

'Green wave': Environmentalist gains in EU elections could cut farmer access to key pesticides

The 'green wave' which saw environmentalist parties make major gains across the continent in the European elections could threaten the use of key pesticides in the EU.

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The Greens stormed into second place in Germany, third place in France, second place in Finland and came within a whisker of beating Sinn Féin on first preferences in Ireland. In the UK, the Green Party won over 2 million votes and returned seven MEPs – doubling their representation in the European Parliament

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During the election campaign, the Green Party in the UK pledged to fight for a 50 per cent EU-wide reduction in the volume of pesticides used to grow fruit and vegetables by 2022.

In a statement, the group said: "The Government has dragged its feet over stopping this poisoning of our countryside, even though Defra's own chief scientist, Professor Ian Boyd, has warned pesticide use is not safe for the environment and not sufficiently regulated."

Read full, original article: [European Elections: 'Green wave' threatens pesticides across the EU](#)