

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary - Public

Date: 7/6/2018

GAIN Report Number: E18046

EU-28

Post: Brussels USEU

Commission Roadmap for Endocrine Disruptors

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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Report Highlights:

Although this European Commission has already done a lot of work on endocrine disruptors, there remain many concerns regarding this issue. As a response to these concerns from the European citizens, as well as the political pressure, the European Commission recently published a roadmap entitled 'Towards a more comprehensive EU framework on endocrine disruptors'. This roadmap should inform citizens and stakeholders about what the Commission has been doing so far. It also provides the opportunity to give feedback or comments in the form of a consultation, which is open until July 19, 2018.

General Information:

The European Commission has already taken several actions with regard to endocrine disruptors, such as setting out criteria to identify substances with endocrine disrupting properties for both pesticides and biocides. As a response to the concerns from European citizens, as well as political pressure, the European Commission recently published a roadmap in order to inform stakeholders about the status of its work on endocrine disruptors. This roadmap will not only present the existing situation, but will also reflect on any next steps. It also provides the opportunity to give feedback or comments in the form of a consultation, which is open until July 19, 2018. The European Commission will present the outcome of this consultation in a 'communication' paper. The most interesting part from this communication will be some future action points. One of these action points the Commission is presenting in its roadmap are the existing data or knowledge gaps. In order to address this issue, the Commission is suggesting data sharing and gathering together with promoting research activities. Another type of action that the Commission recommends is to continue the cooperation at international level through the work of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), for example in the development of testing methods. The Commission will also look into planning some communication activities in order to reduce any existing societal concerns that citizens may have about endocrine disruptors. The communication could also result in additional consultations depending on the suggested actions that come out of this exercise. Here is the link to the consultation on the endocrine disruptor roadmap:

http://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-3295383_en