

**Question for written answer E-002049/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Nacho Sánchez Amor (S&D)**

**Subject:** Crisis in the cherry industry in Extremadura

Extremadura's cherry industry is facing a crisis<sup>1</sup> in the wake of rainstorms that hit in May and June. This has compounded the problems that farmers are experiencing in Extremadura, and indeed across Spain and Europe.

Farmers' cooperatives and organisations estimate that 80% of the region's cherry crop will be lost this season – this includes Jerte cherries, which enjoy protected designation of origin status. Financially, this represents a loss of around EUR 70 million.

The situation is affecting the industry on many levels. It's having a direct impact on the social and economic fabric of the region, including 6 000 families in rural towns and villages across Extremadura, in the Jerte valley, Ambroz, La Vera, Hurdes and Villuercas.

It is also having a detrimental effect on the extensive production chain, which includes family farms and farmers, workers, hauliers, packaging and preparation plants, marketing centres, retail, catering and so on.

This situation is affecting one of Extremadura's flagship products: the cherries are a major draw for tourists. It is also posing a threat to the cherries' presence on major European and international markets.

With the above in mind:

1. How could the Commission support the efforts made and measures introduced by national and regional authorities?
2. Would the Commission consider using exceptional aid or funding from the second pillar as additional support for Extremadura's cherry industry?

Submitted: 28.6.2023

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.juntaex.es/w/declaraciones-del-portavoz-tras-reunion-consejo-de-gobierno>.