



# NEWSLETTER

N° I - January 2023

**Periodical information bulletin for the Prometeo project co-financed by the European Union in the framework of the ENI Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) Programme Italy-Tunisia 2014-2020**

*The ENI CBC Programme Italy-Tunisia 2014-2020 is a bilateral cross-border cooperation programme, co-financed by the European Union under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI). With a budget of EUR 33.3 million, the programme, which joint management has been assigned to the Sicilian Region's Programming Office, aims to promote fair, equitable and sustainable economic, social and territorial development in order to foster cross-border integration and enhance the territories and resources of the two participating countries. <https://www.italietunisie.eu/>*

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## Welcome “Prometeo”

This is the first issue of Prometeo’s periodic Newsletter

The Newsletter is a direct communication channel to entities, organisations, institutions and project target groups. The aim of the Newsletter is to inform and disseminate the interim results of the Prometeo project on a large scale, with the intention of building and maintaining the interest and awareness of the target audience. It also provides updates on work progress, informs about planned events, and announces and disseminates news, fact sheets, documents and initiatives.

The Newsletter has been structured into three main sections:

**FROM PROMETEO PROJECT:** information, updates, news, insights and events directly related to the activities and results of the Prometeo project.

**FROM OUR PARTNERS:** in any Newsletter issue, a specific focus will be dedicated to a partner of the Prometeo project.

**FROM THE WORLD:** an enlarged section reporting news “from around the world”, so as to communicate events and activities that may be of interest for the project and allow to enrich knowledge and update partners and stakeholders on topics of interest of Prometeo issues.

Enjoy your reading!



## Technological innovation and agriculture at the centre of the “Prometeo” project

A cross-border village to protect Mediterranean tree crops by sharing knowledge



Preserving typical Mediterranean tree crops such as citrus, almond and olive trees from climate change while finding innovative and sustainable technical solutions to protect these crops from quarantine pathogens or emerging pests that threaten their profitability and survival. These are just some of

the objectives of the Prometeo project. Sergio Campanella, Director of the GAL Eoro and secretary of the ERP - Italy Promoting Committee as well as Prometeo’s Project Manager, highlighted the perspectives that it embeds in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation panorama.

The project “**Prometeo - A cross-border village to protect Mediterranean tree crops by sharing knowledge**” - included in the ENI Cross-border Cooperation Programme Italy-Tunisia 2014-2020 and co-funded by the European Union - has been at the centre of a meeting between representatives

of institutions, universities and research centres in recent days. On the occasion of the meeting entitled “Technological innovation and transfer of good practices in Mediterranean arboricul-

**new National Strategic Plan of the CAP 2023-2027**, Dario Cartabellotta dwelt on “the importance of international cooperation in the fight against climate change” and the “need to safeguard the

for the economic, political and social development of the countries bordering the Mediterranean basin,” added the Pro-rector.



The work continued with a series of thematic meetings on plant pathology, molecular biology, materials science and cross-border economics and a visit to the laboratories of the BRIT - Centre for Research and Innovation in Bio and Nanotechnology at the University of Catania, led by Nunzio Tuccitto. Great appreciation by the project partners for the seminar on yeasts as biocontrol agents of fungal diseases by Giuseppe Lima, associate partner of the University of Molise (Campobasso). Sergio Campanella, Secretary of the ERP -Italy Promoting Committee as well as Prometeo’s Project Manager, highlighted the perspectives it hinges on the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation panorama. The partnership was enthusiastic, in view of the next capitalisation event between the Prometeo and Cluster Servagri projects, scheduled for mid-May 2023, where ERP-Italy will be invited to share its work with those of this event and, to promote the future creation of a Tunisian section of the ERP.

ture”, which took place in the Aula Magna of the University of Catania’s central building, took the floor Santa Olga Cacciola (project coordinator) and Dario Cartabellotta of the Regional Agriculture Department, together with the Pro-Rector of the University of Catania, Francesca Longo, the Chancellor of the University of Tunis ‘El Manar’, Moez Chafra, the Director General of the Agence Nationale de la Promotion de la Recherche Scientifique, Chedly Abdelly, the Director General of the Centre Technique des Agrumes, Moncef Chargui, the Mayor of Palazzolo Acreide, Salvatore Gallo, the Delegate for Internationalisation of the University of Catania, Lucia Zappalà and the Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Simona Consoli.

