



ISTITUTO AGRARIO
DI SAN MICHELE ALL'ADIGE

SAFECROP

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
OF CROP PROTECTION WITH LOW ENVIRONMENT AND
CONSUMER HEALTH IMPACT

Speaker: Daniele Barbacovi, Human resources manager – Safecrop, Agrarian Institute of San Michele all'Adige

Titles: The Development and Safeguarding of the Trentino Agricultural and Food System in the Activities of the Agrarian Institute of San Michele all'Adige

Crop Protection Systems with a Low Impact on the Environment and Health of Consumers: the experience of SAFECROP International Research Centre

Description of the Institute

The Institute promotes and implements scientific research and experimental activities and provides education and training, as well as services for the private sector.

Its mission is to ensure the socio-economic and cultural advancement of farmers and the development of the food industry and forestry system, with particular attention to environmental interaction and conservation.

The Institute is a comprehensive institution that deals with three core activities in the agricultural context: teaching, research and technical assistance.

The School is currently divided into four separate sections, each with its own distinct area of operation: Secondary technical education (IST), Vocational secondary education (ISP), Vocational agricultural training (QPA) and Post-secondary and university education (IPSU). It is thus a complex teaching unit - the only one of its kind in Italy - that contemporaneously provides training and teaching in the agricultural, environmental and forestry sectors at a number of different levels: from those specially designed for farmers to highly specialised courses at university level.

Research is driven by the policies of the provincial government in the agricultural, forestry and environmental sectors, as well as with the initiatives of local institutions. The Centre collaborates with several institutions in Italy and Europe, as well as with those located in the Province of Trento. Consequently, the experimental and research work realized at the Istituto Agrario is well integrated in the international arena. The research centre is divided in three departments: Agricultural Production Department (PAG), Analysis and Research Laboratory Department (LAR) and Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (RNA).

The Extension Service Centre represents the technical assistance and advisory services of the Institute. This unit provides technical and socio-economic assistance and advisory services to farms and to their cooperatives in all sectors of Trentino agriculture. In particular, the Centre provides assistance to the fruit, viticulture-oenology, strawberry and small fruits, horticulture, floriculture, zootechnics and fish sectors, as well as providing socio-economic consultancy services. The objective is to assist the world of farming throughout all stages of production, in order to satisfy consumers' demands for high-quality, healthy products produced in accordance with "good farming practices" with absolute respect for the environment.

For further information: <http://www.iasma.it>

Presentation - Abstract:

SafeCrop is dedicated to innovative research oriented toward plant protection technologies against pests and diseases using sustainable low environmental impact methods.

SafeCrop backs innovative projects from idea to successful application in farmer's fields.

Research at SafeCrop will fill knowledge gaps and foster new innovative ideas.

Part of its activity focuses on the constraints that hamper the vast scale application of biocontrol and semiochemical based technologies and strategies. Safety of soft control tools.

SafeCrop will promote collaboration among internationally renowned research institutions to create synergies of knowledge.

SafeCrop brings together dynamic researchers from various research institutes by supporting their co-operation in applied research & development - both financially and also through services and know-how in innovation management. SafeCrop operates with strategic alliances. To achieve the ambitious goals SafeCrop fosters synergistic collaborations.

SafeCrop serves as centre for education and continuous learning in the field of soft control strategies of pest and diseases of agricultural crops.

The Centre will undertake action to promote high level instruction and training of young researchers in an international and collaborative view of research.

This centre should excel for innovative research oriented toward the technologies for reducing chemical inputs in agriculture and using low impact plant protection methods.

Part of its activity will focus on the constraints that hamper the vast scale application of such technologies and strategies:

- lack of reliability of the effect;
- high costs of product registration;
- need for adaptation to local and crop specific characteristics and therefore small marginal market.

The policy of the Centre will be that all research has to lead to sustainable, low or zero impact control strategies; therefore a second part of the Centre is oriented toward questions such as unwanted side effects, environmental and food contamination by agents employed in soft control strategies.

Partner of SafeCrop Center are:

- Istituto Agrario di S. Michele all'Adige IASMA, Italy
- Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich ETHZ, Switzerland
- Agricultural Research Organization ARO, The Volcani Center, Israel
- Institut National de Recherche Agronomique INRA, France
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU, Sweden
- Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry BBA, Institute for biological Control, Germany

For further information: www.safecrop.org