

EN

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Answer given by Mr Wojciechowski  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(7.11.2022)

In its Communication on the Farm to Fork Strategy<sup>1</sup>, the Commission stated that it will take action to reduce the overall use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50% and the use of the more hazardous pesticides by 50% by 2030. The Commission also stated that it will revise the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD)<sup>2</sup>, in particular, to enhance provisions on integrated pest management (IPM).

IPM is based on a set of farming practices, including those mentioned by the honourable Members. The general principles of IPM are already legally binding and must be translated in farming practices. The proposal for a Regulation (SUR)<sup>3</sup> replacing the SUD is based on the same approach but in addition to the general principles of IPM, it provides for the development of crop-specific rules for farmers in applying IPM to particular crops, soil and climate.

The new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), starting from 2023, entails a number of instruments (such as eco-schemes, management commitments or investments)<sup>4</sup> which can support farmers with IPM practices. The Commission also proposes in the SUR<sup>5</sup> to allow Member States to finance, with the relevant and available CAP instruments, farming practices, in a transitional period of 5 years to allow farmers to adapt to new obligations for IPM.

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2020) 381 final.

<sup>2</sup> Directive 2009/128/EC.

<sup>3</sup> COM(2022) 305 final.

<sup>4</sup> Respectively Article 31, 70 and 73 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/2115.

<sup>5</sup> Article 43 of the proposal COM(2022) 305 final.