

2025.09.08

3.21 Deputy D.J. Warr of St. Helier South of the Minister for the Environment regarding pesticides containing PFAS (OQ. 189/2025):

Further to reports in February 2025 that 4 pesticides used in Jersey contain P.F.A.S. (perfluoroalkyl substances), will the Minister advise what steps, if any, have been taken to remove these pesticides from use and if such steps have been taken, when it can be expected that the use of these pesticides will cease?

Deputy S.G. Luce of Grouville and St. Martin (The Minister for the Environment):

Extensive international research is underway to better understand the risks associated with the hundreds of P.F.A.S.-containing products used in daily life and pesticides containing P.F.A.S. are just one example. Pesticide use on the Island adheres to E.U. (European Union) and U.K. approvals. These jurisdictions possess the necessary expertise and analytical capacity to assess how specific P.F.A.S. compounds used in pesticides break down into metabolites, how they interact with plants and soil, how the crops absorb them and, ultimately, how they might affect human health. I will continue to follow the guidance from the E.U. and the U.K. If they decide to ban specific pesticides I will support implementing an equivalent ban in Jersey.

[16:45]

In practice, this occurs automatically; that is before any pesticide can be used, sold or supplied it must be authorised for use. In the U.K. these authorisations are granted by the Chemical Regulations Directorate.

The Bailiff:

You went over the time by 8 seconds, Minister, but I think we can forgive you for that.

Deputy S.G. Luce:

My apologies, Sir.