

KIVOTOS

special edition of the AEGILOPS community

Dear members, friends and supporters,

The year of 2016 was a fruitful year, dedicated to the real quality of heritage varieties coming not only from agrobiodiversity alone, but also the creative combination of agrobiodiversity and organic farming practice in the field. This is how the grower offers genuine flavor and taste to our table, which is something beyond home-made cooking or mixing, for instance, of several different exotic species in our salad. Becoming aware of this work being done on the farm by farmers will help us understand the roots of the food process throughout the centuries and the contribution of local diverse crops and varieties to our daily nutrition and life.

Moreover, the past year revealed the vital role of the organic agricultural movement in the current economic crisis which has harmfully affected both the agricultural sector and farmers' livelihoods in the last five years. Moving towards a new restart of organics in Greece, enriched by innovation, advances in theoretical or scientific approaches and updated practical solutions will be critical for new farmers seeking their future in agriculture.

Innovation in agrobiodiversity, as it was presented during the 2nd National Organic Farming Congress held in Serres last November, fulfilled two strong wishes we had before coordination: First, that innovation is not only modern technology but a modern way to give practical solutions in the field and, secondly, that the type of innovation needed is determined by the farmer and his needs working with seeds, soil and biodiversity on the farm. On this long but not lonely journey of the farmer, seeking solutions in the field, we will always be supporters in a participatory context process, driving innovation, science and experience to the spot wherever needed with training, knowledge dissemination and networking.



This special edition of KIVOTOS Newsletter in English language, comprises some representative articles about AEGILOPS' activities of the year 2016. KIVOTOS is published in Greek three times a year thanks to October Hill Foundation (Canada) which provides crucial support for the preservation of greek agrobiodiversity and the benefit of greek seed movement.

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AEGILOPS IN THE 26th AGROTICA

Under the heavy atmosphere of rural demonstrations, AEGILOPS participated with a specifically targeted approach and a beautiful stand, in pavilion 14 at the 26th AGROTICA, International Agricultural Machinery, Equipment & Supplies Exhibition, which took place from 28th to 31st January 2016 at the HELEXPO International Exhibition Center in Thessaloniki.



Mrs Chrisa Skorditi, the President of the Union of Northern Greek Organic Farmers among AEGILOPS Board members and Executive Director

Numerous visitors, most of them farmers, scientists, and citizens of Thessaloniki, spent time at our stand, which displayed information and photographic material, seeds and exhibition products of AEGILOPS' producers group. On Saturday, January 30th, our stand hosted a meeting of AEGILOPS Producer Group and associates from Northern Greece where we discussed issues related to seed production, marketing of products and cooperation with professional groups and movements at the local and national level.

On Sunday, January 31st, in the morning, the results of the 1st Panhellenic Congress of Organic Agriculture and Livestock, held from 22 to 24 November 2015 in Paranesti Drama, were announced. The conference was organized by the Union of Northern Greek Organic Farmers in collaboration with the Municipality of Paranesti, the Paranesti Centre for Environmental Education, with the support of the alternative community «Peliti» and AEGILOPS.



The cultivation of Limnos old hard wheat variety within Aegilops network

By **Mairi Nathanailidou**

MSc Agronomist, President of Aegilops

The reintroduction of the old hard wheat variety of Limnos has been successfully achieved within the AEGILOPS Network. Currently, the Limnos variety is being cultivated on a large scale by producers of our network in central and northern Greece. Based on the findings from a study of samples collected just before harvesting and experience of our producers to date the necessary improvements and appropriate crop management recommendations will be made. In order to find the space as a crop in the field, the variety should be handled properly so as to achieve the greatest possible performance and best quality, at the same time meeting the needs and wishes of producers, processors, consumers and all friends of old varieties and ecological agriculture.



