

Brussels, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Press Release

### **EFFAB's Reaction to: The Plenary Vote on the protection of animals during transport**

European Animal Breeders welcome the final recommendations adopted by the European Parliament today and acknowledge the hard work accomplished by all the members of the [ANIT Committee during the last 18 months](#). EFFAB also endorses the concerns of the Members of the European Parliament and EU citizens to improve the welfare of animals during all stages of transport.

Animal breeders put in place breeding programs to help farmers achieve their essential job of producing high quality food in the EU in the most sustainable and welfare friendly manner. This is a dynamic process that is improving every day and, is especially reflected in the [Code of Good practices for responsible and balanced breeding \(Code EFABAR\)](#). From conventional to extensive organic farming, balanced breeding aims to diligently improve animal health, welfare and sustainability of terrestrial and aquatic farming. Disseminating a variety of genetics to all type of farmers is part of the fundamental job of animal breeders.

When possible, fresh and frozen genetic material is transported locally, regionally or to further destinations both within and beyond EU borders. However, the transport of breeding animals is also needed. The ability of further limiting live animal movement is highly dependent on the reproduction technologies available and on the animals at the farm of destination. **EFFAB members strongly commit to safeguard and encourage the best animal welfare practices when it also comes to the necessary transport of breeding animals, both for short and long distances within EU and beyond.**

EFFAB will be pleased and keen to contribute to the next steps of the work that must be done by the European Commission on this important matter. **Both scientific data and practical knowledge from the field will represent an essential part of our contributions.** We must rethink current practices and invest in research and innovation that can improve reproduction techniques that allow to decrease the transport of breeding animals. The EU must continue to invest and improve research in the animal breeding and reproduction sector to reach the best outcomes for producers, consumers, and animals.

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