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**"In these two things men are like God; telling the truth and doing good"**  
(Jerónimo Usera, Spanish missionary)

## AILIMPO GETS THE EU TO INCREASE CONTROLS ON TURKISH LEMONS TO 20%

Last week we told you about the detection by the EU of 10 batches of Turkish lemons for the presence of pesticides banned in the EU. This information was detected and published by AILIMPO and subsequently we asked the EU to urgently adopt additional measures.

**The European Commission has reacted quickly** and has published a regulation increasing the official control of Turkish lemons to 20% (previously only random controls were carried out without a minimum percentage), so that **1 out of every 5 lorries of Turkish lemons entering the EU will have to undergo pesticide analysis controls.**

The European Commission itself has said that "in the case of consignments of lemons from Turkey, data resulting from notifications in the RASFF and information on official controls carried out by Member States indicate the emergence of new risks to human health, due to possible contamination by pesticide residues, which require a higher level of official controls".

**We often lament that the EU fails to act or acts too late, but on this occasion Europe has reacted quickly and decisively.**



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## THE CLIMATE SUMMIT AND THE "NEW" CONNECTION TO OUR SECTOR

On the occasion of the **COP26 in Glasgow**, the focus of the news this week is on discussions on climate issues to accelerate action towards the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Convention on Climate Change.



But let's try to bring this debate down to earth to what affects us in our day-to-day work in the fruit and vegetable sector and more specifically on lemons and grapefruits. As our European trade association Freshfel Europe has pointed out, it is important to highlight the fact that **fruit and vegetable production is one of the economic activities with the lowest environmental impact compared to other foodstuffs.** Not forgetting that fruit and vegetables form part of the consumption recommendations for a healthy diet, with a minimum of 400 grams per day recommended by the WHO. And here comes one of the first conclusions: If the health of the planet and the world's population is one of the key issues for political leaders during the COP26 negotiations, then sustainable diets with fruit and vegetables are a key asset to help achieve the world's climate goals.

Another conclusion linked to the previous one: the sector has to capitalise on this idea and we must be able to promote consumption by raising awareness of the environmental and climate benefits of the fruit and vegetable sector so that by consuming more, consumers themselves can play a transformative role in the world. In other words: **if you eat more fruit and vegetables, you are directly helping not only your own health, but also that of the planet. And most importantly: each of us can transform the world three times a day, at each of the meals we eat: breakfast, lunch and dinner.**

We can bring this idea down to earth a little more to the **lemon and grapefruit** sector, and of course claim the prominence of **our forest of more than 15 million trees** alongside our commitment to using good agricultural practices, protecting natural resources, minimising water and energy use, avoiding greenhouse gas emissions, maximising carbon sequestration and enhancing biodiversity.

At the European level, Freshfel Europe also reminds us that the EU's farm-to-table strategy and cancer plan are encouraging a shift towards more plant-based diets to help limit the impact of the food sector on climate change. Undoubtedly, stimulating fruit and vegetable production to sustain a long-term increase in fresh produce consumption levels in Europe is part of a much needed societal transformation that will make a positive contribution to the planet as well as to people's health.

**This is certainly a new angle on our business, which is also an element of pride for all of us in the business.**