



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 21 May 2024
(OR. en)**

10186/24

**AGRI 426
AGRIFIN 66
AGRIORG 81**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: Difficult situation of fruit producers due to expected decline in yields caused
by unfavorable weather conditions
- Information from the Polish delegation

Delegations will find in the Annex a document on the above subject to be presented by the Polish delegation under "Any other business" at the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 27 May 2024.

Difficult situation of fruit producers due to expected decline in yields caused by unfavorable weather conditions

In the third decade of April this year, we witnessed a very sharp temperature decrease in certain parts of Europe. In Poland it occurred, among others, in regions with the largest share in the national fruit and vineyard areas. The lowest recorded temperatures reached levels in the range from - 8°C to -6°C, and the exposure time of plants to low temperature was 10-12 hours.

Due to relatively high temperatures recorded in the winter period, i.e. in January-March this year, vegetation of fruit trees and bushes accelerated by 2-3 weeks. Hence frosts occurred during the period when the plants were still in the flowering phase or were already producing fruit. The damage affected plantations of apples, plums, sweet cherries, sour cherries, raspberries, strawberries, blueberries, currants and vines.

Damage to crops is currently being assessed. According to information provided by Polish producers the losses might have reached locally even 100% of the expected harvest.

In light of the above, Poland believes the European Commission should take action to launch exceptional aid to fruit and grapevine producers affected by unfavorable meteorological conditions.
