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Mr. Jean-Jasques Jaffrelot
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Hürth, 2010-11-19

FINOLA HEMP

Managing Director
Michael Carus
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Dear Mr Jaffrelot,

We are writing in support of the Finnish application to reinstate the subsidy status for Finola, by putting it back on the EU approved list of hemp varieties.

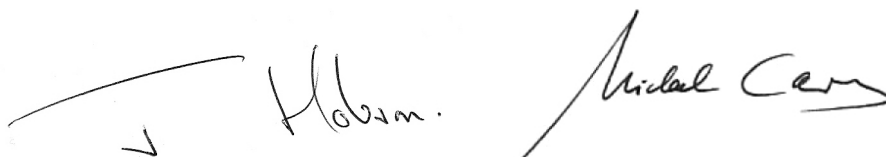
Finola was removed from this list in 2006 after some THC results were over the permitted THC level of 0.2 %. Independent government testing in Finland during 2009 and 2010 clearly demonstrates that the incorrect time of sampling was the cause of this spike in testing.

Finola is an early maturing oilseed variety, which is one of its many attributes. We are confident that Finola, when sampled at the correct time, will easily fall under the 0.2% level of THC if the sampling regulations are followed. Finola is also short strawed, which allows for easy harvesting of the grain, and its early maturation suits our Northerly European climates.

The unfair removal of this useful variety from the approved list is detrimental to the European Hemp Industry. We ask for this decision to be rescinded. We also suggest a re-evaluation and simplification of the sampling protocol, so that all EU hemp varieties can be monitored by the authorities in a way that can be applied throughout the EU in a fair and uniform manner.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further information, we very much hope you will take our request into serious consideration.

Yours Sincerely,



John Hobson
(President of EIHA)

Michael Carus
(Managing Director of EIHA)