

**Question for written answer E-003665/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Roman Haider (ID)**

Subject: Sustainable use of plant protection products

The Commission's proposal on plant protection products apparently includes a blanket reduction target of 50 % for plant protection products by 2030 and an almost complete ban on plant protection products, whether conventional or biological, in sensitive areas such as Natura 2000 sites. Rules are proposed to reduce the use and risks of plant protection products in the Union, in line with the objective of a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system set out in the Farm to Fork Strategy, at the heart of the Green Deal. The sustainable use of pesticides aims to reduce the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment. Strict rules are laid down to ensure that pest control is environmentally friendly through a comprehensive implementation framework under which all farmers are supposed to apply 'integrated pest management'.

1. What specific factors does the Commission consider to be decisive in making recommendations to set higher targets in specific cases?
2. Is a complete ban on plant protection products, whether conventional or biological, planned in sensitive areas such as Natura 2000 sites or in general?
3. Is the Commission aware of the fact that a blanket 50 % reduction target for plant protection products, let alone a total ban on plant protection products, would mean the end for many farmers and would lead to more and more farm closures in the EU thereby promoting dependence on the world market and thus environmentally harmful imports?

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