On the prospects of the Sicilian agricultural and rural reality in the context of the

Mediterranean arboriculture that allows to combine economic, environmental and social sustainability of the Mediterranean countries”. It was precisely on the “**cross-border network**” that Pro-Rector Francesca Longo of the University of Catania intervened, emphasising that “cooperation represents a technological platform of interaction for all the actors of the supply chains to share ideas, knowledge and experiences and, moreover, to transfer technological innovation through pilot actions.

**The University of Catania, due to its strategic position in the Euro-Mediterranean area, must be one of the main actors in research programmes, such as Prometeo**, which allow for the establishment of a close relationship between cross-border states that address a common problem through innovation in order to identify the shared solution in the area and at the same time promote a series of activities

# In the laboratory at UNICT, work is in progress on the installation of the PROMETEO device

By UNICT

**Work at UNICT is in full swing.**

Professor Licciardello, Director of the Department of Chemical Sciences, and Professor Tuccitto, PROMETEO Project Manager of the Department of Chemical Sciences, are supervising the work of the installers.

**They are installing a large piece of equipment for the materials science laboratory.**

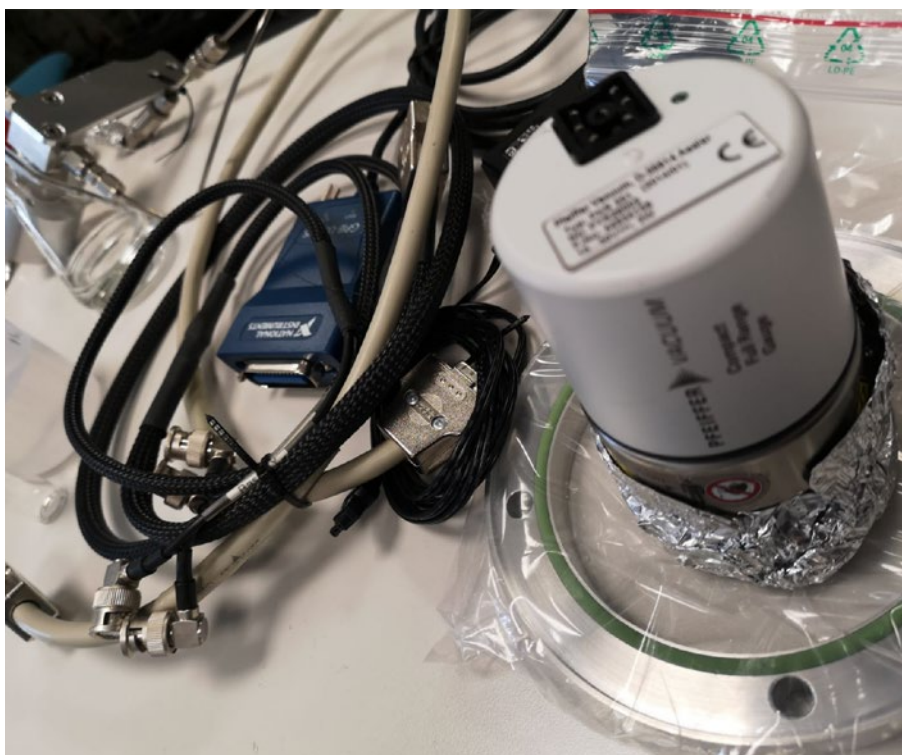
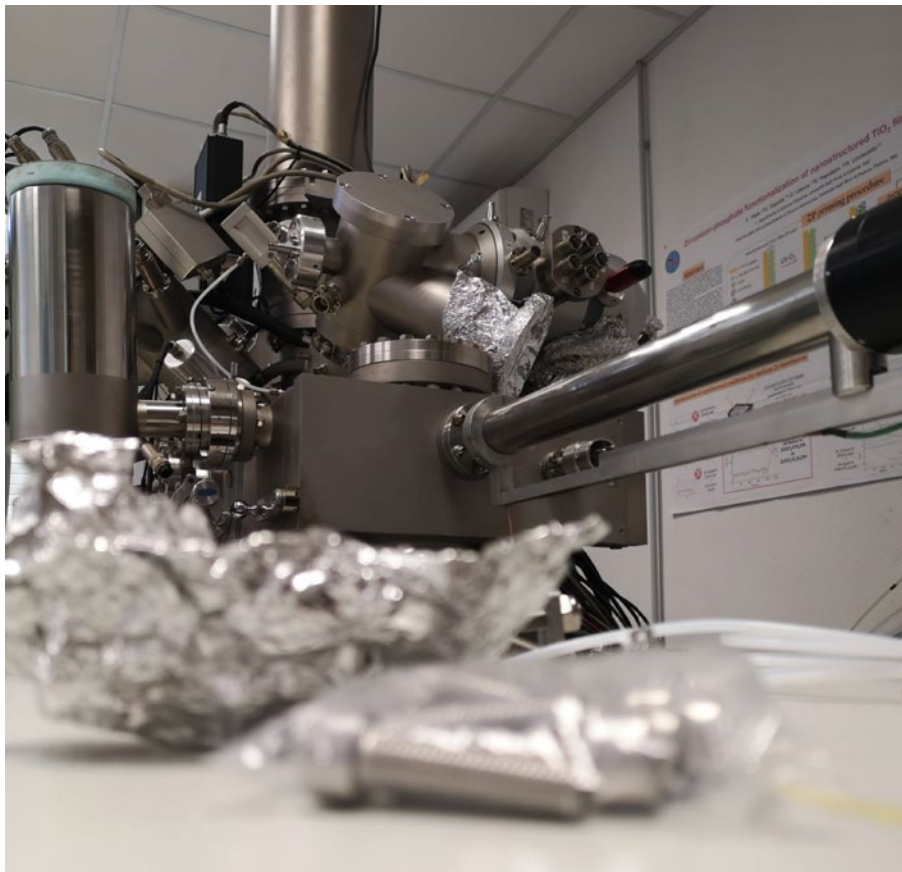
This activity is part of the GT4 of the PROMETEO project.