*AEGILOPS' organic
growers of Limnos hard
old wheat variety in
Northern Greece:
K. Tsantsaris,
K. Konstantinidis,
Th. Kottaridis*



Participatory evaluation of tomato heritage varieties

Ano Lechonia, 7.9.2016, LOTUS ORGANIC RESEARCH FARM



By **Kostas Koutis**
Aegilops Executive Director



On Saturday, July 9, 2016, the Eco Research Farm LOTUS, the headquarters of AEGILOPS in Ano Lechonia Volos organized a participatory evaluation field day for around 30 tomato varieties, mainly domestic and unimproved, originating from various areas of Greece and grown for either amateur or professional purposes. The evaluation included field assessment of both the plants and their fruit at the ripening stage.

Specifically, the robustness of the plants, appearance of the fruit, the yield and the taste were assessed, using a questionnaire and a visual scale rating. Also from the research, participants were asked to justify their possible choice of preference or not for specific varieties for cultivation or consumption.

The range of varieties evaluated came from the region of Thessaly (Pelion, Olympus, Larissa, Karditsa), Macedonia (Thessaloniki, Mount Athos, Drama), Achaia, Ionian, Lesvos, Chios and the Cyclades and included large fruited, mesocarp and small fruited varieties (pink, black or red), for various uses.

Research Guests

The research involved about 30 amateur and professional growers and gardeners, members and friends (young and old) of AEGILOPS. The tasting took place under the shade in the traditional farmhouse courtyard accompanied by homemade bread, pies and grilled fish and of course ample raki and wine.



COLLECTING, RECORDING AND EVALUATION OF BIODIVERSITY WITHIN AEGILOPS

By **Kostas Koutis**
Dr. Agronomist, Aegilops Executive Director

The exploitation of domestic biodiversity within the field of (ecological) agriculture requires not only the collection of seeds or genetic material and keeping them in seed banks or biodiversity conservation parks. A very important issue is also the collection and documentation of their traditional knowledge and use, the characterization and study of the material and its evaluation in a variety of climatic and geographical environments

under current farming conditions. It is vital that this layered and multifaceted procedure be implemented under a national strategic policy for the utilization of plant genetic resources and should be part of the state's infrastructure with the Gene Bank and national institutions of agricultural research playing a prominent role. But this issue should also be the duty of citizens, farmers and local communities according to their abilities. They should undertake the initiative to complement or to fulfill the task if it is insufficiently carried out by the state.

Under AEGILOPS' framework and its focal points coordination in various regions of Greece, seed collection documentation and conservation activities are carried out. Landraces, population varieties and farmer's seeds are being evaluated in an organic farming environment so that they can lead to the production of special, quality food and to help the farmers have a revenue in a niche market. Assessments and case studies are carried out in participatory schemes involving producers, professional groups, research and educational institutions, local seed saving networks and citizens groups.

In the spring of 2016, expeditions were made to the following areas for collection, recording and evaluation:

ARCADIA (Kalavryta - Lake Ladon):
Preservation of local varieties of cereals and pulses



*Arcadia:
Historical vine Pausania*

PYRGOS, PATRA, ACHAIA, AEGIO:
Preserving local vegetable varieties



*Pyrgos:
D. Zamantiras,
grower of
heritage varieties*



*Patra:
Variety of leek*

KEPHALONIA, ITHACA: Preserving local varieties of vegetables, cereals and pulses - evaluation, study



*Kephalonia Island (Ionians):
Seed exchange (Aegilops Focal Point team
with local seed savers' group «Spermo»)*

CRETE (Messara, Chania, Lasithi plateau):
Preservation of local varieties of cereals, vegetables, legumes (experimental evaluation field for durum wheat in Messara)



*Messara, Crete:
Experimental wheat field*



Ilia: Agrobiodiversity paradise

LESVOS: Conservation of local grain varieties, vegetables, legumes (durum wheat experimental evaluation field in Kalloni gulf).



Experimental wheat field in Kalloni, Lesvos

The loss of self-sufficiency

The example of Thessaly region

By **Giannis Billas ***
Teacher, organic grower

At Trikala of Thessaly region, at the water basin of Mount Koziakas and between the rural communities Kokkinos Pyrgos, Apostles, Roggia, Dipotamos and Pyrgetos, there are veins (channels) with spring water with soft flow. The veins were generated mainly from natural sources, which in time were opened up by farmers to channel rain and artesian water. This small wetland is draining the water of the area, making the soil arable, and contacting with Koumerki and Agiamonioti Rivers, which in turn are connected to tributaries of Pinios, Anapodo and Salampra. Fishes (Agades and Mylonakia), prawns, crabs, eels, otters and moorhens used to live in the wetland of these water veins until the early 80's.

