



International Conference

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR AGROBIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION

1st-3rd June 2017, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

Conclusions: International Scientific Conference
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR AGROBIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION

The conference **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR AGROBIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION** was held on the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad, Serbia, from 1st to 3rd June 2017. The conference was organized by the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Serbia, in collaboration with the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Faculty of Agrobiology and Food Resources; M. M. Gryshko National Botanical Garden of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; and Center for Organic production, Selenča, Serbia. Link to the conference website: <http://oaap.polj.uns.ac.rs/>

Organic agriculture is recognized as a sustainable system which not only produces high quality food but also takes care of human and animal health, well-being, as well as biodiversity preservation and environmental protection. This production system is increasing in importance worldwide due to challenges of food security, climate change and resources overuse, but also it has economic perspective for farmers, producers, processing industry, trade, and other players on local, regional and global market.

In order to contribute to development of organic agriculture and agrobiodiversity preservation, the aim of the conference was to present the latest results research from different areas of organic farming and biodiversity (organic plant production, organic production and soil quality, organic livestock production, agricultural system interaction, food quality and safety, socio-economic aspects of organic agriculture), as well as connection of researchers, exchange ideas and gain knowledge.

The Conference topics / sessions were:

- 1. Organic plant production, soil quality and agro-biodiversity;*
- 2. Agricultural systems interactions;*
- 3. Organic livestock production for agro-biodiversity preservation;*
- 4. Organic agriculture for climate change mitigation and ecosystem preservation;*
- 5. Food quality and safety;*
- 6. Socio economic aspects of organic agriculture and agro-biodiversity.*

During the opening ceremony, the Conference participants were welcomed by:

- **Prof. Dr. Maja Manojlović**, President of the Scientific Committee, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad
- **Prof. Dr. Branko Ćupina**, Vice Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad
- **Prof. Dr. Jan Gažo**, Vice Dean, Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
- **Prof. Dr. Nataliia Zaimenko**, Director, M. M. Gryshko National Botanical Garden of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
- **Prof. Dr. Branka Lazić**, Emeritus, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad
- **Prof. Dr. Svetlana Mihić**, Provincial Secretariat for Science and Technological Development
- Representative of the Provincial Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry

Plenary lectures were given by:

- **Prof. Dr. Ewa Rembiałkowska**, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Poland: *Organic production can increase biodiversity of rural landscape and human nutrition*
- **Prof. Dr. Franc Bavec**, University of Maribor, Slovenia: *Importance of functional biodiversity on the fields and how to support it*
- **Prof. Dr. Sabine Zikeli**, University of Hohenheim, Germany: *Organic Farming – A Benefit for Biodiversity in Agroecosystems*
- **Prof. Dr. Paola Migliorini**, University of Gastronomic Science, Bra, Italy: *Agrobiocultural diversity in organic farming: results from different studies in Italy*

After the opening ceremony, the Center for Organic production Selenča, with a representative Jozef Gašparovski, organized an exhibition with degustation of organic products for the participants of the conference.

After the working part of the conference on the first day, it was organized visit to the Petrovaradin fortress, Sremski Karlovci and experimental fields of the Department for fruit growing viticulture, horticulture and landscape architecture in Sremski Karlovci, where participants enjoyed the wine tasting and dinner.

Within the one day field trip/excursion, the participants of the conference visited the biggest organic milk company in Europe, which is located in Čurug. The participants were welcomed by Saša Vitošević, CEO, who presented the work of Global Seed Company, and led guests on a tour around organic milk farm and fields under organic plant production.

The conference was attended by **95** scientists from **18** countries (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Lithuania, Macedonia, Hungary, Moldova, Germany, Polish, Czech, Ukraine, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, and Turkey). Of the total participants, **33** were from abroad and **62** from Serbia.

During the conference, **97** contributions were presented, **32** as oral and **65** as poster presentations. In the book of abstracts **109** abstracts were published, prepared by the **357** researchers from **22** countries (apart from the mentioned, Norway, Belarus, Israel and Iran).

All submitted abstracts for the conference have been published in:

- **Book of Abstracts, CIP: 631.147: 574 (048.3), ISBN: 978-86-7520-398-8**
- Selected works will be published in a **special issue of the journal Contemporary Agriculture** after the conference.

Topics of the presented research cover different fields and aspects of organic agriculture. The largest number of papers presented in Section 1 (39), Section 2 (23) and Section 5 (11).

This, the first scientific international conference on organic agriculture in Serbia and third on agrobiodiversity confirmed a high importance of organic agriculture production for agrobiodiversity and ecosystem preservation; economic perspectives for farmers, producers, processing industry, trade, and other players; and overall sustainability.

Prof. Dr. Maja Manojlovic,

President of the Scientific Committee

Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad