



**14th MEETING OF THE FAO-CIHEAM  
SUB-NETWORK ON MEDITERRANEAN PASTURES  
AND FODDER CROPS**



## **New Approaches for Grassland Research in a Context of Climate and Socio-Economic Changes**

Samsun (Turkey), 3-6 October 2012

Organised by:

Agricultural Faculty – Ondokuz Mayıs University

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza – International Centre for Advanced  
Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (IAMZ-CIHEAM)



## **Third Circular**

[www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012](http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012)



## Background and objectives of the Meeting

Grassland-based systems are no longer seen exclusively as livestock production enterprises but as multiple use systems with important consequences for the global environment. They are crucial for the protection of ecosystem goods and services, for tourism and for mitigating climate change. Well-managed grasslands provide important benefits such as increased water infiltration and retention or improved nutrient cycling, associated with organic matter accumulation in the soil, as well as increased plant growth and diversity of species. Thereby grassland management is also an adaptation strategy for climate change, as it reduces the risks associated with prolonged drought periods and unreliable rains that characterise Mediterranean regions. There is an urgent need to assess the interaction between climate change and grasslands to identify appropriate options that can help farmers to manage forage resources under increasing drought conditions and market globalisation. The challenge is then to improve grassland productivity, pasture persistence and resilience under these constraints. Scientific advances in grassland management and new strategies in plant improvement may undoubtedly contribute to this aim.



The FAO-CIHEAM Inter-regional Cooperative Research and Development Sub-Network on Mediterranean Pastures and Fodder Crops organises, together with the Agricultural Faculty of the University of Ondokuz Mayıs (Turkey), its 14th Meeting titled “New approaches for grassland research in a context of climatic and socio-economic changes”. The Meeting will bring together scientists and specialists from countries of the Mediterranean regions, to present studies and to discuss research strategies and experiences allowing to face current challenges in grassland management.

## Organisation and venue

The Meeting is organised by the Agricultural Faculty of the Ondokuz Mayıs University ([www.omu.edu.tr/a/en/homepage](http://www.omu.edu.tr/a/en/homepage)), and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza from the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (IAMZ-CIHEAM, [www.iamz.ciheam.org](http://www.iamz.ciheam.org)), with the collaboration of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)).



The venue of the Meeting will be the Congress Hall of the University of Ondokuz Mayıs, located at the University campus. A bus shuttle will be provided by the meeting organization from Samsun airport to the University campus, where the Meeting venue and the hotel are located, scheduled in coordination with the arrival of the main flights from Istanbul and Ankara. For the organisation of this service, ***please send your flight information (arrival and departure dates and hours, airline company, flight no.) to: [zekiacr@gmail.com](mailto:zekiacr@gmail.com)***.



## Organising Committee

*President:* Claudio Porqueddu  
(Coordinator FAO-CIHEAM Sub-Network on  
Mediterranean Forage Resources; CNR-  
ISPAAM, Italy)  
*Local organizer and convenor:* Zeki Acar  
(Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)  
*General secretary:* Antonio López-Francos  
(IAMZ-CIHEAM)  
*Local secretary:* Ilknur Ayan  
(Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)

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Ozlem O. Asci (Ordu Univ., Turkey)  
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Mehmet Can (Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)  
Sedat Arslan (Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)  
Fatih Kumbasar (Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)

## Scientific Committee

Dr. Claudio Porqueddu (CNR-ISPAAM, Italy)  
Dr. Zeki Acar (Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey)  
Dr. Esvet Acikgoz (Uludag Univ., Turkey)  
Dr. Esen Celen (Ege Univ., Turkey)  
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Dr. Hasan Ozcan (Black Sea Agricultural  
Research Institute, Turkey)  
Dr. Huseyin Ozpinar (Aegean Agricultural  
Research Institute, Turkey)  
Dr. Serkan Ates (ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria)

## Sponsors

Ondokuz Mayıs University  
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza  
Black Sea Agricultural Research Institute  
Fitó Seed Company



