EN
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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.6.2026)

The Commission is aware of the significant pressure that farmers in the EU face due to elevated fertiliser prices. The situation is exacerbated by ongoing tensions in the Middle East.

On 19 May 2026, the Commission adopted the Fertiliser Action Plan[1], setting out short- and long-term measures to improve fertiliser availability, affordability and resilience. Short term actions include the mobilisation and possible top-up of the agricultural reserve, liquidity support under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and greater flexibility for advance payments. Longer term measures focus on strengthening EU production capacity, supporting the uptake of recycled nutrients and low carbon alternatives, and reducing strategic dependencies on imports.

Several measures have already been taken, such as the application of reduced flat 1% mark-up for the default Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) values for fertilisers, the adoption of a Temporary State aid framework[2] on 29 April 2026, as well as the temporary suspension of duties for imports of ammonia, urea and other nitrogen fertilisers from countries other than Russia and Belarus, within given quotas[3].

Additionally, in February 2026, the Commission provided further flexibility under the Nitrates Directive for certain types of materials derived from manure processing (RENURE)[4]. Furthermore, as laid down in the Fertiliser Action Plan, the Commission will explore short term measures to facilitate the use of digestates, such as extending the RENURE Act.

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_1099.
[2] http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2026/2593/oj.
[3] http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/1181/oj.
[4] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2026/288/oj/eng.