WRITTEN QUESTION P-4697/07 by Heinz Kindermann (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Work programme to test active substances used in plant protection products

Can the Commission explain why, during the third stage of the work programme to test plant protection products under Directive 91/414/EEC¹, new studies that the applicant had submitted at the request of the rapporteur Member State were not considered during the EFSA assessment?

Is it true that, because of this incomplete assessment of existing data, several substances will not be authorised and, as a result, European farming will lose important plant protection products?

What steps will the Commission undertake to ensure that, in the future, existing data requested by the rapporteur Member State and submitted in good time will be considered by EFSA during the active substance assessment?

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¹ OJ L 230, 19.8.1991, p.1.