

**Question for written answer E-002869/2019  
to the Commission  
Rule 138  
Massimiliano Salini (PPE)**

Subject: Bad weather in the Piedmont Region

During the first week of September 2019, and on 5 September in particular, the Piedmont Region was subject to severe rain and hail storms. The wave of bad weather has caused considerable damage to the entire region, but particularly the Langhe and Basso Novarese areas.

In addition to the structural damage, the collapse of a number of containing walls and a bridge (in the case of the bridge, onto road 661 to Cherasco) and the subsidence of land in a number of areas, a major cause for concern is the damage to vineyards and hazelnut orchards. The area affected by the bad weather is heavily economically dependent on the produce from those plantations.

The grapes were almost ready for harvest and, as a result of the severe hail storms, many were lost and cannot now be recovered. In Serralunga d'Alba, for example, 80% of vine rows were damaged.

1. Is the Commission aware of these events?
2. Will it take action to support those areas and their excellent producers?
3. If so, what measures will it take?