The Minister of Agriculture highlights the good harmony between the fair Sant Miquel and Eurofruit

The Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Teresa Jordà, found this morning during the opening ceremony of the 64th edition of the Sant Miquel Agricultural Fair and the 33rd edition of Eurofruit the good harmony that exists in the present between the different administrations and the agrarian and livestock sector to work together for the rural world.

"*It is a great honor for me to be at the fair and I believe that one can not be a Minister of Agriculture without ever having passed through Sant Miquel-Eurofruit, the great meeting of professionals from the agrarian and livestock world of reference in southern Europe*" , Jordà remarked. "In fact," he continued, "I want to mention the great deployment that the DARP and the Generalitat are carrying out in this edition of both events, with the presence of numerous general directors and my stay in

Lleida during the four days that the classrooms will last." .

The head of the DARP has mentioned the actions that her department is carrying out throughout Catalonia and, especially in the counties of Lleida, to promote the value of sustainable agri-food products and food excellence; the empowerment of the proximity sale, with the organization of the Benvinguts a pagès !, the Bio Week or the decree of the sale of raw cow's milk; the organization of the management of agricultural spaces and the promotion of generational change in the sector through the future Law of Agricultural Spaces of Catalonia, or the continuation of the modernization of irrigation.

The counselor has expressed the great effort in human and material resources that the Generalitat de Catalunya is doing in the field of plant and animal health and, in this regard, has said that for several months several ministries work side by side applying control measures to prevent African swine fever from entering Catalonia.

The mayor of Lleida and president of the Board of the Fira de Lleida, Fèlix Larrosa, highlighted the work that the Paeria (City Council) is carrying out for years in L'Horta de Lleida, with investments for road maintenance, the new mobility service (taxis on demand), the collection of waste, the strengthening of citizen security, among others. He also said that a Telecommunications Plan or Digitization of the territory is being finalized and has remembered the approval with the majority support of the municipal groups of the Plan of Uses of L'Horta, which defines the future of the area, incorporates measures to promote the agricultural activity and the marketing of products (such as the "Horta de Lleida" brand), improves services and infrastructures, guarantees the quality of the environment and the landscape and reveals its heritage and socio-cultural values ??in a manner compatible with the farming.

The president of the Chamber of Commerce of Lleida and the Delegate Committee of Fira de Lleida, Joan Simó, stressed that *"the Agricultural Fair of Sant Miquel-Eurofruit contributes to the Catalan fruit sector gain prestige in markets around the world and it is a benchmark event to carry out commercial relations between the professionals of the agrarian world ".*

Simó has asked the administrations to apply effective policies that contribute to reverse the depopulation of the rural world and the aging of its population, to promote the implantation of new technologies in the field to generate new businesses, to strengthen the infrastructures in the regions of Lleida and connect with the Mediterranean Corridor, to unfold the N-240 to the Port of Tarragona and get the free toll for heavy vehicles between Les Borges Blanques and Montblanc.

The President of the Diputación de Lleida, Joan Reñé, stressed the role of Sant Miquel-Eurofruit "as a showcase for the production and marketing of agricultural land Lleida and as a meeting point for professionals in the agricultural sector." Reñé has listed various actions that the council is developing in favor of the sector, such as the almond tree experimental platform with different irrigation endowments promoted by IRTA and the provincial body, the future Veterinary Hospital

that the council is building in Torrelameu (la Noguera) or the promotion of local food consumption with the promotion of the "Food of the territory and you" campaign at the fair.

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