Priority question for written answer P-002627/2022 to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Implementing act on co-formulants

The Commission is preparing an implementing act on the identification of unacceptable pesticide co-formulants, implementing Article 27 Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Article 27 states that, like active substances, co-formulants in pesticides may not have ‘a harmful effect on human health’ or an ‘unacceptable effect on the environment’.

Currently, co-formulants are only partly regulated under the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation (REACH), and industry actors are not obliged to provide any missing additional data to Member States when applying for pesticide authorisations.

1. Only about half of pesticide co-formulants are linked to a REACH dossier, and large data gaps exist. Does the Commission know if Member States request additional information to ensure that carcinogenic substances are not used, when data is not available?

2. Member States’ authorities do not conduct long-term chronic toxicity testing on pesticide formulations or components. How does the Commission ensure that industry actors provide the necessary toxicity data on co-formulants to assess and identify unacceptable co-formulants for the EU list?

3. Will the Commission consider all toxicity endpoints for co-formulants that are applicable to active substances, especially regarding toxicity to the environment (bees, non-target arthropods, etc.)?