



15/12/2015

LIFE11 ENV/GR/942 oLIVE-CLIMA presentation in a workshop of EFSA and E.C.

The workshop “Xylella fastidiosa: knowledge gaps and research priorities for the EU” was held from 12-13 November 2015 in Brussels. This workshop, organised by EFSA in collaboration with the European Commission’s Directorates-General for Research and Innovation, Agriculture and Rural Development, and Health and Food Safety, aimed to provide a scientific environment to discuss and analyse knowledge gaps and priorities for EU research on *X. fastidiosa*. The workshop was structured through plenary sessions and four discussion break-out groups dealing with knowledge gaps and research priorities on: Surveillance and detection; Vectors identity, biology, epidemiology and control; Plants: host range, breeding, resistance and certification; Pathogen biology, genetics, typing and control. This workshop also aimed to contribute to more interaction with research groups abroad that already have experience in relevant topics, more collaboration among European research groups, and increased awareness of scientific work previously done by others.



Over 115 experts from Europe, America, Asia and Africa participated with technical presentations and active discussions. LIFE11 ENV/GR/942 oLIVE-CLIMA “Introduction of new oLIVE crop management practices focused on CLIMAtE change mitigation and adaptation” was presented by Dr G. Koubouris and Prof C. Xiloyannis through oral presentation, leaflets and discussions. Long-term experimental as well as pilot scale

With the contribution of the LIFE + financial instrument of the European Union

More details about the project available at: www.oliveclima.eu (contact environment@anatoliki.gr)

More details about LIFE+ available at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>



applications are ongoing to compare different orchard management practices and study the effects on olive trees, soil, water, weeds and microorganisms. In brief, tree pruning is modified, a mixture of legume and cereals is planted between the tree rows, compost produced from olive-mill by-products is used as soil amendment and pruning residues are recycled. Based on research experience of decades guidelines for sustainable orchard management to enhance plant health and minimise the risk of disease spread were suggested.

oLIVE CLIMA has been running for four (4) years with the contribution of LIFE + financial instrument of the European Union. During its implementation, environmental friendly practices have been applied in the fields of three pilot areas in Greece by the Farmers Organizations of PEZA, MERAMBELLO and NILEAS and under the supervision of ELGO "DEMETER" Institutes, University of Basilicata, as well as RodaxAgro. These practices contribute to long-term "storage" of carbon dioxide in the soil in the form of an increasing percentage of organic matter, hence improving fertility (e.g. by better retention of water and fertilizers) and reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions.

The fact that such a project has been running for so long and that its results are monitored by high prestige Institutes and Organizations is considered an advantage for the replication of its practices to other olive growing countries.

The cultivation practices implemented by the project comprise among others:

- Adaptation of pruning
- Pruned wood chopping and spreading to the parcels' soil
- Returning of waste water and sludge from olive mills to the parcels' soil
- Composting of organic materials and spreading to the parcels' soil
- Minimized soil tillage
- Weed biodiversity enrichment for improved soil fertility

The project's beneficiaries are:

- ANATOLIKI s.a. Development Agency of Eastern Thessaloniki's Local Authorities (Coordinating Beneficiary)
- Institute of Olive Tree, Subtropical Crops and Viticulture, ELGO "DEMETER"
- RodaxAgro Ltd.
- PEZA UNION CRETE

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- E.A.S. MERAMBELLOU
- A.S. NILEAS
- AGROTYPOS
- Department of Soil Science of Athens, ELGO "DEMETER"
- Land Reclamation Institute, ELGO "DEMETER"
- Università della Basilicata - Dipartimento delle Culture Europee e del Mediterraneo

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