AGROECOLOGY IN SPAIN: CO-EVOLUTION OF SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE, ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

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Padula (Salerno-Italy), 17 May 2018 – EuroEducATES Conference
Background: Europe - Spain

- 2,100,000 millions ha organic farming
- 34,000 organic operators
- 7%

First organic country in Europe in surface

Europe 12 millions ha (2.7%, EU 5.7%) & 330,000 farmers
Not so much information.... (this can also be taken for OF)

Agroecology practices can be taken from traditional agricultural system

- Naturalist Movement in Aragon, Catalunya & other places ()
- Traditional Mediterranean “dry land” management in South of Spain (terraces, legumes use, pastoralism, transhumance, etc.)...
- Specific agroecosystems: traditional olive crop, Dehesa oaks (Naredo & Campos, 1983)
- Cereals-local legumes varieties, Castilla (Gómez & Bello, 1983)
- Another singular Mountain Areas in the Nord of Spain

Starts point: “agricultural modernisation destroyed the peasants logic and practices” (Gallar, 2012)
AGROECOLOGY IN SPAIN: SOME DEFINITIONS

- Altieri (1985) “scientific basis of organic farming”
- Sevilla & Glez (1993) “sociopolitical dimension: “the use of productive experiences of organic farming to develop proposals for collective social action to unveil the predatory logic of the dominant agribusiness model to replace it with one that points to a more just, economically viable & ecologically sound farming (2000)
- Agroecology was developed together with the pioneer organic farmers before and after it´s legal acknowledgment in 1989.
- The first agroecological transition process in Spain emerged in the mid-90s in Andalusia, with the creation of ISEC-UCO Córdoba
- The ISEC team worked with the environmentalist and pacifist movement and landless Farmers Workers Union (SOC).
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

PhD
Biodiversity & Agroecology UCO Córdoba

Universitary Másters
+ Agroecology, RD & Agrotourism UMH Orihuela 2007
+ Agroecology: Approach to Rural Sustainability (UCO/UNIA/UPO), Baeza (Jaén) 2010
+ Agroecology (own title) INEA-UVA Valladolid 2014
+ Organic Farming UB Barcelona 1999 (non official)

Own Postgraduated (30 ETC) ... in several places (examples)
- Agroecology & Food at UPV Valencia, 2015
- Dinamización Local Agroecológica UAB Barcelona , 2014
- Expert in Agroecology, UPNA Pamplona 2015
- Agroecoloxía hortos USC Lugo....
- Others: Vigo, Sevilla

University Degrees
Agrículture & Rural Areas Eng INEA-UVA Valladolid 2010
Agriculture & Food Eng (OF & Agroecology opt) 2011 ETSEA-UdL Lleida
Agroecology UEX (opt subject) 2014
Agroecology & Food Food Systems UVic-UCC (2015)
VOCATIONAL & PERMANENT TRAINING SECONDARY EDUCATION

Vocational education (Secondary)
- First school in approaching was Manresa (Barna)
- In 2009 Agroecological production studies were set (2 years),
- Offered by 28 Vocational Schools (public & private), 11 regions
- Same teachers as for conventional farming

Permanent training
- Several entities and organizations offer training in Agroecoly
- Profesional Farmers organizations give indeferently Agroecology and OF courses
- Other most known at National level: Ecologists en Acción, SEAE
- Social movements, consumers, urban gardeners increasily involved in courses
- Topics are diverse
AGROECOLGY IN SPAIN: ADVICE & PUBLICATIONS

- No advice
- Several handbooks and manuals in internet
- Individual voluntary advice
- Local Associations
AGROECOLOGY IN SPAIN: FIRST PUBLICATIONS

