

**Question for written answer E-001913/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Albert Deß (PPE)

Subject: Provisions governing fertilisers

The measures being called for by the Commission to tighten up the Nitrates Directive are the result of a 'reporting error' by the German Government. The readings submitted were obtained not from a measuring network yielding the most representative results but from around 160 registration points where problems were already known to be arising. As a result, the readings for Germany are not comparable with those for other countries.

Readings from a representative measuring network encompassing over 700 registration points show compliance with the maximum nitrate content of 50 mg per litre in 90% of groundwater and 95% of drinking water.

Are readings being taken from measuring networks that are not equally representative? Will the Commission take steps to align the readings in such cases?