

**Question for written answer E-002099/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Tom Vandenkendelaere (PPE)

Subject: Lack of quality data on mental health in agriculture

The agricultural sector is under pressure. This is reflected in more suicides among farmers and an overall assessment that mental well-being among farmers is deteriorating. Already in 2020, EU-OSHA published an agricultural welfare report concluding that the agricultural sector was facing serious (mental) health challenges¹.

On 24 May 2023, Eurostat reported² on progress made by the European Union towards the sustainability objectives. As far as mental well-being is concerned, only 'average progress' was recorded, but this finding did not focus on specific sectors. In its Communication of 7 June 2023³, the Commission acknowledged that mental well-being in the agricultural sector was under pressure and expressed its intention to address this issue, but currently lacked the necessary qualitative data.

1. How will the Commission collect more data on mental well-being and make it publicly available in a structured and qualitative way?
2. Has the Commission already taken steps to collect high-quality data mapping farmers' mental health?
3. If so, when does the Commission foresee the publication of the results?

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¹ <https://osha.europa.eu/en/publications/summary-future-agriculture-and-forestry-implications-managing-worker-safety-and-health-0>

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_2887

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-06/com_2023_298_1_act_en.pdf