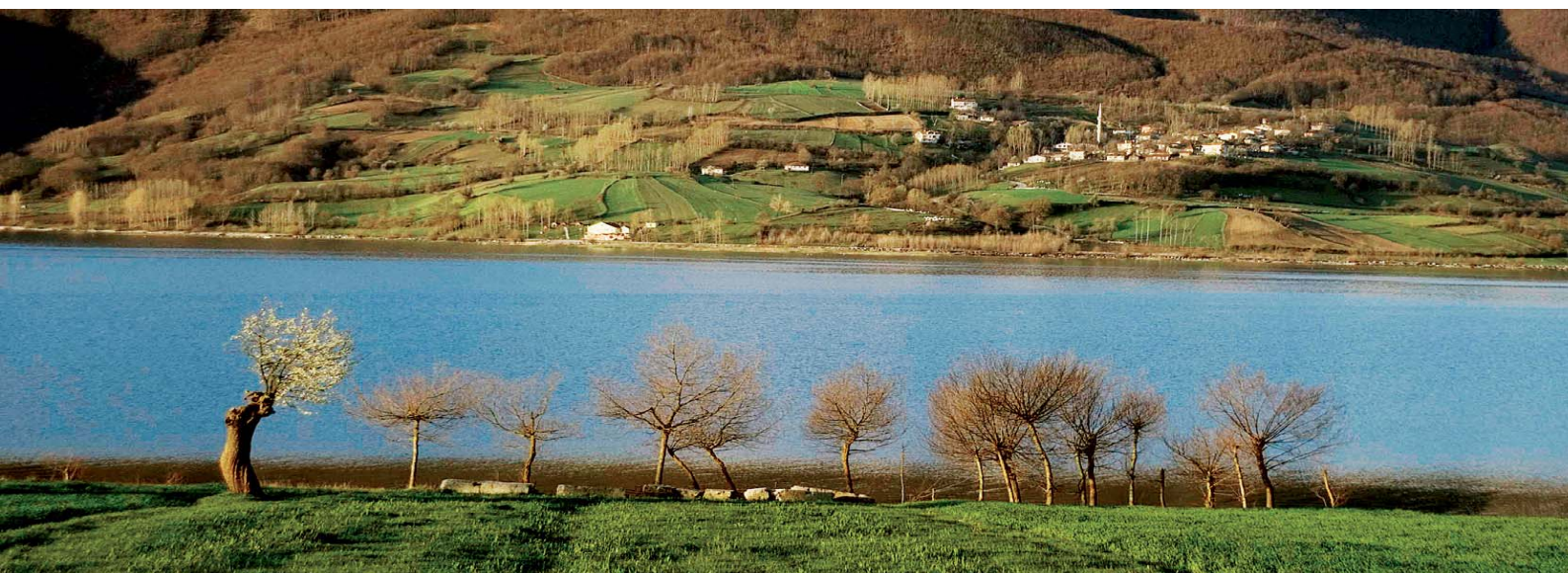
## Scientific Programme

### Day 1: 3 October 2012

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:45 Opening ceremony
- 09:45 – 10:35 Introductory Session**
- Overview on grassland and farming systems in Turkey – *A. Koc, Ataturk Univ., Turkey*
- Overview on grassland and farming systems in Samsun area – *Z. Acar, Ondokuz Mayıs Univ., Turkey*
- Reform of the CAP: Progress for grasslands and livestock farming? – *A. Peeters, RHEA, Coordinator FAO-CIHEAM Network on Pastures and Forage Crops*
- 10:35 – 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00 – 12:30 Session 1. Climate change and grasslands: Impacts, adaptation and mitigation**
- Chairperson – *A. del Pozo, Univ. of Talca, Chile*
- 11:00 – 11:30 Guest speaker – *A. Hopkins, GES Consulting, United Kingdom*
- 11:30 – 12:30 Short oral presentations
- Developing a coherent monitoring system for Mediterranean grasslands – *M. Louhaichi, ICARDA, Syria*
- Grassland management options under Kyoto Protocol Article 3.4. The Portuguese case study – *T. Valada, IST-Technical Univ. of Lisbon, Portugal*
- Production and persistence of Mediterranean perennial grasses under contrasting climatic scenarios – *F. Volaire, CEFÉ, INRA-CNRS, France*
- Influence of water deficit on growth parameters of perennial grass species – *M. Karatassiou, Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece*
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch**
- 14:00 – 15:00 Session 1 (cont.)**
- 14:00 – 14:30 Session 1. Posters viewing
- 14:30 – 15:00 Session 1. Discussion and synthesis
- 15:00 – 18:30 Session 2. Selection of pasture and forage species under climate and socio-economic changes**
- Chairperson – *F. Volaire, CEFÉ, INRA-CNRS, France*
- 15:00 – 15:30 Guest speaker – *M. Norton, NSW DPI, Australia*
- 15:30 – 17:00 Short oral presentations
- Quality and dry matter yield of Triticale forage in winter and late-spring in southwestern Spain – *S. Rodrigo, Univ. of Extremadura, Spain*
- Performance of some tall fescue varieties grown under Algerian semi arid conditions – *M. Mefti, Univ. of Blida, Algeria*
- Bio-agronomic traits of *Psoralea bituminosa* and *P. morisiana* accessions collected in Sardinia – *C. Porqueddu, CNR-ISPAAM, Italy*
