



# CountrySide

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## **Integrated Pest Management**

**Is it relevant in  
Commercial Crop  
Production?**



# Editorial

Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Secretary General

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## European Freedoms Cut Both Ways

*In spirit and deed, the European Union was founded on four key freedoms; free movement of goods, free movement for workers, the right of establishment anywhere in the EU and to start a business there, and the free movement of capital. These values are what underpin our entire European project; without them we are nothing but a collection of bickering countries with closed borders.*

*It is therefore both threatening and untoward that in many New Member States, we are seeing new nationalist movements that would seek to deny these freedoms to European farmers and countryside entrepreneurs. At first, these countries were justifiably given the time to adjust to the common market and build up their agricultural sectors so that they could compete on an even playing field with land managers across Europe.*

*Now, however, they are full EU members in every sense of the word and they must act like it. If the freedom of movement means that their citizens can work anywhere they wish (and often choose to do so), then they must also accept that many, including their own farmers, will want to invest in their agricultural sectors without the interference of artificial controls on land markets.*

*Instead, Member States should offer support to their national farmers so they can invest themselves. With that, they can create distortion-free, safe land markets for the benefit of all EU land managers. After all, the long-term security of property rights ensures that good farmers can take the best care of their property; LAPAR, our Romanian Members, provide a good example.*

*It is therefore a matter of high concern to us when we see that the new Polish government seeks to introduce laws that would restrict all four freedoms when it comes to the agricultural sector, and we support the European Commission in its current infringement procedures. European principles, after all, are the same for all of us, or we are not a Union after all.*



# Integrated Pest Management

## Is it relevant in Commercial Crop Production?

The UN have forecast that to feed a growing worldwide population a 70% increase in global food production is needed by 2050. This target is shared by European producers but a range of factors, including the limited availability of land, results in the need for greater production intensity if it is to be met.

Keith WALTERS, Harper Adams University

Increased crop production must also be achieved whilst simultaneously meeting important environmental priorities, with pest management approaches under close public scrutiny. Agro-chemicals remain an important component of commercial pest management but we are faced with a decreasing number of pesticides available for use and reliance on too few modes of action, leading to increased risk of resistance developing. Thus amongst other actions, practical steps need to be taken at the farm level to reduce pressure on our remaining pesticides and ensure that their strategic use remains an option for the future.

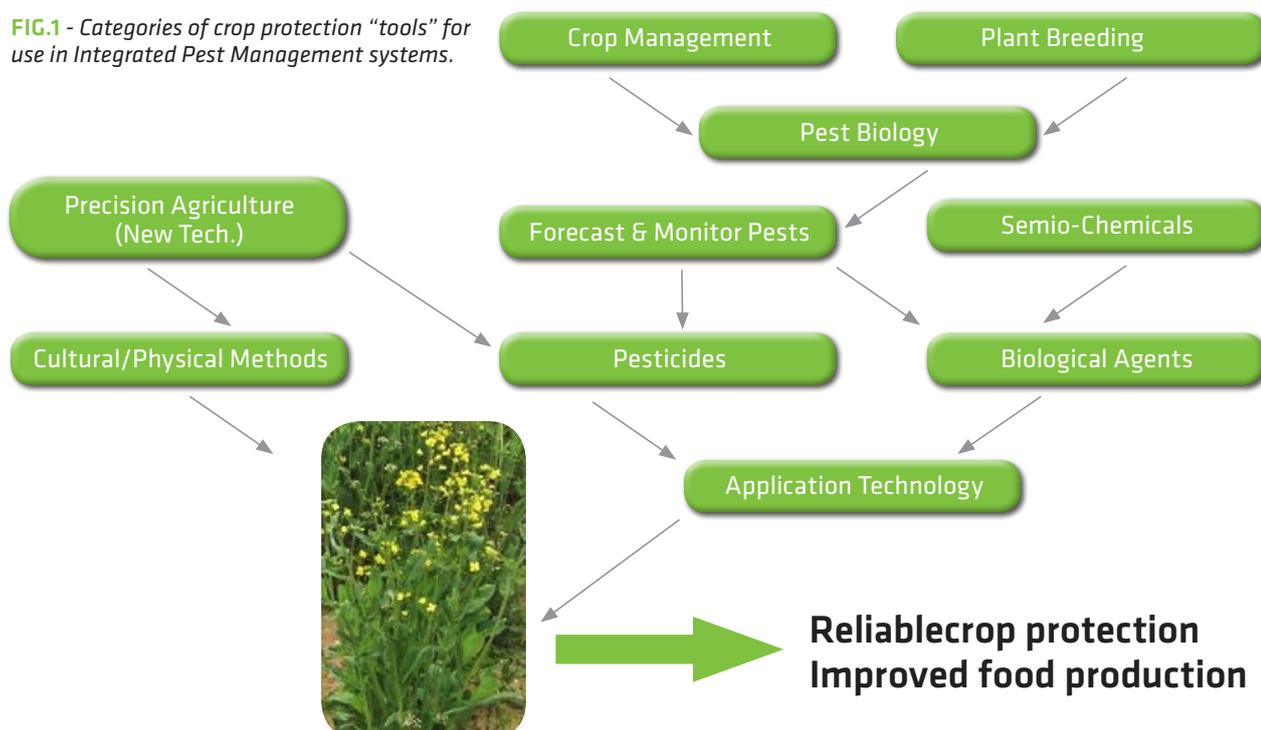
It is often suggested that integrated pest management (IPM) offers one route to reducing pressure on insecticides, but too often the term is confused with biological control (a reliance on biological agents such as natural enemies, fungal agents and others). In reality IPM is broader than this; it is an approach that combines different crop protection “tools” with careful monitoring of pests and natural ene-

