Question for written answer E-003951/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Online farm platforms prove to be a success

The COVID-19 crisis has very rapidly led to the wider emergence of fruit and vegetable supply platforms, enabling farmers to provide a safe delivery service and ensure product quality in addition to their cultivating and harvesting activities.

The lockdown was marked by a very sharp increase in sales of canned vegetables and fruit, with producers endeavouring in various ways to remain afloat, creating social media groups for example, enabling them to make all their products more accessible and reach customers more easily. Over this period, online product promotion and trade proved to be 'win-win' solution for both producers and consumers, regardless of the sector, giving all producers the opportunity of consolidating and expanding their activities while offering consumers corresponding product diversity.

In view of this, what instruments does the Commission have at its disposal to promote and sustain this activity?