

**Question for written answer E-005254/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Claude Gruffat (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Prosulfocarb contamination

Organic farmers have expressed to me their concerns over the contamination of their crops by a highly volatile herbicide, prosulfocarb, used by farmers a long way from the nearest neighbourhood.

This cross-contamination has occasioned them major losses. They are being forced to destroy their crops, as the high residue content makes them unfit for consumption.

The matter has been raised with the French public authorities. The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety has produced guidelines for the use of the offending herbicide in order to limit the risks of pollution. Nevertheless, the contamination continues and is not limited to organic products.

In addition, prosulfocarb's high volatility makes it difficult to trace, meaning farmers are struggling to receive compensation from their insurance companies.

The presence of prosulfocarb on the market, even when applied in accordance with the conditions for its use, is problematic given its effects both on crops and on human health. Moreover, it is hard to monitor the serious risks posed by this product.

How does the Commission intend to address this situation? Will the Commission consider amending or withdrawing authorisation for this product, as it is permitted to do by Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, perhaps as an emergency measure?