Question for written answer E-000098/2023 to the Commission

**Rule 138** 

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Subject: Abnormal weather posing serious threat to Treviso radicchio PGI crops

The high temperatures and unseasonable level of rainfall to date have caused a major crisis in the Treviso radicchio sector.

The frequent recurrence of increasingly mild winters is making the area traditionally home to the radicchio unsuitable for growing it; there is a serious risk that an average of 20–30 % of Treviso radicchio PGI crops could be lost. This could force many farmers in the area to shut up shop locally and look for land somewhere with a colder climate that can guarantee the continuity of this fine Italian product.

As an alternative solution, farmers are considering using auto-resilient seeds to produce plants able to adapt to climate change over time and protect themselves without the use of chemicals, thus also reducing the use of plant protection products.

In light of the above, can the Commission say:

- 1. What concrete measures it will take to protect the Treviso radicchio PGI sector?
- 2. If it will encourage the use of alternative agronomic practices to the traditional methods such as auto-resilient seeds to help producers limit the damage caused by abnormal weather conditions?

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