

**Question for written answer E-005671/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Cattle herds decline in number and productivity

The total number of cattle as at 1 December 2020 had decreased by 0.6% since the same date in the previous year, bringing it to 1.91 million cattle. Cattle numbers have been falling constantly in recent years. Romania is ranked ninth in the European Union for its number of cattle. When accounting for cattle density per 100 hectares, Romania comes twentieth out of the 22 European countries ranked.

Regarding the productivity of cow farms in Romania, our milk production per hectare of arable land is 0.04 litres, while neighbouring countries are 30 times more productive. The average milk production in Europe, for a standard milking time of 305 days, is 7 500 litres per cow. In Romania the average is 3 000 litres, which places us at the bottom of the European rankings.

What does the Commission recommend to the Romanian authorities with regard to supporting cattle farms and increasing productivity?