEN QUESTION E-6233/08 by Neil Parish (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: Triazole chemicals

Triazole chemicals are of major importance for disease control both in many crops and in human medicine. One of the triggers against which chemicals will be assessed under the proposed 'Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market' (COM(2006)0388, Replacement of Council Directive 91/414/EEC¹) relates to endocrine disruption.

It is of critical importance to know whether triazoles will fail this assessment. What steps have the Commission made to define endocrine disruption and how the assessment will be made?

Can the Commission also clarify which trigger points will apply to this assessment and whether the same standards will be applied to plant protection products as to triazoles used in medicine?

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¹ OJ L 230, 19.8.1991, p. 1.