mies, to achieve effective/efficient control. There are many such tools divided between several categories (Fig 1.) but only a small selection are used in each individual IPM strategy. The key to successful IPM is to carefully select/use the most effective measures for individual pests or groups of pests, whilst ensuring that they are easy to apply, do not compete for time with other essential/important farm operations, and critically are no more expensive than simple agrochemical treatments. It is also important to ensure that systems are robust and that growers can intervene with tools, such as agrochemicals, if other methods are not adequately suppressing pest outbreaks. So if that is the theory, does it work in practice in both protected and field crops?

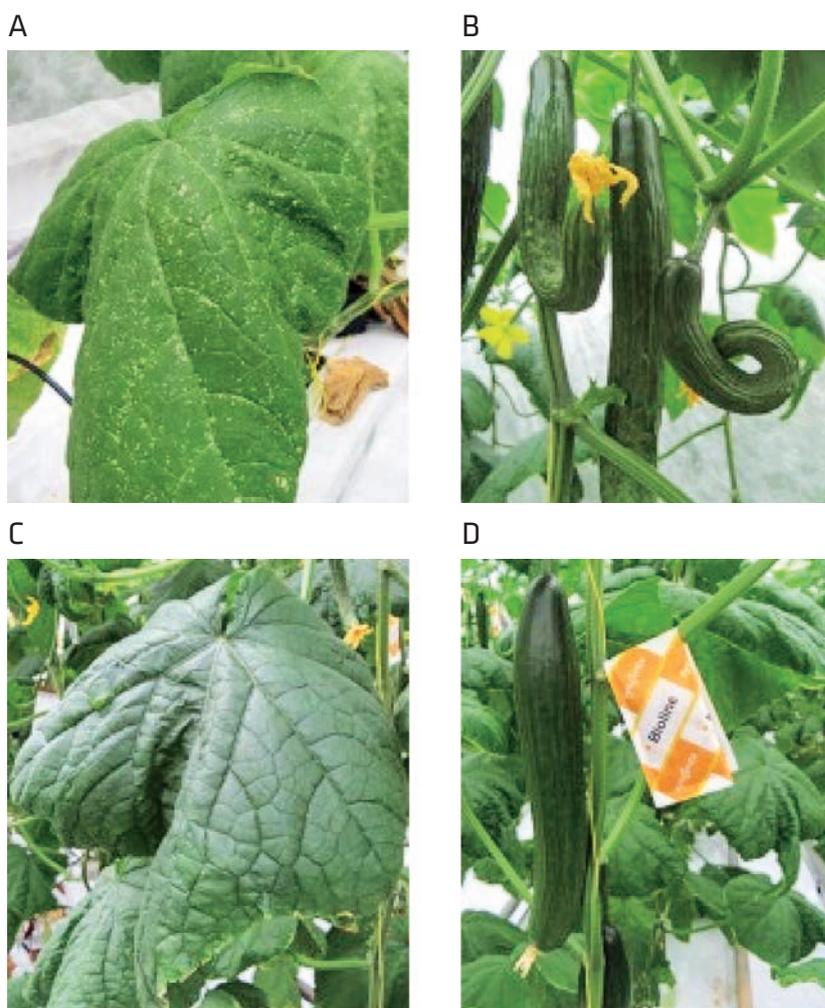
Starting with an example from protected crops, Melon thrips (*Thrips palmi*) are a worldwide pest of many edible/ornamental crops. High levels of pesticide resistance are often encountered making them difficult to control, and they have life stages that occupy both the grow-

ing media and aerial parts of the plants. Reliable control on cucumbers has been achieved using an IPM system utilising physical, biological and chemical measures. A short persistence insecticide spray is applied when plants are moved to the production glasshouse and two days later predatory mites known to be effective against thrips larvae/adults feeding on plant leaves (*Amblyseius* (=Neoseiulus) *cucumeris*) are introduced using controlled release sachets. Simultaneously biological agents (*Hypoaspis miles*) that are active against thrips life stages in the growing medium are released. As the plants grow another mite species (*Amblyseius* (=Typhlodromips) *montdorensis*) thought to be more effective against thrips attacking larger plants is released. In the event of control being lost by the biological agents, a pesticide has been identified that can be applied to reduce pest numbers without destroying the natural enemies, thus eliminating grower risk when using the system. The strategy can be reinforced by using strategically placed sticky curtain traps to intercept

FIG.1 - Categories of crop protection “tools” for use in Integrated Pest Management systems.



**FIG.2** - *Thrips* feeding damage on cucumber leaves and fruit (A, B) in an “uncontrolled” glasshouse, and following use of an IPM strategy (C, D)



flying thrips. In commercial glasshouse tests good control of both thrips numbers and resultant damage has been reliably achieved (Fig. 2).

