

**Question for oral answer O-000039/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 115

Paolo De Castro

on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Subject: The Commission proposal on plant reproductive material

At its meeting of 27 January 2014, Parliament's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) continued to express its concerns surrounding the Commission proposal on plant reproductive material (COM(2013)0262), to which over 1 400 amendments have been tabled by Members.

These concerns relate to the time which Parliament has to consider the proposal and the potential number of delegated acts which the Commission has proposed, most notably those concerning newer elements such as 'heterogeneous material' and 'niche markets'. As the detail of these potential delegated acts is unknown, it is very difficult for Members to assess the practical significance and implications of the proposed legislation. Major concerns include the decision to replace 12 existing directives with a single regulation and the failure to meet a number of objectives such as simplification, innovation and addressing issues relating to plant genetic resources. The impact assessment that accompanies this proposal is out of date and fails to address its impact on small and micro-enterprises in the EU.

Given these concerns, is the Commission prepared to withdraw its proposal, in order to give it further consideration, with a view to submitting a new proposal to Parliament after the start of its next term?

Tabled: 17.2.2014

Forwarded: 19.2.2014

Deadline for reply: 26.2.2014