



A MASSIVE MISSED OPPORTUNITY: Pesticide Action Network (PAN) Europe Reaction to EP Agriculture Committee Voting on Commission Delegated Regulation Proposing to Ban Pesticides on Ecological Focus Areas

(30 May 2017, Brussels) Today, the Agriculture Committee (COMAGRI) has voted in favour of the resolution against the ban of pesticides in ecological focus areas (EFAs). PAN Europe finds the vote outrageous and shameful which completely ignores the overall purpose of EFAs which is to bring benefits for the environment and, safeguard and improve biodiversity on farms.

“Banning pesticides is a simple and humble move to help citizens understand the “ECOLOGICAL” in ecological focus areas. Today, by voting in favour of the resolution against banning pesticides in areas meant to promote biodiversity, the COMAGRI members really missed an opportunity to save farmland biodiversity and gave a very wrong signal to EU citizens about the nature of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the credibility of the entire Common Agricultural Policy especially the green payments.” said Francois Veillerette, president of PAN Europe.

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Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN Europe) was founded in 1987 and brings together consumer, public health, environmental organisations, and women's groups from across Europe. PAN Europe is part of the global network PAN International working to minimise the negative effects and replace the use of harmful pesticides with ecologically sound alternatives.