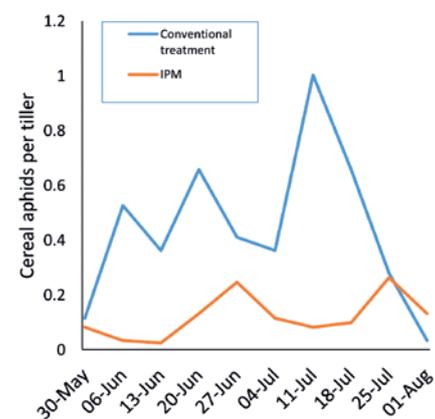
Release of biological agents in field crops is often not economically viable but other techniques are available for use in IPM. Increasingly farmers are devoting parts of their land to support increased biodiversity. Florally enriched areas for pollinators often feature in these management plans, but it is less well recognised that such habitats can also be designed to encourage large numbers of natural enemies, offering free incidental pest suppression. These flower rich habitats do not have to be sown in strips along the edges of fields as is often suggested, but instead can be placed in less productive areas. Many species of both natural enemies and pollinators can move significant distances and will seek out crops/pests themselves. Such habitats do not need to be re-sown annually, suitable plants thrive in low fertility soil, and often only a single carefully timed cut each year is required, all reducing maintenance costs. A

reservoir of natural enemies will build up in these habitats and contribute to pest suppression in local crops. Successful use of this ecological service relies on the understanding that although such suppression can be a cost effective component of IPM systems, it cannot on its own be relied upon to control pests in every year or every region. Thus growers should intervene with an insecticide in their crops where it is necessary, but only after crop monitoring coupled with treatment thresholds indicate it is economically justified. Application technology that minimises drift into off-crop areas should also be used. Although natural enemy numbers in the crop will be reduced after insecticide treatment there will be a reservoir of control agents in the off-crop habitats available to prevent pest resurgence as the efficacy of the pesticide wears off.

IPM approaches have been developed against even the most difficult pests in field crops, those such as aphids that can multiply very rapidly. For example, the efficacy of establishing florally rich habitats promoting both pollinators and

natural enemies in small areas (>5% of the land area) have been tested over a period of four years on UK farms growing winter wheat. A cheap and readily available pheromone lure was used to attract aphid parasites and predatory hoverflies into the crop from the floral habitats. The level of cereal aphid suppression achieved (Fig. 3) was such that economic treatment thresholds were rarely reached. Farmers retained, however, the option of using insecticides on their crops should local pest populations demand it, eliminating risk. Farmers indicated that they were encouraged to adopt the system as they did not have to rely entirely on the natural enemy component, but had the ability to use a trusted agrochemical option where they felt it was needed. They found, however, that in practice the number of times insecticide use was justified was substantially reduced by the IPM strategy.

**FIG.3** - Suppression of cereal aphids in a commercial winter wheat crop using flower rich habitats and pheromone lures to attract insect predators and parasitoids into the crop (no insecticide treatment applied)



In summary, low-risk IPM strategies can contribute significantly to the target of increasing production intensification and safeguarding remaining agrochemical options for pest control, whilst simultaneously achieving important environmental objectives. Properly used, combined use of agrochemicals with alternative approaches reduces pressure on pesticides, whilst eliminating the clear risk of relying solely on alternatives such as biological options, making it an important consideration in modern crop production.

More details of both IPM systems in general and the examples provided in this article are available from the Centre for Integrated Pest Management at Harper Adams University.

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T. de L'ESCAILLE, A. IRIMESCU, L. BACIU, N. SAPUNARU, F. M. FAUR

## How to face the complexity of food production

*More than one thousand members attended the LAPAR General Assembly on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May in Bucharest. In his opening speech, President Laurentziu BACIU underlined the most urgent issues linked to the CAP reform: implementation of greening and the late direct payments linked to the software adaptation by the Payment Agency.*

Next to these, he also emphasized the importance of access to agricultural land and forestry; land consolidation and amendments in the cadaster. Thierry de L'ESCAILLE, ELO Secretary general underlined the challenges of the adaptation to climate change, access to innovation, as well as the possibility to use plant protection products such as azoles or glyphosate in order to ensure food and environmental security. He also focused on the relation between property rights and the need to have a competitive and open agricultural market that is open to all EU citizens.

As the final keynote speaker, Achim IRIMESCU, Minister of Agriculture, summarized the priorities and actions to come to face the complexity of food production and what lessons could be learned from past mistakes. He focused on the need to restructure research to enhance the competitiveness of Romanian farmers such as improvements in irrigation. Research would also be vital in order to be better prepared to face such crises as the one of the milk and meat sector or simply to attract qualified young farmers. His all-day presence confirmed once more his understanding of the importance of dialogue with farmers themselves in order to understand their issues. The discussions gave a perfect opportunity to better understand the point of view and challenges ahead of the Central – Eastern European regions.

Emmanuelle MIKOSZ, ELO



## A Sustainable European Agriculture: Is Greening the Way Forward?

The **European Parliament Inter-Group on "Biodiversity, Hunting, and Countryside"** met on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April to discuss the way forward for the greening of the CAP and the practical ways it can work for Europe's biodiversity and land managers. The meeting was chaired by Karl-Heinz FLORENZ, MEP. At the conference, first insights from the ground were presented by Joost KORTE, European Commission, DG AGRI; Christopher PRICE, Country Land and Business Association (CLA); Faustine BAS-DEFOSSEZ, EEB and Andrei POPESCU, LAPAR. This was followed the discussion towards the future with different stakeholders.

