

ORAL QUESTION H-0094/07
for Question Time at the part-session in March 2007
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Jacky Henin
to the Commission

Subject: Vaccination of fighting cocks against the H5N1 virus

Fighting cocks are part of the cultural heritage of northern France, and therefore of the European Union. They belong to a highly-respected species of fowl which is always bred in an aviary.

In order for them to take part in cock fights without the risk of contracting the H5N1 avian influenza virus they need to be systematically vaccinated against it.

In the Nord-Pas de Calais region of France there are between 60 000 and 80 000 fighting birds that need vaccinating

Does the Commission intend to accept the inclusion of these galliformes among the species that can be vaccinated, and therefore include them in the summary table of bird orders that can be vaccinated and in its vaccination programme?

Tabled: 01.02.2007
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