

EN

E-002713/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(14.8.2026)

The Commission recognises the risks to human health and the environment associated to the presence of cadmium in fertilisers.

The evaluation of Regulation (EU) 2019/1009¹ in accordance with Article 49 of this Regulation, including the review of cadmium limits, is being finalised. The Commission plans to submit its report to the Council and the European Parliament in the third quarter of 2026.

Cadmium in soil and crops is a complex issue influenced by local conditions, agricultural practices and long-term accumulation patterns. The feasibility to reduce the maximum values of cadmium in phosphate fertilisers to a lower appropriate level must take into account available cadmium-removal technologies and scientific evidence on cadmium exposure and accumulation in the environment, on impacts on health and the environment (in particular in the context of soil and climatic conditions), as well as socio-economic factors such as security of supply and fertiliser affordability. This assessment will be based on available evidence, including the work published by the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES).

Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 provides for optional harmonisation which allows Member States to apply their national law to fertilising products that are not CE-marked in accordance with the EU rules. Manufacturers can choose between complying with Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 and obtaining single market access via the CE marking and placing their product on the market under national rules and cross borders based on mutual recognition. The Commission will assess the feasibility and possible impacts of full harmonisation of the rules for inorganic fertilisers, as stated in the Fertilisers Action Plan².

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02019R1009-20251230>.

² Fertiliser Action Plan: Partnership for ensuring the availability, affordability and strategic autonomy in home-grown EU fertilisers, COM/2026/310 final; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2026:310:FIN>.