

**Question for written answer E-016109/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Giovanni La Via (PPE)

Subject: Pinoxaden: status at EU level

Pinoxaden is one of the most important active substances with herbicidal effect for the selective post-emergence control of grass weed in wheat, and it has been used throughout Europe for 10 years. This active substance could now have its marketing authorisation suspended and be withdrawn from the EU market as a result of a change in the decision-making procedure for registration by the Commission and some Member States.

The active substance pinoxaden was submitted for EU approval in 2004, in accordance with Directive 91/414/EEC. Since then, the Commission has been unable to complete the evaluation, with the result that the authorisation for products which are legitimately registered in various Member States may be revoked in May 2016.

In various European countries, including Italy, a wide-ranging environmental monitoring programme has been conducted to prove that concentrations of metabolites of pinoxaden in groundwater do not exceed the authorised maximum level of 0.1 µg/l.

In the light of the above, can the Commission say whether it intends to complete the approval procedure for the active substance pinoxaden?