

EN

E-003077/2026

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.9.2026)

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plans Regulation includes a variety of types of interventions that Member States can programme to support farmers improving the competitiveness of their farms. Lavender producers can be supported through direct payments; investments; agri-environmental commitments, including conversion to organic farming; and voluntary eco-schemes.

All products placed on the EU market, whether they are produced domestically or imported, are required to comply with EU health and safety standards. These requirements apply regardless of the origin and of possible trade agreements concluded with non-EU countries. Besides, the Vision for Agriculture and Food¹ stipulates that the Union will ensure that ambitious EU standards do not lead to economic, environmental and social leakages, and that the European agri-food sector is not put at a competitive disadvantage without corresponding reciprocity. The Commission will pursue, in line with international rules, a stronger alignment of production standards applied to imported products, notably on pesticides. To this end, a study² aimed at informing an Impact Assessment was published on 11 August 2026. Trade defence instruments can also be deployed where there is evidence of practices such as dumping that cause injury to the EU industry.

The Commission provides guidance on the application procedure for registration of geographical indications. Information is available on its website, including through a dedicated toolkit³ for applicant groups, which small farmers may join. Under their CAP Strategic Plans, Member States may provide support for cooperation and participation in Union quality schemes, including support for certification costs.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: “A Vision for Agriculture and Food - Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations”, 19.2.2025 COM(2025) 75 final.

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52025DC0075>.

² <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC147659>.

³ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/geographical-indications-and-quality-schemes/registration-name-gi-product_en.