The participants, speakers and delegates recognized that there are still steps to be taken in order to ensure that the greening does not fail. For farmers, this means ensuring that the greening is integrated properly with the business side of farming and allows a certain amount of flexibility. For nature protection NGOs, there are still questions of viability when it comes to the translation of European rules into national policies. What is needed now is more reliable data that can be trusted by all stakeholders, so that the greening can work efficiently and produce the needed results, both for farmers' businesses and the environment.

As said by MEP Karl-Heinz FLORENZ, President of the Inter-Group: *"Sustainable agriculture is more than 'greening' for me. But I also believe that the greening of European agriculture must not fail. We introduced the greening and now we should make the best out of it."*

For more information please contact Delphine DUPEUX at [delphine.dupeux@elo.org](mailto:delphine.dupeux@elo.org)

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## Perspectives of the Agri-Food sector: finding solutions for the current challenges in Spain

On the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016, the European Landowners' Organization together with the Friends of the Countryside and APROCA organized in Madrid a conference entitled "Perspectives of the Agri-food sector: market, legislation and performance improvement", hosted at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment, and with the kind support of Same Deutz-Fahr and Syngenta.

Ana CANOMANUEL, ELO

The Secretary General of Agriculture and Food, Carlos CABANAS highlighted the importance of private owners in the economic and environmental support of the countryside, and said that: "the CAP must mean a support to strengthen the producers' sector and to reinforce the skeleton of the agri-food system".

From Brussels, Francisco Javier REVIRIEGO from DG SANTE of the European Com-

mission, explained the novelties of the new Animal Health Law, whose objective is not only to simplify the previous ones, but also provides the approach "one health", which tackles human, animal and environmental health.

Ignacio SÁNCHEZ ESTEBAN, President of the FEAGA, the Spanish Agrarian Guarantee Fund, clarified what the new CAP and its benefits means for the environment. After him, Antonio OBEJO explained that after the last revision of the land registry roads have automatically public rights of way, without prior notification to the owners. Mr OBEJO ended up with a positive note: the topic is finding solutions already, but he encouraged the owners to submit individual complaints.

Opportunities for innovation are key for making the countryside more sustainable and productive. Isabel BOMBAL, from the Directorate General Rural Development and Forestry of the Ministry, explained the existing opportunities through the European Innovation Partnerships (EIP).

During the Conference, the importance of the agri-food system for the Spanish economy and the way out of the crisis was highlighted, however, as a counterpoint, Arturo MERAYO from Cícero Comunicación demonstrated how the pub-

lic opinion has a perception of agriculture that is far from reality. Initiatives like the Good Growth Plan from Syngenta can serve to protect the environment, and little by little help change with actions the perception of society. Talking about innovation is also important for an effective and productive agriculture, said José Manuel ARROYO from Same Deutz-Fahr who discussed the advantages of precision farming.

At the end of the Conference, Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Secretary General of the European Landowners' Organization and Carlos OTERO, President of the Wildlife Estates Project, handed over four new Wildlife Estate labels to the following properties: "Dehesa de Castilseras" (Fernando MURILLO), "Dehesa de Luna" (Francisco RUIZ DE LA TORRE), "El Dehesón" (Mariano BARCELÓ) y "Granja de Matamala" (Javier ÁLVAREZ DE ESPEJO).

They were awarded for taking exemplary care in their management, landscape conservation and support of biodiversity.

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## The potential of labelling in landscape management

*There are currently a number of labelling schemes present in the EU today focusing on the quality of products, but there is none or very few which actively promote landscapes comprehensively. Private benefits of labelling include increasing market recognition of products as well as providing an opportunity for farmers to charge a premium price.*



Emily GLADSTONE, ELO trainee

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Labelling is generally targeted at a landscape scale rather than a farm scale. This scaled up approach has the potential to lower transaction costs of potential payment schemes. Furthermore, labelling schemes may increase inclusivity by delivering payments for ecosystem services to all stakeholders through social and infrastructure investments. This potential of landscape labels was explored during an

EU level workshop on May 31<sup>th</sup>, in the context of the ELO's HERCULES project.

Carsten MANN described how the unique landscape where Iberian ham is produced is at risk of agricultural intensification due to the landscape not fitting specifications for EU subsidies or schemes. In this instance, there seems to be potential for a label for Iberian ham which includes landscape management criteria. Such a label, when combined with appropriate funding and support structures could help safeguard the landscape.

Geographical indication labels which fall under EU agricultural product schemes were described by Peggy DIERYCKXVISSCHERS quality policy officer from the European Commission. Although these labels can support the heritage and diversity of an area, EU geographical indication labels do not have direct specifications on how land is managed. Indeed, this workshop highlighted the potential of labelling products which have met certain land management criteria in order to encourage sustainably sound land management practices.

An example of a label where landscapes have to meet certain management criteria is the Wildlife Estates Label which was described by Heli SIITARI. This is an EU wide

project which recognises environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable land management practices. This label also provides a platform where best practice land management policies can be shared. Estates with this label can benefit from payment schemes depending on the country in which they are situated.

