

**Question for written answer E-002289/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Krzysztof Jurgiel (ECR)

Subject: Pesticide reduction methodology in the Farm to Fork Strategy

In the Farm to Fork Strategy, the Commission announced additional measures to reduce the overall use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50% and the use of more hazardous pesticides by 50%.

However, the average use of pesticides varies considerably from one Member State to another. The biggest annual users of pesticides are Spain, France and Italy (Eurostat, 2016), while use in Poland is in line with the average. The requirement to halve the use of pesticides will therefore be much more difficult to implement and have a more drastic impact for countries that already have average or low levels of use.

The reduction in pesticide use should therefore be fair, based on the EU average, and not on the average level of use in each Member State.

In this connection:

1. What methodology does the Commission intend to adopt as part of the Farm to Fork Strategy to calculate reductions in pesticide use: the EU average or the average for each Member State?
2. Will the Commission take into account the overall use in the Member State or the use per hectare of farmland?