In a week's time, the secondary ion mass spectrometer will be equipped with a GCIB ion beam.

All the technical partners are excited about this news.

Plant samples will be analysed: contaminated citrus peels, leaves with disease symptoms, etc.

**The Italian and Tunisian entomologists involved in PROMETEO will be able to analyse their samples with this new instrument.**



# Two new instruments at the Di3A Molecular Plant Pathology Laboratory for PROMETEO

By UNICT

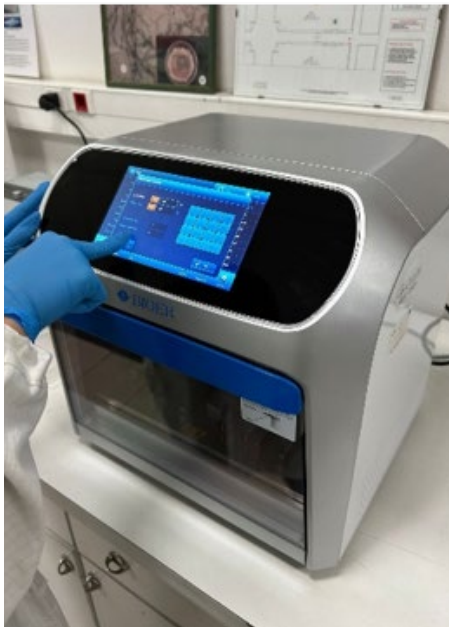
As part of the PROMETEO project, two instruments were purchased for the University of Catania's Molecular Plant Pathology laboratory, whose scientific head is Prof. Santa Olga Cacciola.

**The DNA and RNA extractor,** which boasts an automatic

nucleic acid purification system, and the 'Real-Time' **thermal cycler.**

Thanks to this instrumentation, Italian and Tunisian pathologists will be able to develop highly **specific diagnostic protocols** for the detection of pathogenic organisms respon-

sible for important diseases on olive, almond and citrus trees.



