



COST ACTION FA1105

Towards a sustainable and productive EU organic greenhouse horticulture

Soil fertility, Suppressiveness & Water management strategies towards sustainable and productive organic greenhouse agriculture

*International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM)
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (IAMB) -
Department of Organic Agriculture
Valenzano, Bari, Italy – 15-19 September 2014*

Objectives and participants

To train Master/PhD students and young researchers of COST network (about 30 participants with about 15 students having COST grants) on efficient, sustainable and safe fertility and water management strategies for organic greenhouse production in different pedoclimatic conditions: Mediterranean and North-European Regions.

Summary

The course will combine classroom lectures and practical training in the field. Trainees will make field surveys of organic system of production in greenhouse in both experimental field and private farms in order to identify the main constraints in soil fertility management in organic greenhouses. In addition, there will be demonstrations of sustainable water management practices to improve crop performances and the environmental footprint of the greenhouse production.

Programme

The program foresees 3 days of class activities with daily general discussions on main issues treated by lecturers, 1 day of practical activities and 1 day technical trip. Practical activities will be carried out at IAMB experimental sites (greenhouse, laboratory). Research activities carried out in the framework of BIOSEMED project on organic greenhouse production funded by Italian Ministry of Agriculture, will be described and discussed. Technical trip will show some typical organic greenhouse systems of production in the Mediterranean region.

Monday (15/09): 8:30-9:15 – Registration of the participants

9:15-9:30 Welcome at IAMB (IAMB *Director*)

9:30 - 9:50 Training in organic agriculture: the experience of IAMB - Introduction to the Training School programme (L. Al Bitar – IAMB - Italy)

9:50- 10:10 – Biogreenhouse Cost Action FA1105 - Training School on SFSWM in OGH – Participants presentation (F.G. Ceglie – IAMB - Italy)

10:10 -10:40 *Lecture:* Fertility management in OGH: principles and standards (F. Tittarelli – CRA- RPS- Rome- Italy)

11:00 – 12:45 *Lecture:* Soil fertility management in OGH: navigation among constraints (W. Voogt – Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture – Bleiswijk - Netherland)

14:30 – 15:30 *Lecture:* Commercial Organic Fertilizer characteristics and fertilizer management in intensive OGH (K. Moller – University of Hohenheim - Germany)

15:45 – 16:45 *Lecture:* Cover crops functional mixtures in OGH rotation (H. Védie – GRAB- Avignon - France)

17:00 – 18:00 - *Briefing and general discussion with the lecturers*

18:30 – 19:30 *Visiting IAMB campus – Dinner at IAMB*



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COST is supported by the EU Framework Programme



Date and Venue: 15-19 September 2014, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAIB), Via Ceglie 9, Valenzano (BA), Italy – www.iamb.it

Tuesday (16/09): 7:30 – 18:30 Farm visit day: organization of organic producers, greenhouses, nursery and logistic platform (Nova Siri , Policoro, Metaponto); social lunch at Organic Agritourism 'Valle- Rita' (Ginosa –TA).
In the afternoon: *Roundtable with organic greenhouse stakeholders.*

Wednesday (17/09) 9:00 – 10:00 - Lecture: *Organic greenhouse horticulture in Eastern Mediterranean Area, Constraints and possible solutions (R. Fares – Lebanon)*

10:30 – 13:00 Lecture: Compost and solarisation for disease prevention in OGH (J. A. Pascual CEBAS-CSIC- Murcia- Spain)

15:30 – 18:00 – Field visit: Experimental greenhouses at IAMB - (F. Ceglie – IAMB – Italy)

Thursday (18/09): 9:00 – 11:00 - Lecture: *Monitoring and Modeling Water and Nitrogen Deep Percolation Fluxes in Soils under different organic agriculture systems (A. Coppola – DICEM - University of Basilicata – Matera – Italy)*

11:30 – 13:00 – 15:00-16:45 - Demonstration activities: Techniques for monitoring soil water content and nitrate fluxes under various organic agricultural systems. (G. Dragonetti – IAMB – Italy)

17:00 – 17:30 - Briefing and general discussion with the lecturers

Friday (19/09) : 9:00-11:00 – Comparison of conventionalization and agroecological approaches of organic production in non-heated Mediterranean greenhouse for vegetable production & Practical activity: field measurement of soil nitrates concentration and nitrate leaching evaluation (F. Ceglie – IAMB – Italy)

11:30 – 12:30 Training School conclusions – Take home messages and presentation of further networking opportunities with COST actions

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Eligibility: In general, applicants must be MSc students, PhD student, or post-docs / early stage researchers, and they must be enrolled in or affiliated to an

Institution located in a country participating in this COST Action: (the list is available here:

http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/fa/Actions/FA1105?parties). The interest and/or first-hand experience of applicants should fit the topic of this training school.

Financial support: COST Action FA1105 is offering 15 places at the training school on a competitive basis. Successful applicants will be offered a grant of 300-800€ as a contribution towards the costs of travel, accommodation and meals. The exact award offered will depend on the distance to the venue as the cost of travel differs considerably across eligible countries.. Accommodation and meals will be provided on the IAMB campus at a cost of €235 for the whole school period. The whole price must be paid cash on arrival. Field trips are free of charge and social dinner is included. Please note that the grant will be paid by bank-to-bank transfer after the course has been completed.

Medical insurance: It is the responsibility of each participant to provide adequate insurance coverage (personal, travel and medical) for the whole duration of the training course and travel period.

Travel: The airport of Bari (<http://www.aeroportoipuglia.it/mappavoli/bari.html>) is located about 20 km from the Institute which can be reached by urban bus (n.16 change to n.4), metro-train (change to bus n.4 at train station) or by taxi (about 38€).

How to apply: Send a letter of application stating your interest on participating to the training school both to: ceglie@iamb.it ; albitar@iamb.it ; rob.meijer@wur.nl



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