

**Question for written answer E-000760/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Manolis Kefalogiannis (PPE), Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou (PPE)

Subject: Stockbreeders driven to despair by spiralling feed prices

Greek stockbreeders are being driven to despair by the spiralling price of feed, which accounts for the largest share, around 80%, of total costs. With electricity and gas prices continuously reaching unprecedented levels, there has been no sign of any reversal of this trend. On the contrary, feed production costs, and hence prices, have continued to spiral. The European IFCN network sees a clear correlation between world energy prices, fertiliser prices and feed prices. In the second half of 2021, milk production was already down compared to the previous year.

In view of the fact that: (a) small and medium-sized family farms are now unable to afford increasingly expensive feed, tipping the balance in favour of the mega dairies, which have sufficiently deep pockets;(b) the reassurances given by the Commissioner responsible to the Council of Ministers for Agriculture in July 2021 regarding a dip in feed prices are starting to ring hollow:

Can the Commission say what measures it will it take to stabilise the livestock sector, through either funding for small family farms or other effective mechanisms such as subsidies for the purchase of animal feed?