

**15 th International Meeting of the FAO-CIHEAM Subnetwork on Mediterranean Forages and Fodder Crops**  
**"Ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits of Mediterranean grasslands"**  
(Orestiada, Greece, 12-14 April 2016)

**MEETING PROGRAMME**

**Day 1 - 12 April 2016**

08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony	
<b>09:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>Introductory Session</b>	<b>Chairperson:</b> <i>Alain Peeters</i> , Coordinator FAO-CIHEAM Network on Pastures and Fodder Crops (Belgium)
09:30 – 10:00	Greece's grazing/ forage resources for livestock production	<i>T.G. Papachristou</i> , Forest Research Institute (Greece)
10:00 – 10:15	Overview on grassland and farming systems in Evros regional unit	<i>A.P. Kyriazopoulos</i> , Democritus University of Thrace (Greece)
10:15 – 10:45	Ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits of Mediterranean grasslands	<i>E. Varela</i> , CREDA (Spain)
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break	
<b>11:15 – 13:30</b>	<b>Session 1. Managing ecosystem services and livestock production in the Mediterranean region</b>	<b>Chairperson:</b> <i>Carlos Ovalle</i> , Instituto de investigaciones Agropecuaria, CRI-La Cruz (Chile)
11:15 – 11:45	Methods and approaches used for assessing ecosystem services provided by grazing systems	Guest speaker – <i>P. D'Ottavio</i> , Università Politecnica delle Marche (Italy)
	<u>Short oral presentations</u>	
11:45 – 12:00	The use of cattle grazing as a management tool for sustainable Mediterranean woodlands	<i>I. Schoenbaum</i> , Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel)
12:00 – 12:15	Functional classification by NIRS of plant parts selected by sheep on a shrubby rangeland	<i>M. Jouven</i> , Montpellier SupAgro (France)
12:15 – 12:30	Historical development and future perspective of conservation agriculture practices in crop-pasture rotation systems in the Mediterranean region of South Africa	<i>P.A. Swanepoel</i> , Stellenbosch University (South Africa)
12:30 – 12:45	Diet selection of grazing goats in an oak silvopastoral system in Northern Greece using a Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation	<i>T. Manousidis</i> , Democritus University of Thrace (Greece)
12:45 – 13:00	The rates of desirable grazing plant species in rangelands: the effect of different animal species and grazing pressures	<i>F. Uzun</i> , Ondokuz Mayıs University (Turkey)
13:00 – 13:30	Session 1. Discussion and synthesis	
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>15:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Session 2. Improvement of range, pasture and forage species including alternative uses</b>	<b>Chairperson:</b> <i>Eleni M. Abraham</i> , Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)
15:00 – 15:30	Improvement of pasture and forage legumes and grasses for Mediterranean climate zones	Guest speaker – <i>P. Nichols</i> , Western Australia Dep. of Agriculture and Food (Australia)
	<u>Short oral presentations</u>	
15:30 – 15:45	Effects of plant development phases on some morphological, agronomical and chemical traits of <i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i> genotypes	<i>Z. Acar</i> , Ondokuz Mayıs University (Turkey)
15:45 – 16:00	Annual clovers performance in a dairy cows grazing system compared to perennial ryegrass	<i>A. Botana</i> , Instituto da Calidade Agroalimentaria (Spain)
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break	
16:30 – 16:45	Study of productivity pattern over 3 years of some annual grass and legume fodders carried as pure and as mixture in rainfed cereal based system in Algerian semiarid area	<i>K. Abbas</i> , INRAA (Algeria)
16:45 – 17:00	Antioxidant compounds and nutritional quality of eight Tunisian populations of echinus medic ( <i>Medicago ciliaris</i> L.)	<i>A. Zoghلامي Khéllil</i> , INRAT (Tunisia)
17:00 – 17:15	Forage potential of <i>Piptatherum miliaceum</i> (L.) Coss (smilo grass)	<i>C. Porqueddu</i> , ISPAAM-CNR (Italy)
17:15 – 17:30	Productivity of alfalfa cultivars in dryland Mediterranean environments of central Chile	<i>C. Ovalle</i> , Instituto de investigaciones Agropecuaria (Chile)
17:30 – 18:00	Session 2. Discussion and synthesis	
<b>18:00 - 19:30</b>	<b>A Thracian evening (taste of wine, local cheese and Kavourmas - cured meat)</b>	

