

**Question for written answer E-004485/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Mélanie Disdier (Pfe)

Subject: Impact of Regulation (EU) 2020/2040 on the aromatic and medicinal plants industry

Regulation (EU) 2020/2040, succeeded by Regulation (EU) 2023/915, sets maximum levels for pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs) in plant products, in particular perfumed, aromatic and medicinal plants.

According to the industry, these thresholds, which are based on a controversial scientific study, are unattainable and out of touch with agricultural reality.

There is currently no alternative on the market that can effectively control the presence of groundsel, a plant that naturally produces PAs and thus poses a threat to the industry's competitiveness as it spreads.

The economic impact is already visible: decline in cultivated areas, job losses and risk of increased dependence on non-EU imports that are often not subject to the same standards.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it intend to carry out a scientific assessment of Regulation (EU) 2020/2040 in light of the updated data from the French Interprofessional Technical Institute of Perfume, Medicinal, Aromatic and Industrial Plants (ITEIPMAI) and the European Herb Growers Association (EUROPAM)?
2. What action does it intend to take to prevent the loss of an industry that is strategically important for agricultural sovereignty and European health?

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