Equivalence of forest reproductive material produced in the United Kingdom

2020/0378(COD) - 11/03/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 617 votes to 1, with 77 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2008 /971/EC as regards the equivalence of forest reproductive material produced in the United Kingdom to such material produced in the Union.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure by taking over the Commission's proposal.

The proposal adds the United Kingdom to the list of countries for which the Union recognises the equivalence of forest reproductive material, and in particular the categories ‘source-identified’, ‘selected’ and ‘qualified’ material, with the respective material produced in the Union.

In view of the end of the transition period provided for in the Withdrawal Agreement, the United Kingdom has submitted a request to the Commission for the recognition of the equivalence, from 1 January 2021, of forest reproductive material produced in that country to such material produced in the Union in accordance with applicable Union law

The Commission has examined the relevant UK legislation and concluded that its requirements and systems in place are equivalent to those of the Union.

Following the addition of the United Kingdom to the list of countries in Annex I to Decision 2008/97/EC, imports into the Union of forest reproductive material from the United Kingdom would be authorised.