- Agroecological instruments to achieve a sustainable rural development in Spain (Guzman et al, 2000).
- Agroecology & development” (Labrador & Altieri MA, 2001), Extremadura trying to approach to a sustainable management of the mediterranean agroecosystems with agroecological foundaments.
FARMER TO FARMER ADVICE & TRAINING
2004 Ecovida PGS Brasilian model was presented in Spain at Almeria SEAE Congress
First experiences were put in practice in Andalucia (I OF Action Plan), taken idea from IFOAM
2005 on, several PGS were created by farmers and cosumers all over Spain
2010 several Seminars/Courses have been organised on PGS creation and operation by SEAE in collaboration
Currently, most of PGS in Spain includes organic certified organic, which take the opportunity to share experiences with other farmers and consumers
Certified small farmers are claiming Agroecological movements as they sell their products as organic
AGROBIODIVERSITY & SEEDS IN ORGANIC, GIJÓN (ASTURIAS) 2009
SEAE SEEDS & AGROBIODIVERSITY PROMOTION

LOCAL GERMOPŁASM, SEEDS IN ORGANIC, CIUDAD REAL, 2015
LOCAL & STREETS MARKETS, PGS...

PIPAS LOCAL MARKETS
VILLENA (ALICANTE), 2013

SMALLHOLDERS SEMINAR GRANADA, 2012

Seminario
Pequeños productores agroecológicos y certificación en la Europa mediterránea
8 y 9 noviembre
Granada
Facultad de Ciencias Granada - Universidad de Granada • Campus Fuentenueva s/n

Resúmenes
CONSUMERS ASSOCIATIONS EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES

ORGANIC MARKETING IN SHORT CHAINS
ALMERÍA, 2010

FIRST MEETING OF ORGANISED ORGANIC CONSUMERS BENETUSSER (VALENCIA), 2011
2002 Traditional Seeds Network (RdS) was created.

2003 GMOs Maiz plots area were visited and reported to evaluate field contamination, in cooperation with Asamblea Pagessa – Lleida Catalonia

2003 Joint Seminar RdS + SEAE to debate common issues

2007 ORGANIC REVISION Project influencing the use of traditional seeds in Organic
(TECHNICAL) DISSEMINATION MATERIALS, HANDBOOKS, MAGAZINES AE...
TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Organic farming & Agroecology in High Educational Institutions

Seminary of Agroecology in University of Jaen 2008

Exhibition of Agroecology panels in University of A Machado (UNIA) in Jaén 2008
Public Awareness
Collecting information
Disseminating

CLIMATE CHANGE/RESILIENCE INITIATIVES

COMPILATION & DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES, 2005

DOSSIER ON ORGANIC RESEARCH STUDIES ON CC, 2006....

Development of Agricultural Systems resilient to climate change 2012-14
RESEARCH...STILL LOW...

- Difficult to find devoted research to Agroecology
- Difficult to find holistic approach teams
- **Agroecology Depart in CSIC Madrid** (Basic research...) **removed**
- UPO history and I
- Main sources for analysing are the SEAE bianual Congress (11):
  - Only 63 papers in 22 years including “agroecology” in titles 3%
  - Broader topics, more on social & Methodological aspects
- **Research is dominated by researchers**
- Organic farmers participation in organic/Agroecological experiments is still passive
- **Farmers experimentation** is still not recognized or supported by projects
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No of Congress, slogan, Location</th>
<th>Nº</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>I Environmental Practices for quality agricultura, Toledo</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>III Alternatives for the Rural World of 3rd Millennium, Valencia</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>IV Harmony between Ecology and Economy, Córdoba</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>V OF &amp; livestock, diversifi &amp; development solidarity, Gijón (Asturias)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>VI Agroecology: Regarding transition farming systems, Almería</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>VII OF Sustainable water management &amp; food quality, Zaragoza</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>VIII C change, biodiversity and rural development, Bullas (Murcia)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>IX Quality and Food Safety, Lleida</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>X Resilience, innovation, competitiveness, efficiency, Albacete</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>XI Organic farming family, Vitoria-Gasteiz</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>XII Legumes key in agrosystems and food management, Lugo</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 90 years the term was used by Andalusian *landless* farmers organisations (SOC)

Beginning of 2000 the term began to be use by social rural movements (pe Seeds Network) organic farming associations, small farmers professional organisations (like COAG, SLG, EHNE, most of the linked to La Via Campesina)

Middle 2005 term was taken by anti GMO environmental organizations with a political meaning

