

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

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EUROPE 12 MILLIONS HA (2,7%, EU 5,7%) & 330.000 FARMERS

- ✗ 2,100.000 millions ha organic farming
- ✗ 34.000 organic operators
- ✗ 7%



FIRST ORGANIC COUNTRY IN
EUROPE IN SURFACE

BACKGROUND: EUROPE - SPAIN

AGROECOLOGY IN SPAIN: SHORT BACKGROUND

- ✗ *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 its 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 the Landless Farmers Workers Union (SOC).

UNIVERSITARY EDUCATION

PhD

Biodiversity & Agroecology UCO Córdoba

Univarsity 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 Agroecology
- ✗ Profesional Farmers organizations give indeferently Agroecology and OF courses
- ✗ Other most known at National level: Ecologists en Acción, SEAE
- ✗ Social movements, consumers, urban gardeners increasilly involved in courses
- ✗ Topics are diverse

AGROECOLOGOY IN SPAIN: ADVICE & PUBLICATIONS

- ✗ No advice
- ✗ Several handbooks and manuals in internet
- ✗ Individual voluntary advice
- ✗ Local Assotiations

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 foundations.

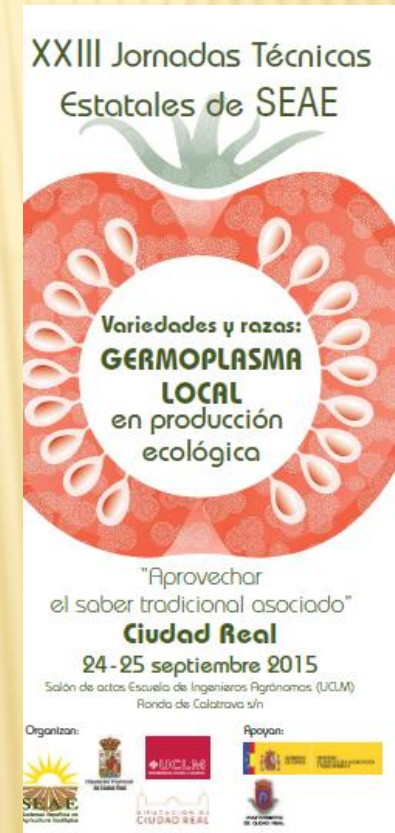
FARMER TO FARMER ADVICE & TRAINING



- ✗ 2004 Ecovida PGS Brazilian 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 GERMOPLASM, SEEDS IN
ORGANIC, CIUDAD REAL, 2015

LOCAL & STREETS MARKETS, PGS...

PIPAS LOCAL MARKETS
VILLENNA (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

Organizan:

Seminario Permanente de Agroecología de la Universidad de Granada

Colaboran:

Apoya:



CONSUMERS ASSOCIATIONS EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES



ORGANIC MARKETING IN SHORT CHAINS
ALMERÍA, 2010

FIRST MEETING OF ORGANISED
ORGANIC CONSUMERS
BENETUSSER (VALENCIA), 2011

TRADITIONAL SEEDS FOR ORGANIC & GMOS

- ✖ 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

CLIMATE CHANGE/RESILIENCE INITIATIVES

- ✗ Public Awareness
- ✗ Collecting information
- ✗ Disseminating



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 pasive**
- ✗ **Farmers experimentation is still not recognized or supported by projects**

SEAE CONGRESSES PAPERS: CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO AGROECOLOGY

| Year | No of Congress, slogan, Location | Nº |
|------|---|----|
| 1994 | I Environmental Practices for quality agricultura, Toledo | 1 |
| 1996 | II Organic Agriculture and Rural Development (1996) Pamplona | 2 |
| 1998 | III Alternatives for the Rural World of 3rd Millennium, Valencia | 4 |
| 2000 | IV Harmony between Ecology and Economy, Córdoba | 2 |
| 2002 | V OF & livestock, diversifi & development solidarity, Gijón (Asturias) | 4 |
| 2004 | VI Agroecology: Regarding transition farming systems, Almería | 6 |
| 2006 | VII OF Sustainable water management & food quality, Zaragoza | 1 |
| 2008 | VIII C change, biodiversity and rural development, Bullas (Murcia) | 6 |
| 2010 | IX Quality and Food Safety, Lleida | 8 |
| 2012 | X Resilience, innovation, competitiveness, efficiency, Albacete | 11 |
| 2014 | XI Organic farming family, Vitoria-Gasteiz | 8 |
| 2016 | XII Legumes key in agrosystems and food management, Lugo | NA |
| | Total | 63 |

