Priority question for written answer P-003847/2022/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 138 Anne Sander (PPE), Paolo De Castro (S&D)

Subject: Mapping of sensitive areas in the proposed regulation on the sustainable use of pesticides

In June, the Commission proposed a revision to the Sustainable Pesticide Use Directive¹, including a 50 % reduction by 2030 in the use and risks of chemical pesticides. The text includes a broad definition of 'sensitive areas' where the use of pesticides would be banned altogether. However, the specific geographical definition of these areas still seems rather unclear. At a time when food security has returned to the forefront of our concerns, the definition of these strictly protected areas could have a major impact on our agricultural productivity.

Given that many of these 'sensitive areas' include productive areas and form part of the utilised agricultural area (UAA) of the Member States, is the Commission going to provide a map as well as detailed data on the sensitive areas for each Member State and an estimate of how much UAA makes up these sensitive areas?

Submitted: 28.11.2022

¹ OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 71.