



Feedback from Advisory Board to ECOBREED and synergies with other projects

Monika Messmer,

Head of Plant Breeding at Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL
Ackerstrasse 113, CH-5070 Frick, Switzerland
www.fibl.org; Monika.Messmer@fibl.org

President of European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding ECO-PB
www.eco-pb.org

Scientific Coordinator of LIVESEED project www.liveseed.eu

Advisory Board of ECOBREED www.ecobreed.eu

Advisory Board of BRESOV www.bresov.eu “Breeding for resilient, efficient and sustainable organic vegetable production”: tomato, bean, broccoli

Feedback

- All the WPs are very **well planned and executed** according to plan to improve availability of adapted cultivars of wheat, soybean, potato and buckwheat
- Good progress on IPR and MTA, as well as on planning the FPT and PPB
- Extensive training program
- Work on buckwheat conducted by Chinese partner is very impressive and it is good news that WSU will join the consortia, unfortunately they were not present, therefore a separate WP5 meeting should be conducted to combine phenotypic screening of genetic resources, with genomic tools of CAAS and participatory breeding approaches of WSU
- Do not yet give up on soybean in Greece, try to continue on smaller scale, or test other legume species better suited to this climate
- Be aware of the possibility to use **Organic Heterogeneous Material** (broader definition, no restriction of crops) according to new organic regulation
 - **inform farmers and national authorities accordingly**
- upcoming temporary experiment on adjusted DUS and VCU testing for organic varieties in Mid 2021 (if not postponed) → **get prepared for that with populations and**



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Potential Collaboration and Synergies

Scientific exchange

- Exchange on wheat, happy to see that lines of LIVESEED partners are included in ECOBREED **wheat screening**
- Close exchange on **GWAS and MAS on bunt in winter wheat** between LIVESEED and ECOBREED. Different sources of resistance integrated in different breeding material → common set of markers at end of both projects → reference labs that provide service for breeders
- Exchange on methodologies and statistics for implementing participatory cultivar testing and plant breeding, including common work on database. LIVESEED is presently exploring collaboration with SEEDlinked
- Exchange of different approaches on organic plant breeding, specifically on decentralized PPB including farmers and value chain partners



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Potential Collaboration and Synergies

Scientific exchange

- WP2 bunt resistance genes and MAS, joint meeting in Sept/Oct 2020
- Seed treatment/inoculation common topic for all 3 projects, create common list
- Share training material
- ECO-PB as partner of LIVESEED wants to create available documentaion (training, webinars, online lectures) related to organic plant breeding
- Common conferences
- Exchange on policy recommendations on organic seed and breeding



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Scientific Conferences

- **LIVESEED Stakeholder and policy maker workshop** 24 Nov 2020 in Brussels attached to Organic Innovation Days of TP Organic organized by IFOAM EU
- **European Workshop on busting use of organic seed** 25 Nov 2020 in Brussels
- **Annual meetings of Austrian seed associations** in Gumpenstein 25-25 Nov 2020
- **XXI International Workshop on Bunt and Smut** disease will be conducted in 26-27. Nov 2020 Vienna (BOKU), Campus Tulln, 3430 Tulln
- **Intercropping for Sustainability** DIVERSify and ReMIX, are joining forces to hold a meeting with the Association of Applied Biologists on 19th-20th January 2021 at the University of Reading, UK.
- **Biofach 2021 in Feb 2021 Nürnberg Messe** possibility for workshops to reach out to value chain and stakeholders
- **EUCARPIA Section Organic and Low Input Agriculture & LIVESEED Scientific Conference** 8-10 March 2021, Cesis, Latvia co-organized by ECOBREED and BRESOV attached to our annual meeting 11-12 March 2021 → [Special issue on organic breeding in Sustainability Journal](#)



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Scientific Conferences Beyond LIVESEED

- **PreConference Seed Ambassadors** on 6-7 Sept **2021** in Rennes, France organized by ECO-PB and Organic Seed Alliance
- **20th Organic World Congress 2020**, on September 7 -10, **2021** in Rennes, France : <https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020/conference-fora>, Abstract submission Sept 2019?? organized by ITAB & IFOAM International etc.
- **III International Organic Fruit Symposium and I International Organic Vegetable Symposium** in Catania, **14-17 Dec 2021**: <https://www.ishs.org/symposium/698> organized by Ferdinando



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Feedback

- In order to improve outreach we can support you to link your disseminations to permanent database
 - **Organic Eprints** <http://orgprints.org> for all reports, presentations, publications with relevance for organic agriculture
 - **Organic Farmknowledge** <https://organic-farmknowledge.org/> practice abstracts, special topic on seed is implemented this year for farmers and practitioners
 - **European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB)** <https://www.eco-pb.org/> e.g. links to your project, collection of training material together with Organic Seed Alliance from US, young organic breeders – mentors network



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



Potential Collaboration and Synergies

Joint Communication

- Common communication strategies and broad awareness rising for
 - Production and use of organic seed mandatory in EU organic regulation
 - development of cultivars adapted to organic conditions
 - Support each other on social media and newsletter

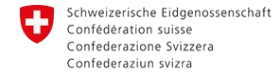




LIVESEED



www.liveseed.eu



Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
Agroscope

Swiss Confederation



de beersche hoeve



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 727230 and by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) under contract number 17.00090. The information contained in this communication only reflects the author's view. Neither the Research Executive Agency nor SERI is responsible for any use that may be made of the information provided.