At the same time, there was a local food self-sufficiency in farmers' community based on domestic animals (chickens, ducks, pigs, sheep, goats and cows) and the gardens which all local people used to hold. Moreover they were supplying their meals with fish and crayfish which were fished in the water veins and the rivers. Local agricultural communities had adjusted their lifestyle with the existing natural environment, adopting recycling practices, rotation of crops, self-sufficiency, biodiversity protection, ecology, governance, respect for the environment and input independence. They were acting in such a way possibly without knowing all these concepts.

Beyond the self-sufficiency (economic and nutritional) which animals provided to the farmers, their manure was used as fertilizer for gardens. With the remains of the gardens (from the bazaars) they used to feed their pets. At the same time, they held and exchanged local seeds, providing

a variety of flavors to their food. Pasture (grassland), gardens, crops (wheat, barley, corn, and clover) rotated at times as a practice of cultivation, which used to keep the land productive and healthy. With old wood from natural fences (made from poplars and willows) they used to heat their homes in the winter. Besides, most of them were growing a small vineyard for the joys and sorrows of everyday life.



Nevertheless, in the late 70s or the early 80s, the so called «Green Development» invaded the rural economy, a dominant element of which was the subjection of the environment and farmers to intensive production and the myth of continuous growth. Monoculture mainly of watermelons, tobacco, corn and cotton flattened every inch of agricultural land. Trees were cut down, windbreaks were destroyed, tractors were spraying herbicides, followed by the chemical fertilizer and the sowing of new hybrid seeds. The fish Agades died out, crayfish and eels disappeared, the rest of aquatic life (moorhens, otters, turtles) and birds left the veins due to the lack of food. The aquifer was filled up with nitrates. According to researches carried out by professor Nikitas Mylopoulos (University of Thessaly) 230,000 tons of fertilizer and 2,000 tons of pesticides were used in the area. As EU grants were provided abundantly, agrochemical multinationals, banks and agricultural machinery production companies were doing big business. The prices were

going down and agricultural products remained unsold. The gurus of sustainable development were trying to channel the farmers into growing GMO and biofuel crops, keeping the model of production untouched. Simultaneously farmers were counting losses. The countryside was abandoned, biodiversity is still at risk, local varieties of plants and animal breeds have been disappearing, water has been over-pumped and polluted, leading



to vertical drop of the water level. In the plains of Thessaly drilling water now reaches 350 meters depth (.....). Communities, such as «Peliti» or «Aegilops» have engaged in finding, collecting and preserving

local seeds, plants and indigenous livestock breeds and promoting small and medium farms (mostly family structure). These kind of farms are formed slowly everywhere in our country, producing quality local agricultural products, caching up from where self sufficiency was left off.



* Giannis Billas is teacher-organic farmer and lives in Trikala. He works on degrowth and direct democracy by participating in the collectivity 'Apo Koinou', see <http://apokoinou.com>. Contact: johnmpillas@gmail.com
(Text - excerpt from the book «The anthropological type of degrowth-localization» of Giannis Billas and Georgios Kolempas, Colleagues Publications)

2nd National Congress of Organic Agriculture and Livestock

12-15 November, Neo Petritsi, Serres



The 2nd National Conference of Organic Agriculture and Livestock was successfully organized by the Union of Organic Farmers of Northern Greece from 12 to 15 November in Neo Petritsi, Serres.

Co-organizers of the conference were the Network for Biodiversity and Ecology in farming «AEGILOPS», The Union of Organic Farmers of Serres and Sintiki municipality. The conference was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Macedonia-Thrace and the Central Macedonia region.

This year's conference was dedicated to the management of water resources, in order to bring together producers, consumers and all agencies involved in a discussion on the sustainable management of water resources and the importance of agriculture and organic farming.



