

Question for written answer E-015433/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Damiano Zoffoli (S&D)

Subject: 'Agricultural beer' and EU-recognised agricultural products

In Italy, for a beer to be classed as an 'agricultural beer' at least 51% of the raw materials must have been grown by the agricultural undertaking that brewed and bottled it.

Agricultural beers are now widely available and their share of the beer market is growing rapidly.

The popularity of agricultural beer is attracting large numbers of young entrepreneurs into farming. What is more, no fertilisers are used to grow malting barley, making it an environmentally friendly process.

Beer is not included in the list of agricultural products in Annex I to the TFEU, which contains only the more general term 'fermented beverages'.

- Can the Commission say whether agricultural beer is classed as a 'fermented beverage' and thus recognised by the EU as an agricultural product?
- If it is not, would it agree that agricultural beer should be added to the list of EU-recognised agricultural products?