

Question for written answer E-002397/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Maximum residue limits of pesticides in feed imports

At the meeting of Parliament's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development on 4 September 2024, the European Food Safety Authority presented the annual report on pesticide residues in food. Part of the report deals with food produced in non-EU countries and concludes that the imported products have a higher presence of pesticide residues.

Grains intended for animal feed are among the agricultural products that the EU imports the most. However, as the European Food Safety Authority report points out, there is no maximum value for pesticide residues in feed and the pesticide content is not controlled.

This seems particularly problematic. In non-EU countries, certain pesticides are commonly used in pre-harvest, which could contribute to high levels of residues in grains. Moreover, as pre-harvest uses are severely limited in the EU, there is a gap in production standards.

1. Have the potential impact on animal and human health (through the consumption of dairy and meat) and the risk of accumulation in the environment been sufficiently taken into account to justify the absence of controls on pesticide residues in feed?
2. Is the Commission planning to make a legislative proposal on this subject in order to fill this gap?

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