

## Council supports EU-wide animal welfare label

The Council approved conclusions for an EU-wide animal welfare label, highlighting the overarching objective of **improving animal welfare** for as many food producing animals as possible. Through the approved conclusions, the Council **invites the European Commission to submit a proposal on an EU-wide animal welfare label** for food produced under animal welfare standards higher than those in EU legislation.



Animal welfare has been a priority for our presidency and I am very pleased to see that it is also now becoming an EU priority for more ambitious and higher standards. A common EU label on animal welfare would increase credibility and transparency in our markets and would enable consumers to make more informed choices. It would also help reward producers who respect those standards.

*Julia Klöckner, Germany's Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture*

Ministers supported consumer demands to easily recognise food produced under stronger animal welfare standards and, through the conclusions, called for specific **criteria** to be taken into account when developing an EU-wide label. Among others, ministers stressed the need to go **beyond current EU legal requirements** on animal welfare, to **gradually include all livestock** species in the label covering their **entire lifetime** (also transport and slaughter), and to ensure a smooth **interplay with existing labels**.

[Visit the meeting page](#)

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## Media advisory – Video conference of the Eurogroup, 16 December 2020



### **Indicative programme**

#### **14.00 – Video conference of the Eurogroup in regular format**

- Exchange of views on the macroeconomic situation
- Assessment of euro area Member States' Draft Budgetary Plans and of the

- Euro area budgetary situation and prospects
- Euro area surveillance – 2021 Euro area recommendations
- Miscellaneous

At +/- 16.30 – press conference in [live streaming](#)

## Arrangements for the press conference

Please note that there will be no physical press conference. EU accredited journalists will be able to ask questions remotely, using [this link](#).

If you had registered for one of the previous virtual Eurogroup press conferences, you don't need to register again.

- **Deadline: Wednesday, 16 December 2020, 15:00**

Further instructions will be sent to all registered participants after the deadline.

[Visit the meeting page](#)

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## [Announcement n° 5/2020 of the Community Plant Variety Office. Decision of the Administrative Council of the Community Plant Variety Office on test guidelines 26/10/2020](#)

Technical examinations which are initiated or are to be approved by the Community Plant Variety Office must be performed in accordance with the test guidelines which have been adopted by the Administrative Council. Technical examinations started prior to the decision are not affected unless otherwise announced. The plant species concerned as well as the date of the decision are accordingly published in the Official Gazette of the Office. The technical protocol can be consulted through the website of the Office, or upon request can be transmitted by the Office. Technical questionnaires for the plant species called in question were amended accordingly. The technical questionnaires can be downloaded from the website, or upon request can be sent by the Office.

Decisions were taken in respect of the following plant species:

Weigela Thunb.

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## [Announcement n° 6/2020 on Holidays of the Community Variety Plant Office in 2021](#)

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