**Extractor  
DNA and RNA**



**Thermal cycler  
"Real-Time"**





# Taste of Sustainability: a popular column by LABOST

By Radio Zammù

A project to communicate research results and the link to sustainable development goals. This space is organised by the researchers of LABOST - the permanent laboratory for sustainability of the Di3A.

In the framework of the dissemination activity promoted by the Di3A Sustainability Laboratory in collaboration with Radio Zammù, the [PROMETEO](#) project was presented.

## BEYOND THE SEA

Interview 03 - BEYONDTHE SEA (7 June 2022). Collaboration across borders to save the Mediterranean's historical crops from possible exotic plant diseases: this is the challenge Sicily and Tunisia have set for the next two years of work through the Prometeo project. Episode edited by Olga Cacciola. Interview by Danilo Nuncibello

## INTRODUCTION:

**LET'S CONTEXTUALIZE THE «SCENARIO» THAT MADE NECESSARY THE LAUNCHING OF THIS PROJECT, THEN, WHAT ARE THE CROPS INVOLVED (CITRUS, ALMOND, OLIVE) AND WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES ENDANGER THESE CROPS AND MAKE THIS PROJECT NECESSARY (QUARANTINE PATHOGENS AND PESTS)**

A. This is a strategic project of the University of Catania whose main objective is to create a cross-border network between two countries that have different cultures but share the same type of crops.

It is in this scenario that PROMETEO was born, i.e. **“A cross-border village: to protect Mediterranean tree crops by sharing knowledge”**. We wanted to imagine a physical place where Sicilian and Tunisian partners meet to share knowledge and propose solutions to current problems. In fact, the meeting point (central node of this network) and also

the ideal physical cross-border centre of the network will be Palazzolo Acreide, a small town in the province of Syracuse, rich in history and art with an ancient agricultural tradition and a recently developed tourism sector.

**The creation of this network, which includes all the Italian and Tunisian actors in the field**, i.e. researchers, companies and stakeholders, in a strategic sector for the Italy-Tunisia macro-region, namely that of the typical Mediterranean tree crops, will enable the threat of exotic diseases to be addressed at a time of crisis for these three main tree crops in the Mediterranean region, with the crops facing decisive choices for the future: conversion, modernisation and intensification.

## Q. WHY THESE CROPS?

A. The almond and the olive are two crops that originated



In foto Prof.ssa Olga Cacciola

in the **Middle East**, on the eastern side of the Mediterranean basin.

Citrus fruits, with the exception of the citron, which was already present at the time of Roman domination, were introduced more recently (the bitter orange probably with the Arabs, the sweet orange with the Portuguese navigators), but they have acclimatised so well that they have become an element of the Mediterranean landscape and culture, as well as a valuable economic source of income for the agricultural populations of the countries around the Mediterranean basin. The presence of almond and olive trees for thousands of years in this part of the world has created the illusion of their “immortality”.

However, the emergence of new diseases from other parts of the world has challenged these certainties: Xylella for olives and almonds, Tristeza for citrus, and now the imminent threat of Huanglongbing (greening) again for citrus. It is precisely in this context that PROMETEO's action, which, through cross-border coop-

eration, aims to find green and eco-compatible solutions, fits in.

**Q. HOW DID THE PROMETEO PROJECT COME ABOUT, WHO PROMOTED IT, WHAT PUBLIC FUNDS IS IT TARGETING, WHO ARE THE PARTNERS INVOLVED**

A. PROMETEO was born in the context described above and calls for European funding, it is an ENI Programme of cross-border cooperation (CBC) Italy-Tunisia 2014-2020, co-financed by the European Union, in which the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture is a partner. **The Department of Programming of the Sicilian Region is the managing authority with whom I am constantly in contact as contact person and responsible for the consortium.**

The partners are eight, 4 Italians and 4 Tunisians, belonging to public research institutions, other research bodies and private companies that play an important role in the productive context of the cross-border area. As far as the UNICT departments involved, **for Di3A we have expertise in plant pathology, entomology**