A further label which sets land management criteria was the Clwydian Range Label. This was described by David SHIEL, a Senior Countryside Officer of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB. David described how before the Clwydian Range Project was introduced there had been a lack of management of the upland area due to current generations of farmers lacking skills and confidence with upland management. The project thus aimed to provide sustainable incentives for upland management as well as raise awareness about the link between land management, conservation and food.

The moderator of the workshop Patrick WORMS, a senior policy advisor from the World Agroforestry Centre questioned whether labelling approaches can be effective on a large scale; however Carol RITCHIE from the EUROPARC Federation demonstrated that labelling on a large scale can be effective, citing EUROPARC,

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Contact:  
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an organisation which operates across 17 EU countries. She stressed the extent of economic benefits which national parks can bring.

Labels may endorse sustainable land management practices due to the price premium of products which come with the label and/or through various payment schemes for ecological services. However, labels will be less effective if they lack consumer recognition. Indeed, a recent survey found that only 17% of respondents were aware of the EU protected geographical indication label. Local labels which are set by small independent bodies may lack brand recognition outside their region of origin. A further challenge for labelling is the need

to increase recognition at a national level, as labelling is still unknown to many decision makers in certain countries. Although labels can assist in increasing political and consumer recognition of good land management practices, consumers and policy makers must first recognise the value of a label.

Patrick WORMS also noted that land management practices which promote the heritage of a landscape may at times be in conflict with ecological principles, an important consideration when implementing landscape management policy.

Labelling in landscape management can promote sustainable land use as well as

benefit landowners and the public, therefore further discussion is needed on how to create new concepts that enable labels to promote landscape values. The examples described in the workshop demonstrate that labelling approaches can be implemented on a variety of different scales. In order to be effective, necessary funding and support structures need to be in place and the label must be one that consumers can recognise and trust.

More information on the project is available on the project's website: [www.hercules-landscapes.eu](http://www.hercules-landscapes.eu)



## ICREI'S 10<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

### 7-8 July, Aix en Provence

## ENVIRONMENTAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*"An environmental entrepreneur is a person or an institution who imagines and finds new and performing means to transform environmental problems into solutions and profit"*

For too many environmentalists economics and business are traditionally responsible for environmental destruction. Accordingly enterprises are considered as responsible for overusing natural resource and pollution.

Sustainable development is a rallying concept but we must go further: think about methods, imagine instruments and above all implement them. This 10th International Conference aims at the implementation of concepts we developed since 1996 and published in 9 books.

- In order to face up economic decay and unemployment, green growth must mimic policies and institutions which are responsible for economic prosperity and environmental quality in developed countries: secure and well defined property rights, freedom for business and rule of law in order to free initiative, investment and innovation which have been and still are the prerequisite of technological revolution and social progress.
- Green growth offers unlimited perspectives for society at large, provided entrepreneurs be free to imagine, create and profit. Governments must no longer act directly but be an efficient catalyst and partner. Eventually we have no alternative to entrepreneurship.

As for our past nine International Conferences we'll get patronage from key figures such as, French Ministers of Economics and Environment, former ministers of Enterprises, Industry and Environment, Presidents of local governments, President of Free Foundation, President of European Landowners' Organization, President of Electricité de France; as well as several sponsors and partners such as Aix Marseille Université, Enterprises pour l'Environnement, FREE Foundation, Enviropreneur Institute-PERC, European Landowners' Organization-ELO, OECD, Liberty Institute India, Electricité de France, CERIC-CNRS, Rotary International, French Patent Office (INPI), Ernst & Young, Business Angels, Institute for Economic Studies-Europe, American Enterprise Institute, Competitive Enterprise Institute, and money others.

For more information please visit [www.icrei.fr](http://www.icrei.fr)



## Hunting is Conservation

*The General Assembly of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), co-organised by the ELO, took place in Brussels on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. Gathering together large audience of hunters, conservationists and policy makers, the Assembly was dedicated to the theme of 'Hunting is Conservation'. In this way, the CIC wished to demonstrate the remarkable contributions that hunters have made to ensuring sustainability for many of the most recognizable wildlife species on the planet.*



Robert de GRAEFF, ELO

"We are doing something right" said Bernard LOZE, CIC President, noting that it helped wildlife, communities biodiversity to persist and even thrive. In this, he was supported by the President of the Belgian Delegation, Tony POUPPEZ de KETTENIS, who urged those present to come to a "new consensus" with a mostly urbanised population that no longer understands the realities of hunting and life in the countryside. Uncontrolled wildlife, he noted, was particularly problematic in a small country such as Belgium and the Netherlands, where geese, foxes and deer can have a large and negative impact.

In this, he was supported by the keynote speaker of the day, Karel PINXTEN, Dean of the European Court of Auditors, who welcomed the audience on behalf of Belgian hunters and land managers. In his speech, he stated three key areas in which hunters can make a difference for conservation: "responsible hunting practices, increasing our focus on predator control, and active habitat improvements". However, Mr. PINXTEN noted, none of these would be achieved without the active involvement of other stakeholders, which required "a model based on trust, not on conflict".

