

The NFU is the largest organisation representing farmers and growers in England and Wales. We have a diverse range of over 55,000 members, from dairy farmers to potato growers and protected ornamentals – our unified voice across all sectors of agriculture gives us significant lobbying power.

The NFU recognises the importance of the growing viticulture industry in the UK and is committed to representing its interests. We have a presence in the places that matter. We are able to provide representation from local council level to Westminster and Brussels. The NFU will be leading the development of a new agricultural and horticultural policy in the wake of the Brexit decision.

Our dedicated horticulture policy team consists of specialist advisers who understand the UK horticulture industry and work on behalf of our members for a profitable and productive future for British agriculture. The NFU's experienced team of staff also specialise in all subjects of importance to growers, including the Basic Payment Scheme, employment, taxation and planning.

Being a member brings other benefits too. There are a number of discounts available to save you money on vehicles, broadband, energy and NFU Mutual insurance.



For more information about the NFU's work, our latest news and the benefits of membership, go to

www.nfuonline.com

The NFU. We're here for you.

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## THE NFU WORKING FOR VITICULTURE



# Policy and lobbying work

Only the NFU has the size and scope to work on the breadth of issues which are important to our grower members. With more members we have a stronger voice to push for change where it counts.



**Plant protection:** This is a critical issue for the viticulture industry. Some of our successes and key areas of work are:

- Fighting to protect key active ingredients through our 'Healthy Harvest' campaign.
- Ensuring decisions are made on sound science.
- Resisting the adoption of the precautionary principle and pushing for products to be licensed on a risk, as opposed to a hazard basis.

**Labour:** This is one of our main priorities in the wake of the Brexit decision. Our key areas of work are:

- Ensuring our members have reliable access to high quality seasonal labour and working to secure a new seasonal permit scheme for agricultural workers.
- Achieving measures to help mitigate National Living Wage rises such as removing National Insurance contribution for seasonal workers and increasing the accommodation offset rate.

**Taxation:** We are fighting for fair and consistent tax rules. Some of our successes and key areas of work are:

- Tax can now be averaged over five years.
- Successfully challenging the reporting of Real Time Information for harvest workers and we continue to resist changes to the PAYE legislation.
- Working to extend the Annual Investment Allowance to include infrastructure as well as plant and machinery.

**Agricultural support:** Through our work we have had some significant wins. Some of our successes and key areas of work are:

- Fighting to keep vines eligible for the Basic Payment Scheme.
- Gaining an exemption for tree cutting and pruning around vineyards.
- Ensuring vines are exempt from the 'greening' rules.
- Ensuring that the agricultural policy for the UK allows farmers and growers to trade competitively and profitably in both domestic and international markets.



#### Member services and advice

We are here to support your business when you need it. Our range of specialism is vast, and if you have a query relating to your business, the chances are that we can assist. We have our member only CallFirst service which is there to help and advise. Why spend money on expensive consultants and advisers when one phone call to our members' helpline could get you the answer you need?

Contact NFU CallFirst: **0370 845 8458** 

**Planning advice and support:** We believe this is essential for growing your business. We work with local planning authorities and can provide a letter of support for your planning application.

**Grant funding:** The NFU has helped to shape the grant scheme process, helping to ensure that as much money as possible can be directed into farming and growing businesses.

Many local NFU advisers sit on funding groups.

**NFU Employment Service:** As well as advice on employment matters, pensions and wages, we have a separate service available at a discounted rate for members which helps you manage your staff and comply with the law.

**Legal advice**: We offer legal guidance on issues which affect your business and our Legal Assistance Scheme (LAS)\* is our fighting fund, which can be used to help you out when you need it the most.

**Business guides and model clauses:** Our easy to read guides keep you up to date with the latest legislation, helping you to comply with the law. Whether it's waste, energy, transport or tax – we have a business guide which can help. We also have a number of 'model clause' documents designed as a framework for a contract, saving you money on legal fees.

\* LAS is available as an optional extra for £33 per year.

#### Discounts and benefits

**Vehicles:** We're delighted to offer NFU members discounts across many vehicle manufacturers including: Ford, Isuzu, Jaguar, Land Rover, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Toyota and Volvo. We also offer discounts on Polaris all-terrain vehicles.

**The NFU Mutual Advantage:** Enhanced benefits are available with the NFU Mutual. For more information contact your local NFU Group Secretary.

Avonline Broadband: Reliable internet is crucial for all businesses. Avonline Broadband is offering all NFU members a discount programme on their Next Generation KaSat Satellite Broadband services.

**NFU Fuelcard:** To help members reduce the cost of their petrol and white diesel, the NFU has introduced the NFU Fuelcard. This service is provided by The Fuelcard People, one of the UK's top fuel card providers.

### How to join the **NFU** as a farmer

and grower member

Contact your local NFU Group Secretary

Phone the NFU recruitment line on **0370 428 1401**. They will take your details and ask your local NFU Group Secretary to contact you.

Alternatively you can fill in the enquiry form on the website

www.nfuonline.com/membership