The Agroecology is mixed with Organic Farming in most websites from small farmers organisations (COAG, UPA, etc.) were news or information on organic farming is shown
AGROECOLOGY IN SPAIN SOCIAL MOVEMENT

- Local platforms emerged in Spain
- Delta Viu, preservation of the Delta del Llobregat Barcelona,
- Huerta Zaragozana to protect remaining fields around cities 2006
- L'Espai Agroecològics Resources (L'ERA), Centre of Manresa.
- Alliance for Food Sovereignty established in 2008 at state level, based on initiatives and regional organizations, various processes
- Spanish Rural Platform, took agroecological approach La Vía Campesina.
- Examples how to build up alternatives to agrood system (Calle, 2013)
- ARCo (supported by COAG, FACPE & Xarxa Consumo Solidari Catalonia.
- Several projects and initiatives take an agroecological approach to drive comprehensive actions in OF (López et al, 2010), and strengthening local organizational capacity of sustainable rural development, on municipal, county, regional and state levels.
- Currently there are other types of initiatives (consumption groups, bioferias, social consumption programmes of organic products.
- The majority of existing initiatives are local or at county level, near large cities, where farmers groups () and consumers of organic products are close in contact each or they are pioners in this field.
## INITIATIVES / PROJECTS, NATIONAL OR REGIONAL AGRO-ECOLOGICAL APPROACH IN SPAIN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project / promoters</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture Shared Responsibility ARCO</td>
<td>Various. Coordinator of Organizations of Farmers (COAG)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.arcocoag.org">www.arcocoag.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecos del Tajo</td>
<td>8 Local Action Groups of Extremadura, Aragon, Madrid</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecosdeltajo.org">www.ecosdeltajo.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecologists in Action</td>
<td>Several initiatives</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecologistasenaccion.org">www.ecologistasenaccion.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esporus (Catalonia).</td>
<td>Resource Espai Agroecològics Manresa (Bages)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.associaciolera.org/">www.associaciolera.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RdG Guadalhorce Valley Málaga</td>
<td>Eight municipalities, Malaga and SCO Council</td>
<td><a href="http://www.valledelguadalhorce.com">www.valledelguadalhorce.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projecte Gripia</td>
<td>Assoc Rurbans &amp; Montanyanes (social enterprise) (Lleida)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.projectegripia.cat/">www.projectegripia.cat/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Terrae</td>
<td>Municipalities &amp; SCO from Cantabria, Castilla La Mancha &amp; Extremadura</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tierrasagroecologicas.es">www.tierrasagroecologicas.es</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Society of Organic Agriculture</td>
<td>Catarroja (Valencia), OF training &amp; advice, in coop. with La Unio de Llauradors i Ramaders PV</td>
<td><a href="http://www.agroecologia.net">www.agroecologia.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural University P Freire</td>
<td>11 Local Action Groups, P Rural &amp; other local entities</td>
<td><a href="http://www.universidadruralsr.com/">www.universidadruralsr.com/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most initiatives are concentrated at Local level

New Regional and cities Governments (Catalonia, Valencia, Madrid...), are more sensitive to Agroecological practices and movements

Most actions to support Agroecology are proposed/included in Regional Organic Actions Plans (Andalucia, Canarias, Valencia...etc.)

Singular joint initiatives are organised at “state” level with environmental entities and the Rural Platform

Campaigns for making people aware of the impact of Conventional Agriculture and benefits of Organic farming/Agroecology are being organised
WHAT IS THE SPANISH SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC FARMING (SEAE)?

- Created in 1992 as a private association
- Composed primarily by individuals (advisors, educators, researchers... But also organic operators...)
- Non profit, no lucrative purpose
- Covering national level
- Advising in national regulation
- Offering organic training and professional education
- Giving support (scientific + technical) to organic farmers
- Publishing materials in organic
- Influencing national agriculture policies with organic (Advocacy)
GENERAL PURPOSE OF SEAE