The conference, which was attended by about 300 farmers, breeders, processors, scientists involved with the agri-food chain, and consumers, was honored by the presence of the new Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Food Mr. Tsironis, the spokesman for the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs Ms. Kolliou-Tsarouha Mary, county deputies and the local authorities. Besides the major issue of water, the weekend included issues concerning organic



AEGILOPS' Scientific Consultative Committee at the 2nd Organic Farming Congress

agriculture and livestock such as management and adaptability of local plant varieties and animal breeds in organic production and quality products, organic viticulture and organic improvement, the institutional framework on organic farming and organic seed, cottage industries and organic farmers markets. The program also made a presentation of innovative applications for organic agriculture and biodiversity within the European program «Capsella» such as implementation of modern surveillance technology of soil fertility management and the olive fly, agro-ecological approaches, ecological footprint, etc.

In the parallel events, on Saturday, November 12, the EAVVE appreciated the hospitality of the local community and invited the theatrical shape teachers from Thessaloniki «Dithiramvos ex Amaxis», who presented a free educational theatrical performance for children. Finally, on Monday, November 14, in the adjacent room there was an exhibition of written notices (posters) with a scientific interest in organic farming.

The conference honored the former directors of Gene Bank Nikos Stavropoulos and Stelios Samaras, former researcher of ETHIAGE Konstantinos Bladenopoulos and the University of Thessaly Agriculture Prof. Stella Galanopoulou- Sendouka, for their contribution to the conservation of plant genetic resources of the country.

Conclusions of the conference briefly included topics highlighting the importance of communication and synergy between people, institutions and the state for the promotion of organic agriculture, and to address the problems of organic farmers and organic breeders as well as the importance of education

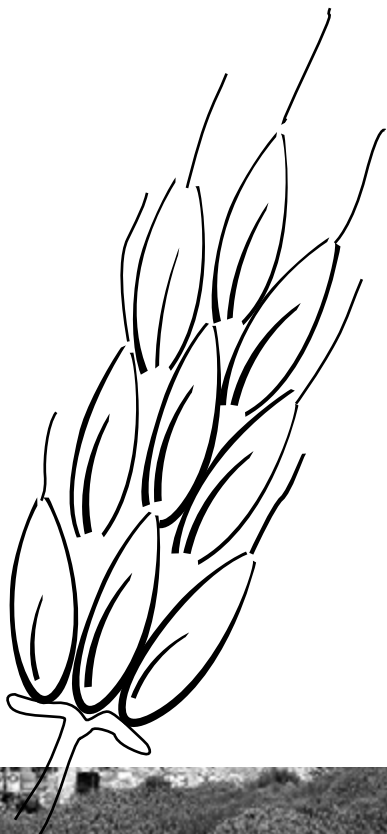
in fostering organic agriculture, collaborative and ecological consciousness, to both producers and consumers. Moreover, the need for systematic work towards the promotion of the uniqueness of the quality of organic products, particularly from traditional crops / varieties and domestic animal breeds was highlighted, and it was deemed important to find a way to highlight once again the organic agriculture as a civil movement potential and a promise for Greek agriculture and society, in the midst of economic crisis. Finally, locating the large gap in the single representation of the industry, the need emerged to reopen a Panhellenic institution for better coordination of professional organic farmers and bio-breeders.

The Union of Organic Farmers of Northern Greece and the organizers of the 2nd National Conference of Organic Agriculture and Livestock thanked warmly donors, supporters and volunteers of the conference, without whose contribution the event would have been impossible, and are already planning the 3rd National Congress of Organic Agriculture and Livestock for 2017.



SEED SCHOOL in ATTIKI

ATHENS 2-3 APRIL 2016



In cooperation with the Professional Agricultural School of SYNGROU - EPAS (in Maroussi, Athens), a school that belongs to the National Agricultural Institute ELGO Dimitra, AEGILOPS co-organized an educational two-day program on agricultural biodiversity and the conservation of traditional varieties in Athens, on 2 and 3 April 2016. The courses were held in the facilities of the Professional School EPAS.