**and economics and for DCS we have the expertise in material sciences and bio-chemistry.**

**Q. WHAT SOLUTIONS DOES THE PROJECT PROPOSE OR WORK ON? WHAT SOLUTIONS DOES IT PROPOSE AND HOW CAN THEY BE IMPLEMENTED? HOW DO YOU WORK IN SYNERGY IN A CROSS-BORDER PROJECT?**

A. An innovative aspect of this project is the application of the **open scientific method**, which will improve the quality of services provided by scientists and teaching laboratories in both partner countries, and will update the knowledge of researchers and stakeholders based on the opinion of internationally renowned experts; this will be done through meetings and seminars, residential and distance learning courses, assistance in the development and validation of protocols and best practices, and in the definition of guidelines.

The results will be useful in guiding agricultural policies, strengthening plant protection services, increasing the efficiency of production, competitiveness and sustainability of these sectors and improving quality standards in food safety. The project has more than 30 ASSOCIATE partners who will contribute to the activities by participating in the thematic meetings and facilitate the development of innovative technological solutions, always with a special focus on the search for sustainable and ecological solutions and green solutions for the protection of olive, almond and citrus trees from quarantine

or emerging pathogens. **Together with the 8 project partners**, PROMETEO therefore foresees the collaboration of **associated partners**, who are experts in the sector, recognised at international level and who will be invited to share their experience, and by this PROMETEO assumes an international and interdisciplinary configuration.

The cross-border network therefore represents a **technological platform of interaction for all supply chain actors to share ideas, knowledge and experience and, furthermore, to transfer technological innovation through pilot, demonstration and dissemination activities in different environments**. As I said, the innovative approach of the open scientific method will favour the meeting of international experts together, with whom we will design and propose protocols that will then be validated on both sides in cross-border laboratories and experimental areas will also be made available by private partners.

Therefore, after validating the protocols developed during the meetings, the researchers and all the actors in the supply chains will meet with experts and politicians. Policy makers need to develop guidelines, directives that will be useful, as mentioned before, to orientate agricultural policies, the IMPLEMENTATION of phytosanitary measures, phytosanitary services and the efficiency of production, competitiveness and sustainability of these sectors and improve quality standards in food safety.

In this sense PROMETEO already meets some of the requirements of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, in particular Goal 3: Ensure health and well-being for all people of all ages.

**Q. HOW DO YOU WORK IN SYNERGY IN A CROSS-BORDER PROJECT? IN THE SUBTITLE OF THIS EPISODE WE ARE TALKING ABOUT «DIFFERENT CULTURES, SAME CULTURES», TO WHAT EXTENT CAN CULTURAL DIVERSITY BE A DISADVANTAGE OR AN ADVANTAGE? YES, IT CAN. RECENTLY CONCLUDED THE MEDITERRANEAN CITIZENS' FESTI-**



**VAL, WHICH QUESTIONS THE MEDITERRANEAN IDENTITY, CERTAINLY PRESENT IN THE PAST, BUT TODAY? (THIS LAST SPEECH ONLY IF IT DOESN'T GET YOU IN TROUBLE)**

**A. Is there really such a thing as Mediterranean culture?**

The subtitle: different cultures, but the same cultures underlines that they have their roots in history (with precise connotations, even historical). In fact, the reflections that the so-called Arab Spring has had particularly in the southern-

most regions of Europe make us think about this question.

Among the Arab countries of North Africa, **Tunisia is perhaps the country that is most attentive to European culture**, the one that looks with interest at European culture and therefore seems the most appropriate nation as an interlocutor for the recovery of common cultural roots and the formulation of new proposals in a globalised world. An inattentive observer might wonder what advantage a region of Europe could have in interacting with a country like Tunisia which is supposedly less

technologically advanced; however, do not underestimate that the problems that Sicily tackles as a region (for example, the technology and commercial development of those three important tree crops), in Tunisia are seen in a national context and a national perspective and this therefore constitutes an added value also for the European partner (Sicily). And lastly a personal reflection. I understand the discovery of the Sicilian countryside by many Tunisian workers, especially



when there is a demand for labour, such as citrus harvesting or horticultural crops in greenhouses. One entrepreneur pointed out to me that a few years ago, the Tunisian worker was qualified for agricultural work because they came from the countryside and, on the other hand, now among the young Tunisians, it is difficult to find workers suitable for agricultural work.... so, as you can see, the generational crisis is a global problem.

