

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0087/02

pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure

by Danielle Auroi, Hiltrud Breyer, Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf, Paul Lannoye, Patricia McKenna, Alexander de Roo and Bart Staes, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Dagmar Roth-Behrendt, on behalf of the PSE Group  
to the Commission

Subject: Nitrofurans and other prohibited drugs in poultry and shrimp

1. Can the Commission confirm that during the last months nitrofurans and other prohibited drugs like chloramphenicol have been detected in several Member States and on several occasions in poultry and shrimp imported from third countries? What actions have been taken by the Commission in order to guarantee consumer safety?
2. Which third countries are concerned and which residue testing procedures have been required by the Commission for food products imported from these third countries? What steps have been undertaken towards the third countries concerned in order to guarantee compliance with the standards?
3. Has the Commission undertaken residue inspection missions to the third countries in question? If so, at what time and what have been the results of these missions?
4. Has the contaminated food been sent back to the exporting third countries concerned? If not, how was the disposal of the contaminated material organised? Can the Commission guarantee that the contaminated material did not end up in feedingstuffs?

Tabled: 30.10.2002

Forwarded: 01.11.2002

Deadline for reply: 08.11.2002