The last guest speaker was Jyrki KATAINEN, EU Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, whose personal connection with hunting showed him that "hunter have an obligation to take care of the environment [by] providing winter feed, cutting trees for hare nests" and other practical measures. Hunting, he said, was a positive force for conservation if it was carried out correctly in terms of responsibility, sustainability and transparency.

These three themes were taken up by the panellists who took the stage after the Vice-President, who discussed the question of "What If We Stop Hunting?". After opening remarks by MEP Karl-Heinz FLORENZ, hunting representatives from Europe, North America and Africa took the stage to shed some international light on the consequences of an end to hunting.

Hunters, agreed the panel, have a responsibility for the environment. Willy PABST, who manages a large hunting estate in Namibia, explained that his estate pays not just for the employment of 125 locals, but also for the upkeep and conservation of different habitats that are needed to support game species. Without reserves such as his, Mr. PABST ar-

gued, there would be no money for conservation. Mr. Ali KAKA, CIC Director for Africa, concurred with this, and also urged the European audience: "Don't tell Africa what to do, we need advice, not preaching". However, Mr. KAKA was also forthright in condemning those hunters who did not act responsibly or honestly, saying that the international community had to distance themselves completely from such individuals.

Especially in Europe, noted the panel, there was a need to manage nature through sustainable hunting practices. Seger VAN VOORST TOT VOORST, director of the Dutch Hoge Veluwe National Park, explained that uncontrolled populations of deer had caused real harm to both farmers and the environment as the deer herds had decimated rare habitats and farmers' fields alike.

Finally, Jurgens TACK, Director of the Flemish Landowners' Organization explained that, according to the Lotka-Volterra model which models species' population dynamics, a sudden ban on hunting would lead to negative consequences for biodiversity as both predator and prey populations would grow and decline out of control, especially in a country of limited surface like Belgium.



## Hunting is conservation – imagine if we stop hunting



*Man plays a critical role in managing the environment and one area that this is particularly true in is sustainable hunting. "Hunters are the guardians of nature and wildlife," stated George AMAN, President of the CIC, underlining the value that conservation hunting brings to wildlife conservation economically, socially, and environmentally.*

The attempts of ideologically-motivated opponents of hunting often base their arguments on emotions rather than scientific facts. Hunters represent an educated conservation force on the ground. The 30 million registered hunters in the northern hemisphere (7 million in Europe) are actively engaged in wildlife management and conservation on a daily basis, and partner with professional and voluntary conservation organizations at different levels.

Stopping hunting would have disastrous consequences and a devastating environmental impact. Putting the health of humans and wildlife at risk, disrupting food security, and dramatically increasing human-wildlife conflict are just a few examples of the potential costs.

Therefore the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) and MEP Karl-Heinz FLORENZ, President of the Intergroup on Biodiversity, Hunting and Countryside, organized a round table discussion in the heart of the European Parliament with the theme "Imagine if we stop hunting". Thierry de L'ESCAILLE, Secretary General of the European Landowners' Organization, Ali A. KAKA, CIC Ambassador to Africa and Wilfried PABST, owner of Sango in Save Valley Conservancy in Zimbabwe joined him to discuss the topic based on their experiences.

For more information please visit the website [www.cic-wildlife.org](http://www.cic-wildlife.org) or contact CIC Team



### EU Platform on Coexistence between People and Large Carnivores

Representatives from landowning, herding, hunting, research and conservation organisations met on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May for the third annual meeting of the EU Platform on Coexistence between People and Large Carnivores. The Platform was established two years ago to promote ways to minimize and find solutions to conflicts between people and large carnivores.

A particular focus of the agenda was the examination of good practice case studies collected by the Platform members and an assessment of the potential for funding coexistence measures through the EU Rural Development fund (the EAFRD), second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The co-chair of the Platform, Thierry de L'ESCAILLE, ELO Secretary General said, "We already have an understanding of the type of measures which can support coexistence. However, these are of little use if they come with no financial support. Support both for the measures themselves and advice in implementing them is essential. The Rural Development Programme has the potential to do this".



For more information on the work of the Platform, please contact Delphine DUPEUX or see: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/carnivores/coexistence\\_platform.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/carnivores/coexistence_platform.htm)



## European Historic Houses Annual Visit in Vienna

*Between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2016, the city of Vienna hosted the 1st annual field visit of the European Historic Houses Association thanks to its Austrian member association (Österreichischer Burgenverein). For this premiere, about fifty members of the organization gathered from all over Europe for a busy programme.*

Juliana zu STOLBERG; Christoph HUBEAUX

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The event began with a seminar on historic houses preservation in an Austrian context and included practical examples of maintenance. It was followed the next day by a visit to several private historic houses in the surroundings of Vienna. This allowed our members to discover the country's culture and heritage as well as to learn about the national Association's concerns and difficulties.

Held in the Schönbrunn Palace, the seminar entitled "*Preservation & Maintenance of Private Historic Houses: Smart Recipes & Good Practices*" was introduced by the presidents of the European and Austrian associations, Count Rodolphe de LOOZ-CORSWAREM and Graf Alexander KOTTULINSKY. The floor was then given to four panelists from very diverse backgrounds and specialties.

