

2014

climagri LIST OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The **Best Management Practices** considered in the project have been brought together in the following list and will be the basis of the sustainability of agricultural operations on an environmental, financial and social level.

2015

01 Use of permanent soil cover.



07 Implementation of optimum and deficit irrigation strategies.



02 Use of minimum soil disturbance practices.



08 Joint consideration of optimised agricultural, technical and financial practices to improve irrigation water management.



2016

03 Perform suitable crop rotation/diversification.



04 Optimisation in the use of agrochemicals.



09 Implementation of multifunctional margins and retention structures.



2017

05 Appropriate management of agrochemical products.



10 Measures for the promotion of biodiversity.



2018

06 Use of advanced technology (decision-making aid systems, precision agriculture, fleet management, etc.).



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BEST AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE: INTEGRATING STRATEGIES FOR MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION



Partners:



Instituto de Investigación y Formación Agraria y Pesquera
CONSEJERÍA DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y DESARROLLO RURAL



WHY DO WE NEED TO ACT?

The agricultural sector is considered to be one of those that may be affected by the climate change phenomenon. The foreseen effects may affect both to agricultural yields and to selection of crops due to increased temperatures, reduced rainfall and increased incidence of pests and disease. Additionally, agronomic management systems based on tillage and high energy consumption contribute to increase the greenhouse effect in agriculture ecosystems.

If we don't adapt in time and take measures to mitigate the effects of climate change, the financial, social and environmental consequences may be considerable, bearing in mind the important role this productive industry plays, both as a producer of food products and of environmental goods and services.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

Develop agronomic management strategies for field crops that mitigate climate change and favour the adaptation of crops to the effects thereof and which also serve for the boosting and development of the environmental policies and legislation of the EU and its Member States with respect to climate change.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

Through the design, implementation and demonstration of agronomic management systems based on the combined use of Best Management Practices which, in addition to combating climate change, will contribute to the sustainability of agricultural operations on an environmental, financial and social level.

WHERE ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

The project's scope of application is limited to the Mediterranean Basin, this being one of the areas that is most vulnerable to the effects of climate change in Europe. The management system will be implemented for irrigation crops, demonstrating the efficiency both on a pilot scale and a global scale, to thus verify the applicability thereof to other areas with similar characteristics.

ACTIONS TO BE CARRIED OUT

The implementation and monitoring of Best Management Practices aimed at the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, on a pilot scale, with two demonstration scenarios that will verify their effectiveness both in the current climate conditions and those expected in the future..

The establishing of a European Network of Demo Farms, on which the Best Management Practices developed at pilot scale will be implemented with a view to assessing their effectiveness on a transnational scale. The network will count on 12 farms located in Spain, Greece, Italy and Portugal.

The creation of a GIS to show the Best Management Practices implemented in the European Network of Demonstration Farms and the evolution of the indicators used to analyse the effectiveness thereof in the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. This tool is also intended to offer agronomic management alternatives to improve the farms' sustainability.

Dissemination and training activities, focusing on making the Project and its results known, increasing awareness of the main agents of the industry in relation to climate change and training technicians and farmers in the Best Management Practices used in the project (field days, seminars and online courses). After the project, a European conference will be held which will sum up all the experience gained through the Network created in the framework of the project.

The writing of articles, technical reports, manuals and monitoring protocols that will serve to conduct subsequent studies and facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the Best Management Practices, both from the agronomic and the administrative point of view, or as a documentary basis to implement measures to support the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change within EC, national and/or regional regulations.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- **20% reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions and a 35% increase in soil carbon sequestration** in farms that have implemented Best Management Practices.
- **Greater adaptation of crops** to the climate conditions expected with the climate change (increased temperatures, reduced rainfall and increased CO₂ concentration) due to greater efficiency in the use of water, escaping from the cycle of conditions of climatic stress and the improvement of the stress-response capacity of the crops.
- **Improved sustainability** of farms based on the measurement of indicators on an environmental, financial and social level.
- **Best Management Practices Manual** aimed at the mitigation of climate change and the adaptation of crops to combat the predicted climate scenarios and action protocol for the technical and administrative monitoring thereof.
- **Technical documentation identifying measures** to be adopted in the European, national and regional agricultural sector which will reinforce any policies that may arise from legislation in relation to adaptation to and the mitigation of climate change.
- **Improved training for groups** related to the agricultural sector regarding climate change and its implications for agriculture.

