

**Question for written answer E-016052/2015  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Georgios Epitideios (NI)**

Subject: Problems with payments for energy crops

Complaints are being received from Greek farmers regarding delayed payments for energy crops, a problem affecting thousands of rural families that have set aside over 100 000 hectares for this purpose, having signed contracts with biodiesel processors and producers in order to obtain supplies such as seeds fertiliser and pesticides on credit

Matters are being further complicated by the enormous cash-flow problems now encountered by biodiesel producers caused by the Motor Oil company, which is either refusing to take delivery of the quantities of biodiesel agreed in 2015 or, as often as not, seeking to purchase below cost price.

This, coupled with the economic situation in Greece, is another nail in the coffin of an already moribund the agricultural sector.

In view of this and the fact that energy crops are subsidised by the EU:

1. Can the Commission say whether it is aware of these complaints?
2. What view does it take on farmers' complaints regarding the practices followed by the Motor Oil company?
- C. How can it help farmers to resolve the problem?