Question for written answer E-004021/2026/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Drought: adapting the common agricultural policy to the realities on the ground

Droughts are becoming increasingly common and severe, and this is making it particularly difficult, in some situations, for farmers to meet their commitments under the common agricultural policy (CAP). It can become impossible to apply certain practices or meet certain requirements when the climate is exceptionally unfavourable.

The CAP rules thus need to be able to address these situations more effectively. Farmers should not be penalised when they are unable to meet a commitment as a direct result of exceptional conditions that are out of their control.

In this regard:

can the Commission clarify whether it intends to make it easier and quicker to activate the derogations provided for under the CAP in the event of exceptional circumstances or force majeure, particularly during periods of drought, by simplifying the procedures for recognising and justifying such situations for farmers and national authorities, by clarifying the criteria for triggering them and ensuring the consistent application of these mechanisms across all Member States, so that farmers can adapt their practices to actual conditions on the ground without being exposed to disproportionate penalties for breaches directly attributable to climatic events beyond their control?

Supporter[1]

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