

# Consultation on changes to the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) Order 2008

## Annex 1 Breakdown of Horticulture and Potato Sector Ballot results

In January and February this year levy payers triggered ballots in the Horticulture and Potato sectors and each ballot ran for four weeks. These ballots were triggered under the current legislation following valid requests from more than 5% of levy payers. The Horticulture ballot closed on 10th Feb 2021 with 61% voting “no” to the levy continuing from a 69% turnout of those entitled to a vote taking part. The ballot on the Potato levy closed on 17th March 2021. In this ballot, 66% voted “no” to the levy continuing from a 64% turnout of those eligible to vote.

### Horticulture Ballot Detailed Results

Overall, the ballot result demonstrates that the majority of levy payers who voted want change (with 61% of those who voted voting ‘no’ to the levy continuing) but the detailed picture is quite mixed. Analysis of the vote by subsector shows that the soft fruit, tree fruit and mushrooms subsectors voted to retain the levy whilst field vegetables, protected ornamentals and hardy nursery stock voted to end the levy. A breakdown of the ballot results is set out below, however for data protection reasons where data sets are too small to report individually, we have merged them with other categories.

Primary Crop	Voted YES to the levy continuing	Voted NO to the levy continuing
Field vegetables	88	161
Tree fruit	61	32
Soft fruit	44	42
Protected edibles	24	36

<b>Protected ornamentals, bulbs, and outdoor flowers</b>	45	99
<b>Hardy nursery stock</b>	43	111
<b>Non declared crops and Mushrooms **</b>	9	7

\*\* The data in these two categories is merged for data protection reasons.

## Potato Levy Ballot Detailed Results

Overall, the ballot demonstrates that the majority of levy payers who voted want change (with 66% of those that voted voting 'no' to the levy continuing). However, analysis of the vote by potato buyers and potato growers shows that smaller buyers (those buying under £5,000 in value a year) mostly voted to stop the levy, while potato growers mostly voted to stop the levy across the board. A breakdown of the ballot results is set out below, however for data protection reasons where data sets are too small to report individually, we have merged them with other bands.

<b>Potato Buyers</b>	<b>Voted YES to the levy continuing Yes</b>	<b>Voted No to the levy continuing No</b>
<b>Band A and B £10K &gt; £50K + **</b>	9	7
<b>Band C and D - £1K &gt; £10K **</b>	8	36
<b>Band E and F- £0 &gt;£1K **</b>	8	72

<b>Potato Growers</b>	<b>Voted YES to the levy continuing</b>	<b>Voted No to the levy continuing</b>
<b>Band A - 200+ Hectares</b>	18	57
<b>Band B – 100 &gt; 200 Hectares</b>	60	88
<b>Band C – 50 &gt; 100 Hectares</b>	82	134

<b>Band D – 10 &gt; 50 Hectares</b>	158	301
<b>Band E and F – 0 &gt;10 Hectares **</b>	59	99

\*\* The data in these two categories is merged for data protection reasons.