



## Press release

# **Platform calls for dialogue with European supermarket chains because "they are being cheated"**

- **County farmers demand that "only one side should not be heard and that those who work the product should be taken into account"**
- **They claim that the solution to all the problems lies in the arrival of surface water through the already approved water transfer to the county.**
- **For the farmers, the main problem is that "the central government is not doing its job".**

**Huelva, 22 march.** The Platform in Defence of Condado's Irrigated Land has today requested "dialogue" with the 23 European supermarket chains that have sent a letter to the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno Bonilla, because, in its opinion, "they are being deceived".

The president of the Platform, Romualdo Macías, regretted that "only one side is being heard, that of the ecologists, and the voice of those who work the berries every day is not being taken into account". For this reason, he has requested a meeting with those responsible for these chains "because what they are receiving is disinformation".

The European supermarkets assure the president of the Junta de Andalucía in this letter that they seek to ensure that the products they sell "are produced in a sustainable way", with the minimum environmental and social impact, "and this is how we work in this region, always giving a hand to the environment, with pioneering companies in the installation of systems to control irrigation or the measurement of substances such as nitrate", Macías has argued.



On the other hand, the president of the Platform has indicated that "he understands that there is some concern about the approval of the bill that comes to provide a solution to 800 hectares that were lost in the region after the approval of the Special Plan of the Northern Crown of Doñana and apply the Forest Act of 92 and the POTAD" but this is because "they are listening to only one party, which is precisely interested in this change does not go ahead, giving equal or not the survival of those small farmers who are affected".

In this sense, Romualdo Macías has clarified that these historical hectares that would be recovered with the Proposition of Law, "do not have the right to water, so there is no need to fear damage to the environment" and recalled that it is necessary to work "for the arrival of surface water, with a transfer that we have approved since 2018". This is the task, he explained, "of the central government, which has to do its homework so that this water arrives for everyone, because the main problem we have is that the central government is not doing its job".

We agree," continued the president of the Platform, "that all possible measures must be put in place to guarantee long-term sustainability, as these chains indicate, and for this surface water must arrive as a matter of urgency.