

**Question for written answer E-003639/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: What will power the tractors of tomorrow?

Tractor manufacturers are currently working on new reduced carbon emission engines that will no longer be powered by diesel fuel. The three new options will be: gas, electric and hydrogen-powered tractors. However, all three alternative energy options are problematic in terms of tractor weight, production costs and, most importantly, self-sufficiency. Nicolas Walter, Agriculture Equipment Unit policy officer at the French Chambers of Agriculture, warns that not being able to operate tractors for more than eight hours without having to refuel is still a problem.

Tractor manufacturers face a dual challenge involving both technological and environmental concerns. Over the past 15 years, manufacturers have been experimenting with new technologies aimed at replacing the use of fossil fuels in a wider context where agricultural equipment is responsible for 15% of CO₂ emissions.

I would therefore like to address two questions to the Commission regarding this matter:

1. What is the Commission's view on the need for investment in this sector?
2. What is the Commission doing to support farmers in the acquisition of these new technologies?

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