AGROCOLOGY IN SPAIN: SOCIAL MOVEMENT

- ✗ 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 asosiations, 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 Agroecoloy 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

| Project / promoters | Location | Link |
|--|---|--|
| Agriculture Shared Responsibility ARCO | Various. Coordinator of Organizations of Farmers (COAG) | www.arcocoag.org |
| Ecos del Tajo | 8 Local Action Groups of Extremadura, Aragon, Madrid | www.ecosdeltajo.org |
| Ecologists in Action | Several initiatives | www.ecologistasenaccion.org |
| Esporus (Catalonia). | Resource Espai Agroecològics Manresa (Bages) | www.associaciolera.org/ |
| RdG Guadalhorce Valley Málaga | Eight municipalities, Malaga and SCO Council | www.valledelguadalhorce.com |
| Projecte Gripià | Assoc Rurbans & Montanyanes (social enterprise) (Lleida) | www.projectegripià.cat/ |
| Red Terrae | Municipalities & SCO from Cantabria, Castilla La Mancha & Extremadura | www.tierrasagroecologicas.es |
| Spanish Society of Organic Agriculture | Catarroja (Valencia), OF training & advice, in coop. with La Unio de Llauradors i Ramaders PV | www.agroecologia.net |
| Rural University P Freire | 11 Local Action Groups, P Rural & other local entities | www.universidadruralsr.com/ |

AGROECOLGY IN SPAIN: ADVOCACY

- ✗ **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

And also...

- ✗ 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, acuaculture & 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 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND NETWORKING



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 SIMPOSIO ON AGROECOLOGY, LOCALITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LUGO DECEMBER 2014



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



SEAE LOCAL & RURAL SUSTANAIBLE DEVELOPMENT

SEAE URBAN AGRICULTURE: ELX (ALACANT) 2011; UTRERA (SEVILLE), 2014



URBAN GARDENS, SEVILLE 2014

URBAN GARDENS, ELX (ALACANT)
2011

III CONGRESS URBAN ORGANIC GARDENS

III Congreso Estatal de Huertos Ecológicos Urbanos y Periurbanos



SAVE THE DATE

18 y 19 de junio 2018

La Beneficència Valencia
Calle Corona, 36

→ 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
- Debatir 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**

→ INSCRÍBETE [aquí](#)

→ MÁS INFORMACIÓN [aquí](#)

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Organiza:



Colaboran:



XIII BIENNIAL SEAE CONGRESS NOVEMBER



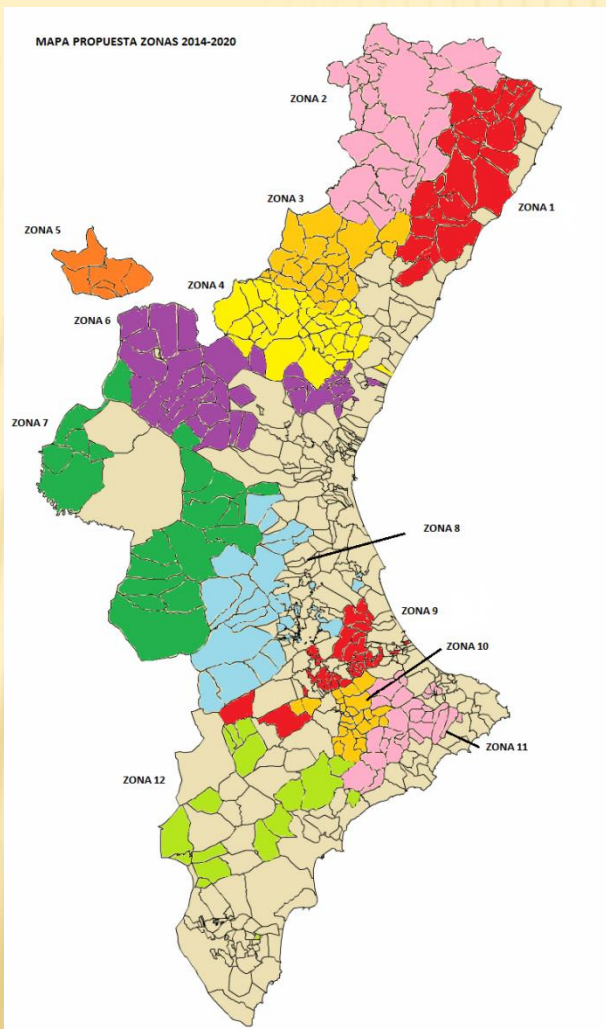
14-17 noviembre, 2018

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

| | |
|------------|--|
| ASOCIACIÓN | DAL AGRUPACIÓN RURAL SUR DE ALICANTE |
| MAPA | TERRITORIO LEADER 2014-2020 SUR DE ALICANTE |
| MUNICIPIOS | Torreblanca, Agües, Dolos, Salinas, Agost, Algueros, La Romana, Fondo de las Nevas, Torredon de los Frailes, Olaya Nueva y peñanías de Orihuela, Iñaki y Anisado |



El logo del CAECV (ES-VA-AE)

1. **Guaranty for consumer**
2. **Quality**
3. **Prestigy**
4. **Aknowledgment at**

Comunitat Valenciana, España y Europa



THANK YOU!!!

SEAE

E-mail: seae@agroecologia.net
http://: www.agroecologia.net