

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000201/26
to the Commission**

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(20 January 2026)

Subject: Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on feed additives

Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 ⁽¹⁾ on feed additives, adopted more than twenty years ago, no longer reflects the scientific and economic realities of European agriculture. Research and development is also limited due to a strict interpretation of ‘placing on the market’, which prevents companies from producing ingredients in one Member State and formulating final products in another even if those products are only intended export outside the EU.

The regulatory fitness and performance programme (REFIT) evaluation (2017-2024) confirmed the need for a comprehensive revision to foster innovation in animal nutrition, improve animal welfare and reduce environmental impacts. The recent Omnibus package introduces useful simplifications but does not resolve the structural issues of the current framework.

1. Why has the Commission decided to postpone the comprehensive revision of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 despite the completed REFIT evaluation and its central relevance to the Green Deal and Farm to Fork objectives?
2. Will the Commission take immediate action to provide a short term solution to the problem of interpretation and also confirm its intention to present a legislative proposal for a full revision of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 that ensures an efficient, innovation-friendly and proportionate framework, aligned with technological progress, food sovereignty and environmental sustainability?

Submitted: 20.1.2026

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(23 March 2026)

The Commission considers that the evaluation of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 ⁽¹⁾ published in 2024 showed that the legislation continues to meet its core objectives. However, it also identified several areas where efficiency of the authorisation system or of marketing rules could be improved.

The opportunity of the food and feed safety simplification omnibus has been used to propose targeted amendments to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 which, while fitting within the omnibus’s scope and objective, address the main areas where need for improvement was identified by the evaluation.

The Commission is confident that the proposed amendments can significantly help in solving the competitiveness and innovation issues encountered by the EU feed additives sector.

In particular, the Commission considers that its proposal to remove the current ten-year renewal requirement for all additives except those belonging to the category of coccidiostats and histomonostats and the use of digital labelling will allow the sector to allocate significant additional resources to the development of new and innovative additives.

This omnibus proposal does not prevent any future initiative from being taken by the Commission regarding the consideration of possible other modifications to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

¹ OJ L 268, 18.10.2003, p. 29, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2003/1831/oj>.

(¹) OJ L 268, 18.10.2003, p. 29, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2003/1831/oj>.