

EN

E-002466/2024

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.1.2025)

The Commission is committed to help address the challenges faced by the beekeeping sector through the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and various policy initiatives to safeguard pollinators and their environment. Under the national CAP Strategic Plans, beekeepers can benefit from apiculture support with an annual EU budget of EUR 60 million, which is at least doubled with national co-financing to support investments/actions to improve production and marketing, prevent damage caused by adverse climate and promote climate change adaptation practices. The CAP also supports the adoption of bee-friendly farming practices including pesticide risk reductions or increasing floral resources in non-productive landscape features. Further exceptional emergency measures¹ to support farmers were adopted by the Commission in October 2024.

As expressed in its replies to written questions E-000209/2024² and 000343/2024³, the Commission adopted measures to address honey adulteration at EU level. EU import requirements were reinforced with an authenticity requirement for exporting countries⁴ and the import of honey is now only possible from listed establishments⁵. In 2023, the Commission launched a project to harmonise analytical methods to better detect honey adulterants, while Directive (EU) 2024/1438⁶ introduced mandatory indication of origin for honey blends and new provisions on traceability and authenticity.

The promotion of a viable beekeeping sector and protection of biodiversity are key priorities for the Commission. While the introduction of an annual pollination subsidy is not currently foreseen, the Commission will continue to engage with stakeholders and Member States to develop effective strategies for the sector.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5321

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000209-ASW_EN.html

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000343-ASW_EN.html

⁴ http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2020/2235/oj

⁵ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202302652

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32024L1438>