- To stimulate/coordinate and to facilitate research, education, advice and dissemination of all the aspects related to Organic Farming, Agroecology and sustainable rural development.
- To improve farmers and interested persons qualification devoted to organic agrofood sector (marketing, agriculture processed products, silviculture, fisheries, aquaculture & food) and other primary production activities with generate/consolidate employment in rural areas, diversifying sustainable economy.
- To promote the development and improvement of the Organic Farming practices and Agroecology.
- To develop international cooperation devoted to this issues.
SEAE MEMBERS

- Over 900 individuals in all the 17 regions at national level
- Around 200 PhD (Doctors) in Agronomy, Biology or related knowledge areas
- Most of the members are Agronomist Engineers, biologists, Veterinarian, organic farmers and others professions.
- Small staff
- There is a working group in education activities 80 persons directly involved.
- 40% of women, with Agronomy Engineers (33%), Agriculture and Forest Engineers, (30%), biologist (6%), 4%, Chemical (3%), Animal Veterinary (3%), Pedagogy (3%), Medical (3% y Geographist (3%).
SEAE-SOCLA Agreement (Scientific Latinoamerican Society of Agroecology) in 2006
SOCLA collaboration (Congresses Argentina, México, Lima...)
SEAE CONGRESSES & NATIONAL SEMINARS

- 11 Nationals Scientific Congresses
  - Toledo, 94; Pamplona 96; Valencia 98; Córdoba, 00; Gijón (Ast), 02; Almeria, 04; Zaragoza, 2006; Bullas (Murcia) 08, Lleida, 10; Albacete, 12; Vitoria-Gastéiz, 14

- 23 National Seminars on different topics:
  - Madrid 93, Jarandilla Vera (Cáceres) 95, Sevilla 97, Monforte Lemos (Orense), 99; Palma Mallorca 01 & 09; Garrucha, 03; Toledo, 05; Plasencia, 07; Madrid 09, Granada 11, Mérida 13; C Real 2015

- 9 Regional Congresses on OF & Agroecology
  - Valencia (4), Catalunya, 05 & Galizia 4
I SIMPOSTIO ON AGROECOLOGY, LOCALITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LUGO DECEMEBER 2014

II SIMPOSTIO ON AGROECOLOGY, MUNICIPALITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ALMAGRO (CIUDAD REAL), SEPTEMBER 2015

SEAE LOCAL & RURAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SEAE URBAN AGRICULTURE: ELX (ALACANT) 2011; UTRERA (SEVILLE), 2014

URBAN GARDENS, SEVILLE 2014

URBAN GARDENS, ELX (ALACANT) 2011
III Congreso Estatal de Huertos Ecológicos Urbanos y Periurbanos

→ OBJETIVOS

- Actualizar y compartir el conocimiento y avances de la agricultura urbana y periurbana ecológica en el Estado Español
- Facilitar el intercambio de experiencias y conocimientos aplicados a la agricultura urbana y periurbana ecológica
- Debattir sobre los distintos usos y beneficios de la agricultura urbana ecológica

Se podrán hacer aportaciones al Seminario sobre la temática del mismo, en formato cartel/póster: según las normas de SEAE aquí.

Envío resúmenes/abstracts: 25 de mayo
- Aceptación resumen: 1 de junio
- Envío propuesta póster: 6 de junio
- Aceptación póster: 12 de junio

→ INSCRIBETE aquí

→ MÁS INFORMACIÓN aquí

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Organiza:

Colaboran:

SAVE THE DATE

18 y 19 de junio 2018
La Beneficencia Valencia
Calle Corona, 36
XIII BIENNUAL SEAE CONGRESS NOVEMBER

14-17 noviembre, 2018
CONCLUSIONS

- Agroecology is a word used by all farmers for selling their products.
- Sufficient and quality **food** for all has to be produced.
- The OF (Organic 3.0), if redirected to more **real** sustainability (ecological, economic and social) is an opportunity for approaching to Agroecology.
- For us this means
- There is a need for a transformative role of the Agroecology, integrating its three forms:
  + - a scientific discipline..., for OF.
  + - an agricultural practice and
  + - a social movement
LAG = LEADER PROGRAMMES
1. Guaranty for consumer
2. Quality
3. Prestigy
4. Acknowledgment at

Comunitat Valenciana, España y Europa
THANK YOU!!!

SEAE

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