

**Question for written answer E-002139/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Contamination by airborne pesticides

Air pollution in the EU is quantified by emissions of the following air pollutants: sulphur oxides, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, non-methane volatile organic compounds and particulate matter. Although scientific evidence demonstrates the risks to human health and biodiversity posed by airborne pesticide residue, which can even travel over long distances, this type of air contamination has never been assessed by the EU.

Pesticides have been detected in nature reserves, private gardens and even on organic farms, and some of the traced substances are prohibited in the EU, suggesting they are spread by air currents between continents or from non-EU countries.

1. As new air quality rules are close to being finalised, is the Commission planning to align their revision with the aims of the European Green Deal by classifying airborne pesticides as air contaminants and limiting uncontrolled pesticide exposure?
2. How is it planning to achieve zero (air) pollution if contamination by pesticides is not monitored?
3. Pesticides that can be found in organic farm fields, raising serious questions about organic certification and transparency. Is the Commission planning to conduct an assessment of the impact of airborne pesticides on certified organic farms or find solutions to tackle this issue?