- Variation in seed yield and morphological traits in Turkish grass pea (*Lathyrus sativus*) genotypes – *U. Basaran, Bozok Univ., Turkey*
- Agronomic evaluation and selection of introduced accession of *Vicia narbonensis* L. under Tunisian climate – *A. Zoghalmi, INRAT, Tunisia*
- Messina (*Melilotus siculus*), a new annual pasture legume for Mediterranean-type climates with high tolerance of both salinity and water logging – *P. Nichols, Western Australia Dep. of Agriculture and Food, Australia*
- 17:00 – 17:30 Coffee break
- 17:30 – 18:00 Session 2. Posters viewing
- 18:00 – 18:30 Session 2. Discussion and synthesis
- 20:00 Welcome reception** at the garden of the Black Sea Agricultural Research Institute (*shuttles will depart from Tepe Hotel at 19:15*)

Day 2: 4 October 2012

**Mid-Meeting technical tour**, to visit two contrasted areas in the province of Samsun: (i) the Kizilirmak Delta, a wetland ecosystem where rich natural habitats coexist with grazing livestock (mainly, sheep, cattle and water buffaloes) and intensive cropping, and (ii) the mountainous area of Ladik, with traditional animal husbandry systems based on forage resources of different types (valley meadows, forest and alpine pastures).



Day 3: 5 October 2012

**09:00 – 11:45      Session 3. Role and management of permanent grasslands**

Chairperson – *L. Sulas, CNR-ISPAAAM, Italy*

09:00 – 09:30      Guest speaker – *C.O. Sabanci, Ahi Evran Univ., Turkey*

09:30 – 10:30      Short oral presentations

Effects of soil microtopographic gradients on the floristic composition of two intensively grazed nearby pastures, a stabilized SBPPRL and an old semi-natural annual pasture – *C. Aguiar, CIMO, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança, Portugal*

Effects of juniper encroachment on herbage production and biodiversity in a natural grassland: Preliminary results – *A. Kyriazopoulos, Democritus Univ. of Thrace, Greece*

Effect of herd mobility on the species composition and productivity of plant communities in the northern Mediterranean region of Morocco – *Y. Chebli, INRA Tanger, Morocco*

Effects of grazing on the traits of a potential fire in a Sardinian wooded pasture – *A. Franca, CNR-ISPAAAM, Italy*

