

ISOFAR / MOAN Symposium
Soil Fertility and Crop Nutrition Management in Mediterranean
Organic Agriculture

March 23 – 25, 2010 - Sousse (Tunisia)

Organic Agriculture has experienced a rapid expansion in recent years, with continued growth globally and in the Mediterranean region, where it offers sustainable development opportunities and initiatives. Organic Farming aims for closed nutrient cycles. Soil quality is a key indicator of sustainability in land management. Given the specific conditions of arid and semi-arid regions and the production of more than one crop per year, the management of soil fertility in Mediterranean countries is a critical issue in Organic Farming.

This symposium was jointly organized by:

- International Society of Organic Agricultural Research (ISOFAR)
- Mediterranean Organic Agriculture Network (MOAN)
- Technical Center of Organic Agriculture (CTAB)

The symposium was opened by the President of Sousse University with the presence of the President of ISOFAR, the representative of MOAN, the Director of CTAB and the regional directors of research, academic and professional training institutions.

Fifty participants from eleven countries (France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lybia, Morocco, South Korea, Spain, Sudan and Tunisia) attended this symposium and presented 26 oral communications and 19 posters during the first two days on various topics: soil fertility, organic matter management, organic wastes, compost, compost tea, organic commercial fertilizers, biological activity, crop rotation, long term experiments, products' quality etc.....

One day excursion was organized to visit two farms (production and packaging of aromatic plants and production of olives and almonds) and historical Roman and Islamic monuments.

This symposium offered a great opportunity for all participants to learn, exchange information and discuss innovations in the field of soil fertility and crop fertilization. It represented the occasion to giving due worth to the biodiversity of experiences and constituted a moment for reflection and study, as well as the chance for the development of Organic Agriculture in Mediterranean area.

For the Organizing Committee
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