In conclusion, **if there is a common culture in the Mediterranean, this is threatened by globalisation too.** The situation is well represented by these three cultures that symbolise common roots and whose survival is threatened by exotic pathogens introduced precisely with the globalisation of trade.

En conclusion, **s'il y a une culture commune en Méditerranée, cela est également menacé par la mondialisation.** La situation est bien représenté par ces trois cultures qui symbolisent des racines communes et dont la survie est menacée par des agents pathogènes exotiques introduits précisément avec la mondialisation des échanges.

**Q. THE PROJECT WILL LAST TWO YEARS, BUT HOW LONG WILL WE HAVE TO WAIT TO REALLY APPRECIATE THE RESULTS?**

A. Is two years enough time? Certainly enough to build «the network» which is one of the main objectives of the project and once created, it could become a tool to address other common prob-

lems.

**Q. DOES THE PROMETEO PROJECT MEET THE NEEDS**



Furthermore, the use of green and environmentally sustainable products for

**OF THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE 2030 AGENDA? WHICH ONES?**

A. We have already mentioned Goal 3, but through PROMETEO's actions we can intercept other goals, if not all 17, for sustainable development of the 2030 Agenda: for example Goal 4: Provide quality, equitable and inclusive education and learning opportunities for all, but also gender equality (obj. 5) and the reduction of inequalities (obj. 10) through the training of professionals of both sexes who are competent and capable of dialogue with all actors in the agricultural context. In fact, through meetings, seminars, residential and distance learning courses, we aim to play an active role in the territory by training new professional skills that will become assets of the cross-border territory itself. And here we also intercept Objective 12: to guarantee sustainable models of production and consumption.

the control of quarantine or emerging diseases is in line with Objective 13: Promote actions at all levels to combat climate change.



# Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique de Tunisie INRAT

## Partner 4 (Tunisia) PROMETEO Projet

Founded in 1913: the oldest in the country.

It is the first institute specialised in full-time agricultural research in Tunisia.

INRAT is an agricultural research establishment under the dual supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

INRAT is reorganised into 7 research laboratories, 1 Scientific Information and Documentation Unit (UIDS) and 1 specialised Unit in charge of relations with economic, social and cultural organisations and 5 Agricultural Experimentation Stations (UEA) located in different regions of the country.

### Research laboratories

- Animal and Fodder Production Laboratory
- Field Crops Laboratory
- Horticulture Laboratory
- Plant Protection Laboratory
- Agronomic Sciences and Techniques Laboratory
- Laboratory of Biotechnology Applied to Agriculture
- Rural Economics Laboratory

### Specialised units

- Scientific Information and Documentation Unit
- Specialized unit in charge of relations with economic, social and cultural organisations

### Agricultural Experimentation Stations:

- Agricultural Experimentation Stations of Bou Rébia
- Agricultural Experimentation Stations of Kef
- Agricultural Experimentation Stations of Mornag
- Agricultural Experimentation

Stations of Kobba Kbir

- Agricultural Experimentation Stations of Oueslatia

### LABORATORY OF APPLIED BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR AGRICULTURE LB2A

#### Mission

- Use of agro-physiology, in vitro culture and molecular marker assisted selection (MAS) to improve the tolerance of cereals to abiotic stresses (drought, salinity, hydromorphy).
- Adoption of molecular tools for the identification and characterisation of emerging plant pathogens
- Development of biotechnological processes to promote biological control of pests and diseases

#### Expertise and services

The laboratory (LB2A) offers expertise covering the di-

agnosis of pathogens and insect pests, participates in the teaching and supervision of students, runs information and demonstration days in the field in collaboration with socio-economic partners (CRDA, UTAP, CTA, GIFruits, GOVPF, SMVDA, OEP, NGOs and new promoters).

**Key words**

Molecular phyto diagnosis, Bioprotection against pests and fungi, Molecular marker assisted selection (MAS), In vitro culture of cereals, Agro-physiology of cereals.



