

**Priority question for written answer P-003559/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Aldo Patriciello (PPE)**

Subject: Urgent action to combat grapevine downy mildew

Winegrowers in Italy have until 30 November 2023 to submit their compulsory harvest and wine and/or must production declarations for the 2023/2024 season. The *Plasmopara viticola* fungus has devastated wine production in the Molise region in the 2023/2024 season. The 'Farm to Fork' strategy advocates reduced use of artificial plant-protection products and is thus having wide-ranging consequences for organic farms following the phasing-out of endothermic products and the regulatory limits placed on the use of copper pesticides. Many other Italian and European regions have experienced similar problems, which risk jeopardising one of the most productive and strategic sectors in the entire European agricultural system.

Does the Commission not think, therefore, that it should look into the need to allocate exceptional and extraordinary funding to help those affected eradicate this disease as a matter of urgency?

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