## Day 2 - 13 April 2016

**08:00 – 18:00** *Mid-Meeting technical tour, to visit three contrasted areas in the Evros region: (i) the Dadia-Lefkimi-Soufli Forest National Park, one of the most important Greek protected areas at national and international scale in terms of floristic and faunistic biodiversity. The landscape mosaic is formed by pine and oak forests, grasslands and fields and is the ideal habitat for birds of prey; (ii) the semimountainous area of Megalo Dereio, with traditional livestock farming systems (goats mainly) based on grazing at grasslands and woodlands; and (iii) an artificial pasture grazed by sheep.*

## Day 3 - 14 April 2016

### 09:00 – 11:00 Session 3. Socio-economic benefits of sustainable grassland management

**Chairperson:** *Magali Jouven*, Montpellier SupAgro (France)

09:00 – 09:30 Overlooked benefits and services of grasslands to support policy reform

Guest speaker – *M. Louhaichi*, ICARDA (Jordan)

#### Short oral presentations

09:30 – 09:45 Investigation of socio-economic factors affecting sustainable rangeland use

*C. Cevher*, Field Crops Central Research Institute (Turkey)

09:45 – 10:00 Mapping the diachronic changes of stocking rates in a Mediterranean rural area of North Greece

*D. Chouvardas*, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)

10:00 – 10:15 Characteristics of lowland grasslands used in transhumant sheep systems of Marche region (Central Italy)

*K. Budimir*, Università Politecnica delle Marche (Italy)

10:15 – 10:30 The multifunctional pastoral systems in the Mediterranean EU and impact on the workforce

*A. Ragkos*, Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki (Greece)

10:30 – 11:00 Session 3. Discussion and synthesis

11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

### 11:30 – 13:30 Session 4. Rehabilitation of Mediterranean grasslands

**Chairperson:** *Pieter Swanepoel*, Stellenbosch University (South Africa)

11:30 – 12:00 Rehabilitation of Mediterranean grasslands

Guest speaker – *Z. Henkin*, Agricultural Research Organization (Israel)

#### Short oral presentations

12:00 – 12:15 Effect of microtopography on the early plant community dynamics following overseeding for the rehabilitation of a Mediterranean silvopastoral system

*A. Franca*, ISPAAM-CNR (Italy)

12:15 – 12:30 The effect of grazing exclusion on vegetation characteristics and plant community structure in arid lowland pastures

*S. Hassan*, ICARDA (Jordan)

12:30 – 12:45 Rangeland rehabilitation using rainwater harvesting and rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis* L.) transplantation in the Southeast of Morocco

*A. Homrani Bakali*, National Institute for Agricultural Research (Morocco)

12:45 – 13:00 Floristic diversity of the understory in *Pinus brutia* plantations as affected by elevation and grazing intensity

*K.A. Margioulas*, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)

13:00 – 13:30 Session 4. Discussion and synthesis

**13:30 – 15:00 Lunch**

### 15:00 – 17:30 Round Table – Connecting research, policy and stakeholders challenges for the sustainability of grasslands

**Chairperson:** *Antonio Lopez-Francos*, CIHEAM (Spain)

Panellists:

*S. Ates*, ICARDA, Jordan

*D. Bakaloudis*, Dadia-Lefkimi-Soufli Forest National Park, Greece

*I. Hadjigeorgiou*, Agricultural University Athens, Greece

*Y. Kazakova*, European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism, Bulgaria

*C. Paraschoudis*, Sheep and goat farmer union of Evros, Greece

*C. Roukos*, Ministry of Rural Development and Food, Regional Department of Epirus, Greece

*D. Skartsi*, WWF, Greece

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30 – 17:30 Round table discussion

### 17:30 – 18:30 Business meeting of the Subnetwork and poster awards

**Chairperson:** *Claudio Porqueddu*, CNR-ISPAAM, Coordinator of the FAO-CIHEAM

18:30 Close of the meeting

Sub-Network on Mediterranean Forage Resources, ITALY

**21:00 – ? Official Dinner**