The school was attended with free participation by a limited number of trainees (about 55), which consisted mainly of AEGILOPS members in Athens, students of EPAS, members of Athens' seed saving network, suburban garden groups, organic growers of the region around Athens, agronomists and educators.

The trainees had the opportunity to evaluate knowledge and experience on issues related to the importance and use of agricultural biodiversity theoretically and practically (by participating in interactive workshops), to share their own experiences and finally to exchange seeds.

Significant help in organizing and editing the school was the focal point of AEGILOPS in Athens (VOTANOKIPOS, Biological nurseries in Markopoulo, Attiki) and KATALACHOU (a cooperative grocery) which undertook the preparation of lunch snacks.



*Dr. Katerina Gkoltsiou
(agronomist – landscaper),
Attiki Seed School*

Specifically:

On the first day of school Dr. Kostas Koutis (agronomist, researcher) highlighted the importance of traditional crops and varieties in modern agriculture and the general wealth of our country's agricultural biodiversity. Then Dr. Fotis Bletsos (agronomist, vol. Researcher ELGO Dimitra) made detailed reference to the preservation of traditional vegetable varieties and answered many questions related to pollination, seed production and the nutritional value of tomato, cucumber, eggplant, and other vegetables.

After the break, Iosif Papanastasiou (agronomist MSc), director of Professional School of Syngrou made a short presentation of the school's activities and then conducted a guided tour of at its premises. After a beautiful short walk, instructors and trainees visited students in the field where a workshop was held by Fotis Bletsos and Maria Ioannidou (VOTANOKIPOS) concerning the organic preparation of vegetable seedbeds and another by EPAS Sygrou concerning the propagation of perennial flowers and herbs. This was followed by a tour of the impressive garden of Cactus friends operating within the EPAS.

In the evening unit, a video was shown about a seed collection expedition to Ithaca island, prepared by the AEGILOPS centre in the Ionian Islands. Then Dr. Kostas Koutis analyzed the function of formal and informal seed systems and the importance of community seed banks. He also made special reference to the need for improving institutional seed exchange and enriching community seed databases with information from evaluation

fields and traditional knowledge. There followed a presentation from seedsaving networks on activities in the Attica region and from other social groups or individuals concerned with the preservation of traditional varieties. Also emphasized was the role of citizens in biodiversity conservation under the current conditions of globalization, and also the need for participation contributing to defending farmers' rights and promoting quality food production.

During the second day, Dr. Christina Vakali talked about the relationship between biodiversity and organic agriculture and stressed the importance of soil fertility as a factor of strategic importance for the sustainable management in agriculture. Biological pest management and sustainable seed management was mentioned also by Dr. Kostas Koutis as well as seed maintenance and storage issues with emphasis on humidity factors on cereals, legumes etc. Dr. Katerina Gkoltsiou (agronomist – landscaper) described the combined approach of landscaping and biodiversity, and reported on concrete examples of landscape management with emphasis on indigenous species, varieties and sustainability.

An on farm tour followed attempting to identify biodiversity elements related to gardening, landscaping and to agro-ecosystems such as vine cultivation, fruit and olive trees where organic management was simulated. (Kostas Koutis Aik. Gkoltsiou, Chr. Vakali). The school finished with a final evaluation of the program followed by an exchange of seeds among participants.

Innovation and Research in Organic Farming

By **Christina Vakali**
Dr. Agronomist

In 2016 the most important researchers in the field of organic farming published an article in Organic Farming magazine to give a new impetus to the process of organic farming. In a multipage article they pointed out the following:

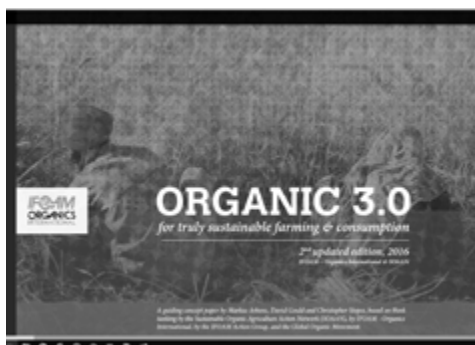
Future challenges in the production and consumption of organic food are clear: (a) the production of adequate sanitation, safe and affordable food for 9 to 11 billion people, (b) the reduction of pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from food production, processing, marketing and consumption, (c) production organization and handling of food based on renewable energy sources and recycling nutrients, (d) climate change adaptation (e) and protection of soil, water, air, biodiversity and rural landscapes. These axes were so labeled because they are considered to be those in which organic farming can demonstrate innovative solutions.

