

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3365/09
by Geoffrey Van Orden (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Agricultural research and development

It is self-evident that a growing world population will require increased food production. The key to this is a high-tech, environmentally astute, farming industry firmly supported by research and new technologies.

The trend of underinvestment in agricultural R&D over the past two decades is of great concern.

1. What additional funds and resources does the Commission intend to put into agricultural research and development and what more might be done?
2. In addition, what steps are being taken to rebalance strategic objectives for food and farming towards efficiency and productivity, rather than just environmental mitigation?