

**Question for written answer E-011932/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Fuel produced from algae

The European Parliament is taking measures to accelerate the transition to next-generation biofuels derived from alternative energy sources, such as seaweed, waste and algae. EU Member States are required to ensure that by 2020 renewable energy makes up at least 10% of their total energy used in transport.

Using oil from algae is the latest idea for replacing gas oil with biofuels. Studies show that algae oil has all the properties of gas oil and that it can therefore be used as a fuel. Many companies and laboratories are currently conducting research into this field, and new farms want to step up production of oil from algae to an industrial scale.

Can the Commission please state:

- whether it is carrying out research in this field or monitoring the technologies for producing oil from algae?

- whether it knows how many photobioreactors (for the production and cultivation of algae on an industrial scale) exist in the Member States?