

**Question for written answer E-005410/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Sandrine Bélier (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Ragweed infestation

Common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), which comes from North America, first appeared in France in 1863, having likely been introduced by a batch of forage seeds. Ragweed pollen causes allergic reactions in many people: 6 to 12% of the population are sensitive to it. It takes just five grains of pollen per cubic metre of air for symptoms to appear.

When does the Commission plan to present a legislative proposal to stop the propagation of this weed in France and Europe?