

**Priority question for written answer P-001820/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Covid-9 – qualification of agricultural inputs and agricultural products as essential goods

The guidelines presented by the Commission for border measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and services are of utmost importance. The Commission rightly points out that the unobstructed transport of goods is crucial to maintain availability of goods, in particular of essential goods such as foodstuffs, including livestock, and vital medical and protective equipment and supplies.

In order to ensure the continuity of food production, to avert a food crisis and to guarantee the smooth and uninterrupted supply of foodstuffs, the list of essential goods should be expanded to include seeds, fodder, fertilisers and appropriate plant protection and irrigation products, where these are absolutely necessary.

1. Does the Commission not consider agricultural inputs to be of crucial importance to the servicing of the farming and agri-food industry and hence to guaranteeing the supply of foodstuffs to the population of the EU and to ensuring animal welfare?
2. Will it include seeds, fodder, fertilisers and plant health and irrigation products on the list of essential goods set out in the Guidelines on border measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and services?
3. Does it not feel that farmers in the EU should be able to receive the food and fodder inputs of which there are shortages in the EU?