

**Question for written answer E-001154/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Aurelia Beigneux (ID)

Subject: Possible introduction of a marketing authorisation procedure for organic pesticides

At a time when the Commission has undertaken to speed up research into ways of replacing chemical pesticides, and in particular glyphosate, overly rigid rules are apparently making it difficult to obtain marketing authorisations for sustainable, organic replacement products.

The authorisation procedures are not tailored to organic products, which get bogged down in a regulatory process which also applies to chemicals.

The United States has a specific authorisation procedure for biopesticides which takes half as long as the equivalent procedure in the European Union. The aim is to offer farmers an alternative to chemicals which enables them to make a rapid transition at low cost.

Would the Commission consider introducing a similar procedure to help the EU, which has fallen well behind, catch up in this area?