



HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF FARMERS AND WINEGROWERS

HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE (HEV)

A RESPONSE TO A MAJOR CHALLENGE FOR AGRICULTURE



High environmental value (HEV) is the highest level of a generalised scheme for the environmental certification of farms.

Farm environmental certification is a voluntary approach which aims to identify and promote particularly environmentally-friendly practices applied by farmers and winegrowers. HEV covers four key areas: biodiversity conservation, plant protection strategy, managed fertiliser use and water resource management.

In order to involve the agricultural and wine-growing sectors as a whole in an approach focused on environmental progress, its design is based on certification of the whole farm at three levels.

The third or "high environmental value" is based on performance indicators. Farm certification offers a guarantee that the presence of **factors for biodiversity** (hedges, grass strips, trees, flowers, insects, etc.) is very widespread on the farm and that the pressure applied to the environment by farming practices (on air, water, soil, climate, biodiversity and landscape) is kept to a minimum.