- Diagnosis of the diseases,
- Sampling of infested fruits and organs,
- Installation of traps and monitoring of insect populations,
- Sampling of citrus industry waste (bigaradier fruit, citrus industry co-products, fruit peels, etc.)

**LABORATORY ACTIVITIES**

- Isolation and identification of pathogens,
- Extraction of essential oils and polysaccharides from peels.

**SURVEY ACTIVITIES**

- Field surveys were carried out in order to:



**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROMETEO PROJECT**

**OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE ACTIVITIES**

- To reduce losses of strategic crops of almond, olive and citrus due to insect pests and diseases,
- Reduce the risks of propagation and infestation,
- Reduce the use of chemical pesticides and develop innovative control alternatives





## All we needed was *Xylella* in citrus fruits... First cases confirmed in Portugal, bacterium developed from subspecies. Concern for the Sicilian Red Orange

By [agricultura.it](http://agricultura.it) - 13 January 2023

CATANIA – “The presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Portuguese citrus plantations, reported with great alarm by the Comité de Gestión de Cítricos of Valencia (Spain), shows that on this subject we, the Consortium Arancia Rossa di Sicilia, have unfortunately been prophetic”. This was underlined by the President of the Consortium, Gerardo Diana.

**“We have repeatedly pointed out the danger posed to Italian citrus fruit farming by the pathogens and invasive pests that pose an enormous threat to our crops. Our calls for attention have too often been ignored.**

Now that the presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* has been found on citrus fruits in Portugal, **we believe it is essential to promptly set up a**

**permanent steering committee at national and European level**, including professional and trade organisations and representatives of protection consortia, to deal with these threats.

*Xylella* is a danger that, if underestimated, risks desertifying entire territories and bringing our economy to its knees, as has already sadly happened in Puglia with the *Xylella* of the olive trees.

There is an urgent need to know what measures Italy and Europe will take to prevent the arrival of *Xylella* in Italy and whether similar and immediate measures will be applied to Portugal as those indicated by the European Union, at the time, for Puglia and its olive groves. There is not a moment to lose, our political representatives support us in bringing

this issue to the attention of the Minister of Agriculture Francesco Lollobrigida and the European institutions.

**The threat is upon us and it is tremendously real,”** Diana concludes.



## Irrigation, how to save water with a system of sensors and algorithms

By [terra.prsicilia.it](http://terra.prsicilia.it) - 24 January 2023

A saving of over 50% of that used with traditional irrigation. This is the result of the experimentation of the Irrigoptimal system that, through sensors and algorithms, is able to optimise irrigation. The pilot test, requested by Uni Coop Sicilia, was conducted on the orange grove (6,600 square metres) in Mineo (Catania), made available by Maurizio Ialuna, Uni Coop associate and president of Gal Kalat. The experimentation lasted from April 2022 to December 2022 and the data taken as a sample are those of the period August-November 2022, which are particularly indicative, as the need for irrigation was greater, given the extreme drought recorded. The result is a saving of 5244 litres of water.

“The use of new technologies applied to irrigation systems in order to make irrigation

more efficient represents one of the strategic lines of the new regional agricultural policies,” says the regional councillor for Agriculture, Luca Sammartino, who spoke at the presentation of the results of the pilot test. “The presentation of the experimentation of an innovative system to optimise water consumption in citrus cultivation is proof of how the cooperative world is able to develop research in response to the needs of the territory.”

“My presence at this initiative organised in one of the places that represent the productive heart of our citrus-growing system,” adds Sammartino, “testifies to the Region’s closeness and attention to the world of producers and the scientific world. Today was a moment of fruitful listening, and I am certain that the scientific community will contribute, with its studies and research, to

ensure that our farmers can overcome, or at least alleviate, the great economic and production hardships they are enduring due to drought and climate change. Developing research and taking it forward,” the councillor concludes, “is one of the missions of the regional government.”

“By supporting the testing of the Irrigoptimal system, Uni Coop Sicilia has shown how innovation is at the basis of the evolution of the entrepreneurial system of its member cooperatives,” underlines Felice Coppolino, president of Uni Coop Sicilia. “Technological innovation is the main road to the necessary change in the entrepreneurial world, not only in Sicily.”

