



Biodiversity, Mediterranean Diet and Genius Loci

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Abstract

The Altaura e Monte Ceva Organic Farms try to contribute to the preservation and the improvement of biodiversity by offering an array of “tasty and savory” emotional knowledge. Biodiversity is a characteristic of each place, and is therefore intimately linked to the Genius Loci.

Objectives:

We aim to recreate the spirit of the Mediterranean diet in the Mediterranean basin territories, with the twofold objective of fostering the respect of biodiversity and harmonic and sustainable cooperation.

Methods: our methods involve creating a knowledge-based interchange network between people living in surrounding rural areas and in neighboring cities.

Main activities:

- *meetings with citizens and with local institutions;*
- *release of a web site, including an intranet reserved to involved project partners;*
- *setup of the vegetable garden and preparation of gathering places where guests may meet;*
- *checking the vegetable garden contributions.*

Results: the main results we aim to achieve are:

- *linking local communities’ socio-cultural and economic needs to longterm sustainability;*
- *creating wild herbs biodiversity maps;*
- *educating young people on environmental issues, helping the creation of new specialized jobs;*
- *attracting attention from local and international institutions on original methods of territory management.*

Conclusion: We hope that citizens, and in particular young people be educated and put in contact with a culture and resources supporting sustainability.

Keywords: *Biodiversity, Environment, Genius Loci, Mediterranean Diet, Sustainability, Nutrition*

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