

EN

E-000264/2026

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.3.2026)

The Commission adopted its proposal for a Regulation on plant reproductive material¹ on 5 July 2023.

The Commission's proposal, in Article 32, provides for a derogation that facilitates early access to market, rather than a delay in the marketing of new vegetable varieties. According to that Article, and for a period of up to three years following the application for registration of a variety, seeds of that variety can be provisionally produced and marketed under certain conditions before the final registration of the variety. As these provisions are very similar to provisions already existing under the current legislation², no impact assessment was carried out specific to them.

The European Parliament and the Council adopted their position at first reading respectively on 24 April 2024 and on 10 December 2025. The trilogues on this proposal are currently ongoing.

¹ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material in the Union, amending Regulations (EU) 2016/2031, 2017/625 and 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Council Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 68/193/EEC, 2002/53/EC, 2002/54/EC, 2002/55/EC, 2002/56/EC, 2002/57/EC, 2008/72/EC and 2008/90/EC (Regulation on plant reproductive material) COM/2023/414 final.

² Commission Decision 2004/842/EC of 1 December 2004 concerning implementing rules whereby Member States may authorise the placing on the market of seed belonging to varieties for which an application for entry in the national catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species or vegetable species has been submitted
ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2004/842/oj>.