

**Question for written answer E-002959/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: 36 pesticides found in dead birds' nests

A study¹ conducted by Vogelbescherming Vlaanderen, a Belgian association for the conservation of birds, and by the Velt ecological association has revealed the presence of 36 pesticides - including fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, biocides - and even DDT in 95 nests. Although the latter has been banned since 1974, it was found in 89 of the 95 nests analysed.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of this alarming study?
- 2) How will it intervene to ensure the sustainable use of pesticides by reducing the risk they pose to human health and the environment and promoting the use of non-chemical alternatives to pesticides pursuant to Directive 2009/128/EC?

¹ <https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/68029/string-of-different-pesticides-found-in-nests-of-thousands-of-dead-chicks-tits-blue-great/>