

**Question for written answer E-003159/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Marie Dauchy (Pfe)

Subject: Compensation for farmers forced to slaughter their herds because of lumpy skin disease

The rapid spread of lumpy skin disease (LSD) in the French departments of Savoie and Haute-Savoie has led to many herds having to be slaughtered in their entirety. As of 31 July 2025, 51 outbreaks were confirmed.

This health crisis is unprecedented in the local beef sector and is hitting livestock farmers hard: they have not only been stripped of their stock-in-trade, but also face economic losses and psychological harm. In many cases, it will take several years to rebuild a productive herd, which seriously jeopardises many farms' economic viability. Solidarity between regions cannot fully compensate these losses, particularly for mountain dairy farms.

1. Given that the slaughter of these herds was imposed under EU health legislation, despite LSD not posing a risk to human health, can the Commission state whether it will establish a specific compensation mechanism for farmers forced to slaughter their livestock because of LSD?
2. In the longer term, is it planning to set up a permanent crisis fund to quickly compensate losses caused by pandemics in animals, in order to ensure that farms can be resilient in the face of necessary but destructive health measures?

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