

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004386/25
to the Commission**

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(6 November 2025)

Subject: Nitrogen and urea prices and CBAM rules: mitigating the impact on farmers

From next year, the CBAM rules will push up the price of nitrogen in Europe.

The CBAM applies to all nitrogen-based products, including ammonium, nitrates and similar products.

As a result, agricultural urea — widely used as a fertiliser for crops and particularly rich in nitrogen — will also become more expensive.

This will automatically affect many agricultural products, which have already been hit by various crises, and is likely to drive up food prices once again.

At the same time, a number of industry organisations are concerned about the limits on the use of urea and rising costs, given the potential impact on farming sectors.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission have any estimates of the impact the escalating cost of nitrogen products will have on the agricultural sector?
2. Is it aware of the problem and does it know if there are any transitional measures to mitigate the impact of these possible price increases?
3. What solutions does it envisage to ensure that any further widespread price hikes in the agricultural sector do not affect the European market?

Supporter ⁽¹⁾

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**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(2 February 2026)**

The Commission is aware of the potential impact of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on the costs of imported nitrogen-based fertilisers by the agricultural sector, where fertiliser costs represent around 9% of the total costs of production.

To account for the specific challenges facing the agricultural sector, including high prices and substantial import dependency, the Commission adopted a differentiated treatment to fertilisers in the setting of default values.

Compared to other CBAM sectors, the mark-up for default values required by the CBAM Regulation was set at a much lower level (1%) for fertilisers and without increase over time.

This will significantly mitigate the price impact of CBAM on imported fertilisers. In its legislative proposal amending the CBAM Regulation, the Commission has also included a measure ⁽¹⁾ that, if adopted by the co-legislators, would allow for the temporary suspension of the application of CBAM for specific goods, as a safeguard in case of unforeseen circumstances.

In addition, the Commission will temporarily suspend the remaining Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) tariffs on ammonia, urea and, where needed, certain other fertilisers, with a view to further reducing the impact of CBAM.

Furthermore, in the first half of 2026 the Commission will propose an action plan for fertilisers ⁽²⁾.

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Carlo Fidanza (ECR).

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0989>.

⁽²⁾ RESourceEU Action Plan- COM(2025) 945 final: https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/document/download/01c448d6-dc93-40d7-9afe-4c2af448d00c_en.

Following the November 2022 Communication ⁽³⁾ on availability and affordability of fertilisers, the Commission is also monitoring the availability and affordability of fertilisers in the EU through the Fertilisers Market Observatory and is ready to examine other mitigating and flanking measures if necessary.

⁽³⁾ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, Ensuring availability and affordability of fertilisers, COM/2022/590 final/2.