Dr. Andreas LEHNE, head of the department for inventory and research at the Bundesdenkmalamt, spoke first on "*The role of the Bundesdenkmalamt in the Pres-*

*ervation of buildings in Austria*". He described the history of this federal authority before approaching the issue of listed buildings in Austria. One of the agency's aims is to list protected buildings which have been protected and to provide funds for their renovation. However, he noted that the process is difficult in Austria and that there is a need for owners to approach the authorities as soon as possible, although there is no formal obligation to be listed.

Then Dr. Jochen KÄFERHAUS, professor at the Fine Arts University Vienna, presented some very practical elements to make historic building more energy-efficient. His presentation, "*Intelligent solutions for heating, sustainability and building physics for historic houses*" showcased practical solutions to keep buildings comfortable. He illustrated his comments with various concrete cases such as "inside isolation" to avoid humid walls by setting up a heating system in the wall next to the window. Concluding on a pos-

itive note, he outlined that there are always ways for owners to find alternatives which comply with authorities' requirements.

The following speaker, Dr. Wolfgang KIPPES, former director of Schönbrunn Palace, addressed the issue of "*Fire Prevention in Historic Houses*" by taking our seminar venue as an example for his presentation. He described the damages which can occur if prevention measures are not sufficiently taken into account and offered several options on how to address the problem. In the end, he advised to choose the use of sprinklers over the professional brigades, because of their early intervention advantage and the very low risk of system failure.

To conclude the panel, Dr. Soraya STUBENBERG, an Austrian private owner, highlighted the topic of the financing of private historic houses. She shared with the participants her experience of overtaking a castle in Austria and explained

her position regarding VAT and subsidises issues which owners of historic houses face nowadays. In fact, she pointed out the impact which historic buildings can have on the local economy and tourism in general. However, she deplored the government passivity with regard to the financial incentives which are granted to owners. She also stressed the necessity to adapt these places to new generations in order for them to feel at home.

The participants got the chance to question the panellists and it provoked a vibrant debate on the different issues discussed, especially the technics for fire prevention and the economic value of historic houses.

Finally, discussions went on during the Gala Dinner, which was hosted at the *Lusthaus*, an historic building from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Reconstructed by Joseph II two centuries later, it became the scene of huge events and festivities for the court and the upper nobility. This was also a good opportunity for our members to exchange their own practical experiences with both experts and owners from other European countries.

Having benefited from a theoretical training regarding the maintenance and preservation of historic buildings, the practi-

cal part of the trip, which was organized the following day began at Stetteldorf am Wagram where Mr. and Mrs. von STRADIOT, the owners, warmly welcomed the group for its first stop. They led our members through the property while recounting the story of the castle rehabilitation and management after the Second World War. For thirty years, the owners have undertaken deep and exemplary renovations. They are also putting a lot of effort into the restoration of the original state of the castle. Fully renovated, the outbuildings are now able to host offices for local workers and farmers as well as the owners' place of stay. As highlighted by Dr. STUBENBERG a day earlier, this early case shows the positive impact which such renovations can have on the local and regional economy.

We then reached the Renaissance castle of Rosenberg with its medieval core and its numerous towers. A well-known tourist destination, the castle welcomes more than 50.000 visitors each year. This enabled the owners to maintain and restore the place to perfection. Nowadays, the castle is partly inhabited and visited, often chosen by children for its falconry display. Beneficiating from their established reputation as a tourist area, the owners managed keep the place lively and in very good shape. This example again proved the significant potential of private his-

toric houses for their local environment in term of economic and social impact.

Finally, the last visit of the bucolic castle of Mühlbach was conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The castle has been entirely preserved since the 17<sup>th</sup> century and is inhabited by all generations of the GUDENUS family who kindly opened their doors for our members. The visit then continued on the other side of the road into their English park which is opened to the public and is often rented for private or cultural events. This park was a perfect example of a cultural landscape which has been maintained throughout the years. Indeed, the owners showed a real interest in preserving this family heritage for future generations, who are keen to take an active part to the project.

The last dinner in a traditional restaurant of Vienna was the perfect occasion to wrap up this trip with a final exchange of useful insights in a cosier ambiance. There is no doubt these discussions will be beneficial for the forthcoming meeting, which is already scheduled on the **5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> of October in Brussels** on the occasion of the General Assembly 2016.

More information on our website  
[www.europeanhistorichouses.eu](http://www.europeanhistorichouses.eu)





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## Forum for the Countryside Entrepreneurship 2016

*This year's Forum for the Entrepreneurship (FCE) took place in Doyon, Belgium, from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. The theme "Marketing: A Cornerstone for Young Entrepreneur" provided highly interesting insights into the challenges of entrepreneurship.*

Marie-Christine SCHÖNBORN, YFCS



**W**e would like to particularly thank our speakers, Charles Louis DE POTESA, founder of ARMOGANT, Baudouin DE CHABOT-TRAMECOURT, founder of CINÉMAT-IR and Benedetta SOLARO DEL BORGIO, owner and managing director of EUR TRADE CENTER (ETC), for introducing the audience to their approach of marketing in entrepreneurship and particularly for sharing their fantastic experience as entrepreneurs to our members! Thank you so much for your time and letting us be part of it!