A testimony on the results of the test comes from Maurizio Ialuna, president of Gal Kalat: “The quantity and

quality of our citrus fruits did not change with the use of Irrigoptimal, a result that, together with the considerable savings on water expenses, makes the usefulness of technological innovation in agriculture evident.”

### The results

The aim of the experiment was to compare the behaviour and water indications of Irrigoptimal with the irrigation techniques currently used in the field. To achieve this objective, two contiguous areas were identified, in one Irrigoptimal was installed and in the second the water flows used with standard techniques were monitored. The difference in the indicated period between traditional irrigation (11,021 litres) and the tested system (5777 litres) has a value close to 52.42% savings. For the entire field, consisting of 36 rows, the savings in the Au-

gust-November period can be calculated at around 160,000 litres of water. The system used consisted of a weather station to monitor the weather conditions, two sensors connected to the gateway connected to the main database, an additional sensor used to monitor the moisture present on the leaves, an electronic water reader used to calculate the water delivered, and a surveillance system.

This innovative system makes use of a set of integrated technologies, such as:

1. data analysis;
2. artificial intelligence;
3. machine learning;
4. IoT;
5. big data management;
6. detection sensors and mechanical actuators to address

the challenges introduced by climate change such as water scarcity and its impacts on crops.

Irrigoptimal supports farmers in the monitoring and control of crops through real-time alerts, which enable rapid intervention to optimise crop productivity, and through a range of functionalities that fall under the umbrella of what is known as Agriculture 4.0.

### The pilot test

It was conducted on a plot of land used for the cultivation of orange trees in Mineo, measuring approximately 6,600 square metres. The trial began in April 2022 and ended in December 2022 and its objective was to compare the behaviour and water indications of Irrigoptimal with the irrigation techniques currently used on the land. To achieve this objective, two contiguous areas were identified in which Irrigoptimal was installed in one and the water flows used with standard techniques were monitored in another. For the test, we selected two irrigation zones of approximately 100m<sup>2</sup> and 80m<sup>2</sup>.



# Upcoming events



XV INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

# PLANT ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA



Università  
di Catania

6-10 June 2023  
Linguaglossa (Catania)  
Sicily, Italy

#wetland habitats; #plant conservation; #invasive alien plants;  
#taxonomy and floristic studies; #habitat monitoring; #mapping and drone analyses;  
#plant ecophysiology; #habitat restoration; #vegetation climate change

[plant.ecology.unict.congress@gmail.com](mailto:plant.ecology.unict.congress@gmail.com)

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# General information on PROMETEO

## Main beneficiary

Università degli Studi di Catania (UNICT)

## Partners

**P2:** Université de Tunis El Manar (UTM)

**P3:** Centre Technique des Agrumes (CTA)

**P4:** Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique de Tunisie (INRAT)

**P5:** Agence Nationale de Promotion de la Recherche scientifique (ANPR)

**P6:** Comune di Palazzolo Acreide (PALAZZOLO)

**P7:** Centro di Ricerca per l'Innovazione e Diffusione della conoscenza (CERID)

**P8:** Expergreen S.R.L. (EXPERGREEN)

## PROMETEO PROJECT IN NUMBERS

Duration	<b>24 months</b>
Project start-up	<b>29/10/2021</b>
Date of completion	<b>28/10/2023</b>
N. of project Partners	<b>8</b>
Overall budget	<b>1.459.103,08 €</b>
EU Contribution	<b>1.291.659,13 €</b>

## PROMETEO PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Number of dissemination events and thematic meetings	<b>4</b>
Involved participants	<b>300+</b>
Project website	<b>1</b>
Social media channels	<b>4</b>

## OUR CONTACTS

**Project website:** <https://www.prometeo-italietunisie.eu>

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**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Prometeo.ItalieTunisie>

**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/prometeo\\_italietunisie/](https://www.instagram.com/prometeo_italietunisie/)

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/prometeo\\_ItaTun](https://twitter.com/prometeo_ItaTun)

**Youtube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@prometeoitalietunisie4919>



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