



EUROPEAN NURSERYSTOCK ASSOCIATION

Denen 157 - 9080 Lochristi - Belgium

www.enaplants.eu

Chairman: Maurizio Lapponi

Secretary: David Brown

Dear

EU Farm Policy Reform Plans – Ecological Focus Areas

We are writing to you as President of the European Nurserystock Association (ENA) and Director of FEPEX, the Spanish Federation of Associations of Producers and Exporters of Fruit, Vegetables, Flowers and Live Plants to ask for your support and help in the forthcoming negotiations on the EU Farm Policy Reform Plans.

The European Nurserystock industry is very concerned that proposals for Ecological Focus Areas could seriously disadvantage nurseries across Europe. The ENA, which represents Nurserystock growers in 18 countries, fully supports the position of the European Parliament regarding Ecological Focus Areas. We ask that you also support the view of the European Parliament on this aspect of the Reform Plans.

The position that the European Parliament voted to accept is:

Ecological focus areas

Initially, during the first year's application of the new rules, farmers with more than 10 ha of arable land would have to ensure that 3% (rather than 7% as proposed by the Commission), excluding permanent grassland, permanent pasture and permanent crops, is reserved for "ecological focus areas" (EFAs).

Nursery crops are included in the definition of permanent crops, and we believe that the position of the European Parliament – to exclude permanent crops is the best way forward for our industry across the EU.

Please support the exclusion of permanent crops from EFAs.

Yours sincerely

Maurizio Lapponi
ENA President

José María Pozancos
FEPEX Director

ENA-secretariat:

C/o David Brown
30 Buntings path, Burwell, Cambridge, CB25 0EG,
United Kingdom
Tel: +44(0)1638 743283
E-mail: david@david-brown.co.uk