

Biodiversity on farmland continues to decline despite specific CAP Measures: June 2020 Special Report by the European Court of Auditors

The common agricultural policy (CAP) was not effective in reversing the decades-long decline in biodiversity and intensive farming remains a main cause of biodiversity loss, according to a new report by the European Court of Auditors (ECA). The auditors found gaps in the EU 2020 biodiversity strategy and its coordination with the CAP. Moreover, the Commission's tracking of CAP spending on biodiversity is unreliable and most CAP funding has little positive impact on it. Some CAP schemes have greater potential to improve biodiversity, but the Commission and Member States favoured low-impact options. Finally, the report found that the Commission in preparing its legislative proposals (in 2011) did not deliver on its own political commitments in its Communication (in 2010).

