HORTISPAÑA urges normality in Catalonia to avoid further damage to the Spanish horticultural sector in the markets

The Member Associations of the Spanish Interprofessional Organization of Fruits and Vegetables, HORTIESPAÑA, consider it essential that normality be restored as soon as possible in Catalonia so that the sector under Spanish greenhouse does not continue to be affected by the independence movement, *which has already caused delays in shipments, breaches with customers and an important 'damage' to the image of Spain as the origin of horticultural products under greenhouse coverage of this Organization.*

HORTIESPAÑA, as an organization representing the whole sector under the greenhouse of our country, has already sent different letters to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Environment (MAPAMA), as well as to the Subdelegation of the Government in Almería and Granada, transferring its concern about this situation and the effects that it derives from the same in the sector.

The Interprofessional, which since its inception has not stopped working on improving the image and projection of national and European consumers of Spanish winter production, *is seeing how the political problems in Catalonia are damaging the overall image of Spain and the Spaniards, and therefore, that of "our products" in the international markets.*

HORTIESPAÑA requests that the Constitutional Order, Legal Security and Social Stability

> in Catalonia be restored as soon as possible, and also wants to transfer its support to the Government of Spain and to the State Security Forces and Bodies

Value of the sector

In October of 2015, the Spanish Interprofessional Organization of Fruits and Vegetables (HORTIESPAÑA) saw the light. The objective of this Organization is to bring together the entire horticultural sector under Spanish greenhouse and become the reference point for consumers, institutions and the EU itself for the defense of the sector, enhancement of its strengths and for research and investment in innovation for the sector.

> HORTIESPAÑA has launched a campaign to promote Greenhouse Crops to reach the consumer and convey the benefits of the fruits and vegetables grown in the southeast of Spain and the value of this sector, reference worldwide

Data of interest

• HORTIESPAÑA is formed by 8 associations comprising a total of 277 horticultural companies.
• The organizations that make up the Spanish Interprofessional market more than 3,080,833 tons of fruits and vegetables in greenhouse
• The economic value of its marketing is above 2.7 billion euros.
• At this moment under HORTIESPAÑA, there are 43,000 hectares of production, 19,000 farmers and 100,000 jobs, with a representation of 70% of all Spain.
• For the moment, horticulture products that are under the protection of HORTIESPAÑA are: tomato, pepper, cucumber, zucchini, eggplant, melon and watermelon, all produced under greenhouse.

Source: HORTIESPAÑA