

**Question for written answer E-001584/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)

Subject: Aromatic and medicinal plants from Greek producers

Lavender, oregano, rosemary, sage and mountain tea are among the aromatic and medicinal plants that can have great export potential due to the growing demand for an increasingly advertised - especially on social media - way of life based on natural products. They can be used for drinks, cosmetics, aromatherapy and pharmaceutical preparations, as well as in cooking.

These crops are especially advantageous for Greek farmers due to their xerophytic nature, allowing for cultivation with minimal water - an increasingly critical factor in a region facing growing water scarcity. In addition, semi-mountainous/mountainous soils are not suitable for many intensive crops, but they are ideal for plants such as oregano and mountain tea, as these are inherently organic products that do not require pesticides and fertilisers. Lavender and mountain tea have the highest export value per kilo, especially if standardised or processed (essential oils, premium packaging). Most of them can be grown organically, greatly increasing the final price. The benefit increases significantly if there is drying/standardisation or collaboration with a cooperative. Unfortunately, although there are many opportunities to enhance the value of these products, often producers throughout the province are not effectively informed of these.

What policies would the Commission recommend to the Greek Ministry of Rural Development and local government agencies to increase these Greek crops, especially those of small producers?

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