

**Question for written answer E-003676/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Thomas Waitz (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Protecting farmed animals from extreme heat under the EU livestock strategy

The summer of 2026 confirmed that extreme heatwaves are now a major threat to the welfare of farmed animals. In June, a heatwave exceeding 40 °C killed 3 million poultry in western France, including around 6 600 tonnes of poultry in Brittany alone according to ANVOL, the French national association for the poultry supply chain. In Belgium and Italy, dairy production losses of up to 10 % were reported, increasing animal suffering alongside direct economic costs for farmers.

A study published in Poultry Science, covering 146 million broiler chickens, found that the rate of mortality on arrival is 16.9 times higher when loading temperatures exceed 30 °C. A 2026 study published in Nature projects that by 2050, between 11 % and 21.6 % of the current EU and UK cattle population could face at least 15 additional heatwave days compared with today.

1. Will the Commission make climate resilience and heat protection an explicit, measurable and enforceable objective of the EU livestock strategy and the forthcoming animal welfare legislation (for broiler chickens, laying hens and pigs)?
2. Does it intend to introduce science-based temperature and humidity thresholds for animal transport, with mandatory suspension of journeys in dangerous conditions, in line with the European Food Safety Authority's recommendations?

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