Unfortunately organic farming only manages 1% of global agricultural land and only a small percentage of the world population consumes organic food. The funds that are provided for research in organic farming are still a very small proportion of research funds provided for conventional methods. Even in Germany, which has the highest rates of research funds for organic farming, only 2% of the money given to agricultural research is devoted to organic agriculture.

Nevertheless, organic farming can and should play an important role in resolving future challenges in food production. The low level of external input in conjunction with sustainability minimize its environmental impact and can help produce more food for more people without adversely affecting the environment. Organic farming should be supported by interdisciplinary research to find both technical and socio-economic solutions to current agricultural issues. The main challenges of the future can only be overcome by a participatory approach, with emphasis on the producer's participation.

To upgrade the «organic» solutions, production needs to be improved. Yields per hectare can be increased in the majority of the world's farming systems by improving management and best agricultural practices. Organic food production needs to be converted from a system with low input and low yields into a system with low external input and medium yields. Furthermore, it should be linked to the consumption of local food.

Organic agri-food systems should be developed that will show greater resilience to extreme weather and climate change. Furthermore, the integration of biodiversity as an integral part of the agri-food cluster should be improved. There is also a need to improve the efficient use of nutrients and methods of pest and pathogen life cycle controls.





There is also a great need for education about food production, healthy eating and sustainable lifestyle and over-consumption of food. Similarly, a fair distribution of high-quality food at reasonable prices is a critical issue for organic farming. Organic products should be accessible to everyone, while maintaining the standards of production at a high level. Organic farming cannot rely only on the improvement of agricultural practices, but should be a model for sustainability and healthy food systems both locally and globally. There is an urgent need to identify directions for developing these models, and with the help of innovative research, the organic sector has the opportunity to produce innovative work.

In the second national organic farming conference held in Petritsi, Serres on 12. - 15. 11.2016 by the Association of Organic Farmers in North Greece, emphasis was placed on innovation, with four proposals from agronomists Gkissaki Vassili, Guidotti Diego and Christina Vakali. The recommendations concerned the ecological footprint, the application of new technologies in agriculture, the application field of soil evaluation protocol and the monitoring and control method of the olive fly from Tuscany, Italy. European innovation awards for 2016 were also presented, awarded by the largest organizations of the biological sphere (farmknowledge.org, sito.entecra.it, AssureWel etc.). The presentations are already accessible on AEGILOPS' website (www.aegilops.gr).



Innovation presentation in 2nd Organic Farming Congress (Dr. C. Vakali, Dr V. Gkissakis, Dr. D. Guidotti)



AEGILOPS IN 16th NATIONAL PLANT BREEDING CONGRESS

Florina, 28-30 of September 2016

By **Kostas Koutis**
Aegilops Executive Director

In September 2016, in the town of Florina, the Greek Scientific Plant Breeding Society organized its 16th National Congress.

The title of the conference was:

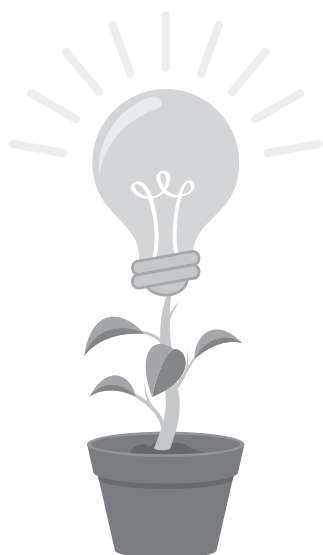
The contribution of plant breeding to the exit from the economic crisis



The objective of the 16th conference was to highlight the importance of plant breeding especially in the current critical economic situation and the contribution to the development of sustainable and competitive agriculture in a highly changing environment. In addition, the conference aimed to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge on the most modern genetic improvement innovation issues in modern agriculture, protection of plant genetic resources, etc.,

At the conference, two written announcements (posters) were presented on behalf of AEGILOPS.

