Question for written answer E-015207/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Giulia Moi (EFDD)

Subject: Import of insects from third countries into Sardinia

In Sardinia, some boards of citrus growers and bee-keepers have recently raised the alarm concerning a parasite (*Thaumastocoris peregrinus*) which attacks eucalyptus plants and threatens the survival of bees due to the damage it causes to a plant that is vital to their nutritional cycle.

This parasite has spread very quickly throughout Sardinia and colonised the entire island in the space of two months.

According to a study by the University of Sassari, the parasite causes loss of leaves and prevents photosynthesis of the eucalyptus, resulting very soon in its death.

A possible solution would be to import a Brazilian insect known as Cleruchoides noackae.

The Italian Ministry of Agriculture is opposed to the issue of the import licence.

Can the Commission say whether the import of these insects would be permitted under the import regulations for biological products from third countries?

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