Priority question for written answer P-005008/2021

to the Commission

Rule 138

Irène Tolleret (Renew)

Subject: Organic salt

In a report published on 6 August 2021, the expert group for technical advice on organic production (EGTOP) found that almost all salt production methods, including mining and artificial crystallisation, are eligible for the organic farming label.

However, the solar method – where salt is produced through the natural evaporation of seawater, using manual techniques – appears to be the only one that is truly compatible with organic farming requirements, especially in terms of environmental conservation and the natural properties of the finished product.

Salt produced using environmentally damaging methods requiring inputs should not be considered for organic certification. Moreover, doing so risks undermining the credibility of the European label.

In preparing the delegated act on organic salt production, will the Commission follow the recommendations made by the expert group or rather ensure that the label is only awarded to products that meet the standards laid down in the new regulation on organic farming that will enter into force in 2022?