In addition, the YFCS Board, together with EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD GROUP and Karl GROTFELT, was glad to present this year's new winner, which is the start-up "WIGNAC". WIGNAC produces cider from apples from the Ardennes in France and we are excited to hear more from it and about its development! The winner Edouard de MERODE expresses his personal thanks:

*"First of all, I wanted to thank the Young Friends of the Countryside for the wonderful weekend we had in Doyon. It was the first time for me but certainly not the last one. It was really interesting to meet people from all over Europe with a common passion.*

*In addition to that "WIGNAC cidre Naturel" received the FAMIGRO Entrepreneur-*

*ship Award, this price means a lot for us, because Wignac is at its beginning and we are really thrilled that members from YFCS, ELO, and M. Karl Grotenfelt believe in it.*

*Moreover, as young start-up, the 5.000 € prize is really useful and will help us to develop our marketing which is really important in this kind of product."*

The YFCS Board would like to particularly thank the host Quentin d'HUART for hosting this fun and informative networking event! Thank you so much, Quentin! Last, but not least, thank you so much Agnès DE LIEDEKERKE - BEAUFORT, Geoffroy DE CANNIÈRE and Francesco KINSKY DAL BORGIO for hosting another unforgettable FCE!

## EU Green Week 2016

The 2016 edition of Green Week, the biggest annual occasion to debate and discuss European environmental policy was held from the 30<sup>th</sup> of May to the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. The theme was entitled 'Investing for a Greener Future'.

The ELO played an active part in this event, hosting a Twitter chat on 'Investing in the Countryside-is the CAP enough?' The chat explored ways in which the EU can support long term sustainable investment in the countryside and how the countryside can promote itself to a mostly urban public. Responses included embracing technology in order to improve productivity and encouraging short supply chains.

During Green Week, the ELO stressed in The Parliament Magazine that in order for farmers and landowners to make long term, environmentally conscious investments in the countryside secure property rights are needed. Additionally, land managers must be properly compensated for their work so they can invest in the next generation. Well managed land brings many values, but there are still many unpaid external benefits, which farmers and landowners could be compensated for. Finally, farmers must earn a fair price for the products which they produce in order to ensure long term responsible care for both people and the environment.

Emily GLADSTONE, ELO trainee

## Diary dates

### 21 - 23 June, Brussels

Water Innovation Europe  
[www.waterinnovationeurope.eu](http://www.waterinnovationeurope.eu)

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### 24 June, Brussels

High level conference on Food authenticity and integrity  
[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health\\_food-safety/information\\_sources/events/20160624\\_food-authen\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/information_sources/events/20160624_food-authen_en.htm)

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### 7 - 8 July, Aix en Provence (France)

Environmental Entrepreneurship - ICREI's 10<sup>th</sup> international conference  
[www.icrei.fr](http://www.icrei.fr)

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### 5 September, Cork, Ireland

Cork 2.0 European Conference on rural development; organised by DG AGRI  
[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/rural-development-2016\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/rural-development-2016_en.htm)

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### 4 October, Brussels

HERCULES Final conference  
[www.hercules-landscapes.eu](http://www.hercules-landscapes.eu)

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### 5 - 6 October, Brussels

EHHA GA  
[www.europeanhistorichouses.eu](http://www.europeanhistorichouses.eu)

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### 10 - 13 October, Brussels

European Week of Regions and Cities - previously known as the OPEN DAYS  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/fr/newsroom/events/2016/10/european-week-of-regions-and-cities-2016-open-days](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/fr/newsroom/events/2016/10/european-week-of-regions-and-cities-2016-open-days)

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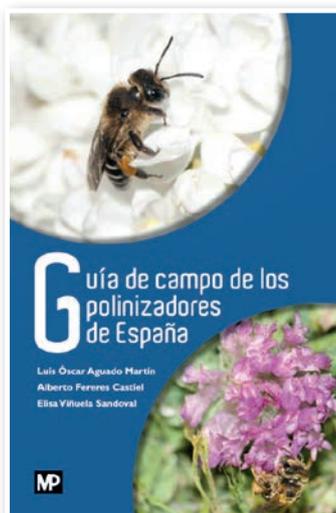
### 19 - 20 October, Bydgoszcz (Poland)

3<sup>rd</sup> European Congress of Agrimanagers  
[www.elo.org](http://www.elo.org)

## Guía de campo de los polinizadores de España

Luis Oscar AGUADO, Alberto FERERES, Elisa VIÑUELA

Ed. Mundiprensa, Madrid. 2015  
 ISBN 978-84-8476-657-5



Plant-pollinator interactions are of crucial importance both for natural communities on Earth and for modern agriculture. Pollinating insects play a critical role in maintaining natural plant communities and ensuring production of seeds in most flowering plants. In agriculture, they are also essential, because food production and quality of fruit depend directly or indirectly on pollinated plants and in absence of bees or bumblebees, many crops cannot be economically produced.

An essential book recently published, which contributes to the knowledge and preservation of pollinators is the *Guía de campo de los polinizadores de España*. It provides clues for the identification of the amazing biodiversity of pollinators occurring in Spain, describes the main features of every species and gives more than 500 plant-pollinator interactions. In addition, some measures easy to implement aiming at enhancing pollinator conservation in crops and gardens, are also listed. The book has deserved the first agricultural book award in the XLIV Agricultural Exhibition in Lleida (Spain) in 2015.

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