Additionally, at the round table that followed, which focused on «Survey Results and Entrepreneurship», Kostas Koutis (Dr. agronomist, AEGILOPS) gave a presentation on the role of seed savers in the conservation of agricultural biodiversity to the members of the scientific community and members of seed producers' associations. He also stressed the importance of the contribution of the informal seed systems to the «national seed production system» and the creation of appropriate domestic varieties for low input agriculture and organic farming conditions.



The papers presented at the conference on behalf of AEGILOPS were:

1 K. Koutis, Ch. Vakali, M. Nathanailidou, K. Tsinganou, P. Tsigou, E. Psomoulia T. Kotsakou and N. Stavropoulos

«In situ conservation and participatory evaluation – organic breeding of domestic agricultural biodiversity by the non-governmental organization AEGILOPS»

2 K. Koutis, Ch. Vakali, St. Hadjigeorgiou, E. Korpetis

“Evaluation of local unimproved varieties of durum wheat (*Triticum durum*) for adaptability in organic farming conditions in Crete”

We publish the summary of this (second) work:

Summary

In Crete, as throughout Greece, a number of domestic hard wheat varieties were cultivated until early after the WWII (50s), utilizing the particular soil and climatic conditions of Crete and meeting the local traditional culinary needs and habits of the island (baking bread etc.). The survey was conducted in 2015 and aimed to assess durum (*Triticum durum*) wheat varieties, for integrated organic and low-input farming systems producing high quality products. Seven durum wheat varieties were tested in completely randomized groups (RCBD), experimental design (four Cretan populations, the traditional variety Lapsitsa, the old variety Limnos and the commercial variety Sifnos for comparison) under organic farming conditions. Significant agronomic resilience characteristics in organic conditions were recorded and also flour quality characteristics of the final product (protein, gluten index). The results of the survey revealed that some durum wheat varieties, among all genotypes tested, showed resilience characteristics in organic farming conditions, good bakery quality and can be used either as reintroduced populations in local growing conditions or beyond that, in breeding programs to produce commercial varieties and propagating material. Particularly, the survey showed that, in general, the local Cretan populations have adaptability to organic farming and also the soil/climatic conditions of Crete. At least two of them had higher yield compared with all other varieties. The population CRETE 13 showed superiority regarding the quality of the final product (higher protein percentage and better gluten index).

Training manuals

Within the Institution of AEGILOPS Seed Schools we issued the publication (in greek) of the first two training manuals in 2016 and a third in 2017 aimed at disseminating knowledge and creating modern, practical information for both the movements of ecological agriculture and biodiversity conservation in Greece. The first manual is dedicated to ancient or hulled wheat, the second to agricultural biodiversity and the third to the heritage vegetable varieties. A fourth manual about soil health and fertility is in press for 2017. The 16 pages information content of the Training Manuals of AEGILOPS' Seed School is the prior experience and knowledge derived not from literature but from personal experience (scientific and practical of AEGILOPS network). This knowledge will be updated, improved and continually enriched as the freedom of ideas is guaranteed and also the freedom of farmer's seed for the benefit of the citizens of the world.

The use of information contained in the Manuals is free as long as the source is acknowledged. (To contact us and receive more information about manuals, please use the electronic address: greekseedschool@aegilops.gr)



Become members of Aegilops and participate actively in our actions:

By participating as members of Aegilops, you actively support the protection and conservation of agrobiodiversity and organic farming in our country. You can also get seeds of local varieties preserved by our network, for experimentation and testing, from our Focal Points and from various feasts and meetings of the organization where seed exchanges and donations are made.

More info

www.aegilops.gr

and facebook

 [aegilops](https://www.facebook.com/aegilops)