10:30 – 10:45      *Coffee break*

10:45 – 11:15      Session 3. Posters viewing

11:15 – 11:45      Session 3. Discussion and synthesis

**11:45 – 12:15      Session 4. Changes in Mediterranean farming systems to meet new socio-economic scenarios**

Chairperson – *E. Acikgoz, Uludag Univ., Turkey*

11:45 – 12:15      Guest speaker – *A. Nezfaoui, ICARDA, Tunisia*

**12:15 – 13:45      Lunch**

- 13:45 – 15:45**     **Session 4 (cont.)**
- 13:45 – 14:45     Short oral presentations
- An evaluation of overall fodder production in extensive silvopastoral systems with different cover of shrub understory. The case of Iberian dehesas – *G. Moreno, Univ. of Extremadura, Spain*
- Impacts of climate change on the small ruminants farming systems in north western Tunisia and adaptation tools – *A. Brahmi, ESA Kef and INAT, Tunisia*
- Determination of the socio-economic factors that affect the sustainable pasture management in central Anatolia region of Turkey – *C. Cevher, Field Crops Central Research Institute, Turkey*
- The effect of economic crisis on sheep farming systems: a study case in the north Evros region, Greece – *T. Manousidis, Democritus Univ. of Thrace, Greece*
- 14:45 – 15:15     Session 4. Posters viewing
- 15:15 – 15:45     Session 4. Discussion and synthesis
- 15:45 – 16:00     *Coffee break*
- 16:00 – 17:30**     **Round Table – Mediterranean grassland research: Priorities and future challenges**
- Chairperson – *C. Porqueddu, CNR-ISPAAM, Italy*
- Panellists:
- S. Ates, ICARDA, Syria*
- P. Nichols, Western Australia Dep. of Agriculture and Food, Australia*
- G. Moreno, Univ. of Extremadura, Spain*
- A. Kyriazopoulos, Democritus Univ. of Thrace, Greece*
- A. del Pozo, Univ. of Talca, Chile*
- 17:30 – 18:30**     **Final Session and closure**
- *22nd International Grasslands Congress 2013, Australia*
- *Arrangements for the 15th Sub-network Meeting 2014, France*
- *Other networking issues*
- 20:00**             **Social dinner**

Day 4: 6 October 2012

**Optional post-Meeting tour** (organisation conditioned to the number of people who wish to participate) to the ancient city of Amasya, where traditional Ottoman architecture and cliff carved tombs dating from the Pontus kings period can be found. Agricultural production is important in the area, so a visit to a milk processing plant near the city is also planned.

The estimated time of return to Samsun is 19:00 hours.



## Language

The working language of the Meeting will be English.

## Meeting Proceedings

The Meeting Proceedings, including the full texts of keynote lectures, theatre presentations and posters accepted by the Scientific Committee will be published in the CIHEAM journal *Options Méditerranéennes*. Copies of the Proceedings will be provided to participants of the Meeting.

## Posters presentation

Posters will have a free layout with maximum size of 70 cm (width) x 100 cm (height).

The displayed posters will be evaluated and the best poster of each session will be awarded.

## Registration (deadline: 15 September 2012; registration cannot be guaranteed after this date)

From 1 August until 15 September 2012, the registration fees will be **250 € for all participants**.

Fees include attendance to the Meeting scientific sessions and mid-Meeting technical tour, refreshments and lunches, welcome reception and social dinner, and a copy of the Proceedings.

- The optional **post-Meeting tour price is 40 €** (including lunch and guide) to be paid in addition to the registration fees.

### - Payment should be made by bank transfer to the following account:

Account holder: IAMZ-CIHEAM

IBAN: ES60 2085 1425 5603 0018 8187

Bank name: IBERCAJA

Swift code: CAZRES 2Z

To be indicated on the bank transfer: "samsun 2012 – your surname"

Postal address: Av. Montañana 290, 50059 Montañana (Zaragoza), Spain

**(Note: All transfer expenses must be paid by the sender)**

- For registration, fill out the **Registration and hotel booking form** (available in MS-Word format at [www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012](http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012)) and return it together with the proof of payment, preferably by e-mail, by 15 September 2012, to:

IAMZ-CIHEAM

Avda. Montañana 1005, 50059 Zaragoza, Spain

Tel.: +34 976 716000 – Fax: +34 976 716001 – E-mail: [iamz@iamz.ciheam.org](mailto:iamz@iamz.ciheam.org)

## Accommodation (deadline: 15 September 2012; hotel reservations received after the deadline are not guaranteed)

Participants at the Meeting can be lodged at the **Tepe Hotel**, at the Ondokuz Mayıs University campus, a few minutes walking distance from the Congress Hall where the scientific sessions will be held.

**Room prices**, including breakfast and taxes, are 55 TL (around 24 Euro) for single rooms, 85 TL (around 36 Euro) for double rooms, and 110 TL (around 47 Euro) for triple rooms.

For your hotel reservation fill in and send to the Meeting Secretariat ([iamz@iamz.ciheam.org](mailto:iamz@iamz.ciheam.org)) the **Registration and hotel reservation form** (available in MS-Word format at: [www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012](http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/samsun2012)). Payment will be made directly at the hotel by the participants in the Meeting.

