

YOUR NFU HORTICULTURE TEAM



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WORKING FOR OUR MEMBERS ON THESE PRIORITIES

REGULATION THAT DRIVES PRODUCTIVITY AND GROWTH:

- Secure provisions within the UK Immigration Policy to access seasonal and permanent workers post Brexit
- Create a joint industry/ government COVID-19 recovery plan with policies that deliver sector confidence
- Secure a productivity funding scheme for on-farm investments that improve competitiveness
- Work with the Trade and Standards Commission to uphold UK production standards in trade deals
- Secure a pragmatic border control policy to facilitate the smooth trade of plants and produce

FAIR, TRANSPARENT AND SECURE RELATIONSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE SUPPLY CHAIN:

- Secure commitments from retailers to support British producers through COVID-19 recovery
- Seek parity between supply chain audits and employment law
- Support members in understanding contract terms and opportunities for negotiating better outcomes

ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION:

- Influence Environmental Land Management scheme (ELMS) to deliver greater opportunities and recognition for horticulture and potatoes
- Identify opportunities for the sector to contribute to the Net Zero challenge
- Ensure that the England Peat Strategy meets the needs of growers and supports them to move away from the use of peat in growing media
- Ensure decisions taken to reduce use of plastic within supply chains are made in conjunction with growers

TURN OVER TO SEE OUR KEY SUCCESSSES FOR THE HORTICULTURE SECTOR IN 2019/20.

NFU HORTICULTURE SUCCESSES FOR 2019/20



SEASONAL WORKERS PILOT SCHEME

Following extensive NFU lobbying, the Government agreed to increase the Seasonal Workers Pilot Scheme from 2,500 to 10,000 permits for 2020.



PLANT PASSPORTING RULES

Following NFU intervention, Defra agreed to adopt a pragmatic approach to the implementation of new Plant Passporting rules which gave businesses more time to comply.



AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL WORKERS AS KEY WORKERS

The NFU successfully lobbied government to include agricultural and horticultural workers as key workers during the COVID-19 outbreak which enabled them to continue working during the height of lockdown.



EXEMPTION FROM QUARANTINE RULES FOR SEASONAL WORKERS SECURED

The NFU also secured an important exemption for seasonal workers from quarantine rules, which meant they were able to work on farm during their two-week quarantine period.



PICK FOR BRITAIN CAMPAIGN

The NFU worked with Defra and industry representatives to develop the Pick For Britain campaign which attracted a high level of interest from British workers to take up seasonal horticultural roles in 2020.



CROSS INDUSTRY LOBBY TO SECURE THE OPENING OF GARDEN CENTRES

The NFU coordinated a cross industry lobby to secure the opening of garden centres in the first phase of lockdown easing, thereby reopening the market and reducing the impact on the ornamentals sector.



FRESH PRODUCE IMPORT TARIFFS RETAINED

Following NFU engagement on the UK's future tariff schedule, fresh produce import tariffs were retained with only minor simplification, thereby avoiding the threat of their removal.



SUPPORT FOR POTATO GROWERS

After around 90% of chip shops had closed voluntarily due to COVID-19, following the NFU's engagement with the National Federation of Fish Fryers and a revision to guidance, the market began opening quickly back up, enabling potato growers to recover some of their lost sales.

TURN OVER TO MEET OUR HORTICULTURE TEAM AND READ MORE ABOUT
THEIR WORK PRIORITIES FOR 2020/21



NFU SUPPORTED BY

NFU Mutual

NFU162hort – Sept20