

Question for written answer E-014947/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Richard Sulík (ECR)

Subject: Grapevine flavescence dorée MLO - possible occurrence in Slovakia

Following the Commission's failure to provide a response to any of the questions put to it in parliamentary question E-012068-15, I would like once again to ask for a reaction to all of the following facts and questions?

If the presence of the vector for Grapevine flavescence dorée MLO, the *Scaphoideus titanus* leafhopper, is identified in a vineyard and the vineyard is not treated against this insect in a targeted manner, within several years the entire region will be infested with Grapevine flavescence dorée MLO.

What position did the Commission take to the EFSA scientific opinion on the pest categorisation of Grapevine flavescence dorée published in the EFSA Journal 2014: 12(10):3851?

Now that the leafhopper has appeared in several regions of Slovakia, should/must we wait until Grapevine flavescence dorée MLO is positively identified in Slovak vineyards and then impose the necessary quarantine measures by means of a decree, or should/must the Slovak Government act now, when the vector of Grapevine flavescence dorée MLO is multiplying in Slovakia, to make sure that it does not spread further across Europe?

Does the Commission take the view that Council Directive 2000/29/EC can/should be applied to the vector of Grapevine flavescence dorée, which would mean that the Slovak Government must notify the other Member States of its appearance and adopt subsequent protective measures to stop the spread of the epidemic?