

**Question for written answer E-003424/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Andrey Slabakov (ECR)

Subject: Measures for imposing organic pesticides on the market under the 'Farm to Fork' strategy

The 'Farm to Fork' strategy awards pride of place to organic farming and sets ambitious targets: a 25% increase in organic farming as a percentage of all farming in Europe and a 50% reduction in the use of pesticides by 2030.

Given that the simplified procedures laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on the placing on the market of organic, low-risk pesticides have proven to be ineffective; bearing in mind that there are currently 66 organic ingredients registered in the EU and 120 organic pesticides pending approval by Member State authorities, and that many of these are alternatives to pesticides currently on the market;

and since the measures proposed in the 'Farm to Fork' strategy are not specific and do not mention how the Commission intends to deal with the most serious issues arising from Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 – extraordinary approvals of pesticides by Member States and the lack of experts for evaluating organic alternatives:

1. Does the Commission intend to introduce measures not only to simplify the placing on the market of organic pesticides but also to impose this?
2. Does it not also see a need to introduce specific legislation fully attuned to the management of organic pesticides?
3. Does it plan to introduce eco-schemes to stimulate the use of organic pesticides, especially in organic farming?