

**Priority question for written answer P-002420/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Giorgos Georgiou (GUE/NGL)**

**Subject:** Support for farmers and stockbreeders in Cyprus

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a severe economic impact on farmers and stockbreeders in Cyprus and other Member States. In view of this:

1. What action will the Commission take to secure an emergency credit line for farmers and an extension of the N+3 arrangements or rural development programmes and ensure greater leeway for Member States in granting aid to farmers?
2. How will it ensure that Member States are given the necessary margin of manoeuvre regarding their CAP implementation commitments (direct payments, national support programmes for the common organisation of the market in wines and farm products, the fruit scheme, rural development/horizontal adjustment, monitoring) including advance direct support payments (direct payments, linked payments and agri-environmental measures based on surface area) prior to on-the-spot checks that can be carried out subsequently?
3. What steps will it take to activate exceptional measures (under Articles 219-221 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013) to provide financial incentives for processing (for example juices), specific storage aid for the food and agriculture sectors most affected by the closure of hotels and restaurants, financial incentives for the free distribution of unsold products and the green harvesting of both perennial and annual (vulnerable) crops should the market be unable to absorb the amounts produced, reducing the risk to farmers cultivating annual (perishable crops)?