

Equivalence of field inspections carried out on cereal seed-producing crops and equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine

2020/0053(COD) - 08/10/2020 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 491 votes to 159, with 47 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2003/17/EC as regards the equivalence of field inspections carried out in Ukraine on cereal seed-producing crops and on the equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure without amending the Commission proposal.

The proposal aims to update Council Decision 2003/17/EC, which grants equivalence to certain non-EU countries in respect of field inspections carried out and seed production of certain species in accordance with Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 2002/54/EC and 2002/57/EC. It is intended to add Ukraine to the list of countries for which the equivalence of field inspections carried out in respect of seed-producing crops of cereal species and the equivalence of produced seed has been recognised.

The proposal follows the request to have its cereal seed covered by Council Decision 2003/17/EC as equivalent cereal seed. Following this request, the Commission examined the relevant Ukrainian legislation and carried out an audit of field inspections and of the certification scheme for cereal seed in Ukraine. This examination led to overall positive results. The requirements and the system in place in Ukraine are equivalent to those of the EU and offer the same guarantees as the EU system.

A proposal to reject the Commission's proposal was rejected in plenary by 111 to 572, with 11 abstentions.