

Topic : 4 "Design and evaluation"

Title : Which design and support for robust transitions towards ecological horticulture?

Convenors : Servane Penvern (INRA), Claire Lamine (INRA), Sylvaine Simon (INRA), Marc Lateur (CRA-W),

Aims and scope:

This workshop aims to exchange on various experiences and approaches used to identify, integrate and develop promising concepts or techniques in new or existing horticultural systems. It targets researchers and stakeholders interested in the transformation of horticultural systems valuing ecological processes. The analysis of short contributions should enable participants to better identify the prerequisites for robust transitions towards ecological horticultural systems. Such transitions rely on the consideration of constraints and the combination of methods at multiple levels, including interactive processes within agroecosystem but also within agri-food system. For example, the integration of hardy cultivars makes it necessary to redesign the socio-technical system beyond orchards: farmers' practices, governance of research and extension, food industry and retailers' strategies, consumers' patterns, etc. In this perspective, systemic approaches are also needed beyond the field and the farm in order to integrate necessary changes in the agri-food system. Additionally, robust transitions also rely on the continuous adaptation of the methods to the specificities of each horticultural system. For example, the management of flowering strips assume to product local references and operational monitoring-tools for on-farm adoption. This workshop may therefore help to identify prerequisites, determining factors and approaches useful to consider for further research and extension projects to design and support transitions towards more ecological horticulture.

Workshop process:

Contributors will be selected by the convenors among the abstracts submitted to the conference (topic 4 and 5) and invited for contribution to this workshop. Oral presentations will be 5 min and 1 slide (e.g. a poster, a picture or a scheme) to maximize time for exchange and analysis with the additional participants (approx. 20). Presentations should focus on a brief description of the approach and introduce discussions on (i) the inputs of each experience (whether successful or not) or approaches, and (ii) the different steps and conditions for sustainable transitions towards ecological orchards.

To prepare discussions and the analysis framework, contributors should send a short abstract (200 words) to the convenors before may-15.

Anticipated duration: 2h

Expected attendees: maximum 10 contributions and 20 additional participants

If you have any questions regarding this workshop, please turn directly to the convenors by sending an email to spenvern@avignon.inra.fr

