

Senedd Cymru
Y Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, Amgylchedd a
Materion Gwledig
Ymgynghoriad ar effaith argyfwng
Covid-19
CCERA(5) CP 04
Ymateb gan Glebelands

Welsh Parliament
Climate Change, Environment and Rural
Affairs Committee
Consultation on the impact of the Covid-19
pandemic
CCERA(5) CP 04
Evidence from Glebelands

1) Horticulture effectively receives no support in Cymru (little in England either). General support operates at 5 ha+ which excludes a fair few medium growers (hortic. is low area but labour intensive industry). The Organic Farming scheme in its last form required 40% of registered land to be in production - impossible in a clover based, i.e. sustainable, system. I despaired that any civil servant could have been so ill-prepared to have drafted that.

2) Consultations for new Sustainable Farming Scheme are ominous. Anything featuring the word outreach prominently is not encouraging. Few growers or farmers are going to join a seemingly tortuous process with little to be gained. The preparations smack of consultation to cover for lack of ideas about what might be done. The challenges of climate change and poor market prices are well understood and the shortening timescales are also ominous. Waffly consultations send a poor signal about grasping that.