

## European Seed Association (ESA) to the members of the EU Parliament:

From: Jean-Paul Judson  
Sent: 29 May 2013 13:47  
To: Jean-Paul Judson  
Cc: Garlich von Essen  
Subject: Healthier Animals & Plants and a Safer Agri-Food Chain: reaction from ESA European Seed Association

To:  
Members of the European Parliament  
Members of the AGRI Committee

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

On the 6th of May, the European Commission published a legislative package on Healthier Animals and Plants and a Safer Agri-Food Chain to simplify, modernise and harmonise the rules on official controls on animal health, plant health and plant reproductive material.

In view of the presentation of this package by the European Commission in the AGRI Committee meeting tomorrow morning, please find attached a first reaction from ESA European Seed Association (ESA\_13.0398).

ESA European Seed Association is the voice of the European seed industry, representing those active in research, breeding, production and marketing of seeds of agricultural, horticultural and ornamental plant species. The proposals of the European Commission on the marketing and production of Plant Reproductive Material, on protective measures against pests of plants, and the revision of the Official Controls regulation, pave the way for establishing a modern, dynamic, harmonised and simplified legal framework for seed.

For the first time, the European Parliament will be fully involved in laying down rules and requirements for the production and marketing of seed across the European Union. This will affect not only breeders but also farmers' access to the best plant varieties to improve their productivity. Therefore, ESA welcomes the appointment of the AGRI Committee as the lead committee on Plant Reproductive Material and Plant Health, as seed is the fundamental input to all agricultural production and healthy and high quality seeds guarantee sustainable and competitive farming in Europe.

ESA looks forward to working with the Members of the European Parliament in an effort to establish the most modern regulatory framework that will continue to drive breeding innovation and bring the best plant varieties to Europe's farmers, growers and consumers.

Your sincerely,

ESA European Seed Association  
Jean-Paul JUDSON