

**Question for written answer E-003974/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Ana Miranda (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Water vole infestation affecting agriculture in mountain areas of Lugo

A water vole infestation has caused substantial environmental and financial losses in the mountain areas around Lugo. The species normally lives in burrows under high mountain pastures, and its numbers have increased in recent years. The Galician Parliament has already declared a pest infestation given the substantial losses in fodder and agricultural production. In the light of the above:

1. Does the Commission know if there are European measures to deal with these pests?
2. Has the Commission carried out any studies at European level about the impact of this depredatory species? If there are none, will the Commission look for a way to resolve this destructive pest infestation?

Submitted: 7.12.2022