

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON “GREEN CARBON: MAKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REAL”

BRUSSELS APRIL 1-3, 2014

ECAF Rond Point R. Schuman 6 b5, 1040 Etterbeck -Brussels (Belgium)
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GREEN CARBON: MAKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REAL

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The Conference is jointly organized by the European Conservation Agriculture Federation (ECAF), and the French Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (IAD) and promoted by the Life+ AGRICARBON project.

■ WHY 'GREEN CARBON'?

Over the last decade, Conservation Agriculture (CA) has become known as a set of agricultural practices capable of overcoming several of the severe sustainability constraints of conventional agriculture. Whereas CA is practiced successfully on around 125 million hectares worldwide, Europe has shown to be very reluctant with regard to its adoption, despite many promising results conferring its workability also in Europe. Since the first World Congress on Conservation Agriculture organized jointly by the European Conservation Agriculture Federation (ECAF) and FAO in 2001 in Madrid, only a few events have been organized at European level since then to learn from the experiences and the advances of CA gained so far. Therefore, this European Conference aims to provide an opportunity to take a leap forward in terms of reviewing the recent progress made in knowledge generation regarding CA, and to disseminate the outcomes of the currently running LIFE + Agricarbon (LIFE08 ENV/E/000129).

The Conference theme of 'Green Carbon' aims to clarify and highlight the often invisible yet vital link between soil organic carbon (SOC) and soil health, and the role this link plays in the sustainability of agricultural production and the flow of ecosystem services. However, the topics to be addressed by the Conference will not be restricted only to the importance of SOC for the overall soil quality and health but also include other sustainability and landscape issues intimately related to the role of soil carbon such as ecosystem functions and services, climate change mitigation and carbon offset, and socio-economic and policy aspects.

The Conference also seeks to alert EU policy stakeholders and technical officers of the urgent need to adopt sustainable soil and production system management practices of Conservation Agriculture (CA) to achieve the announced objectives of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) reform 2020.



GKB (Germany)



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THEMES:

1. Evidence of carbon sequestration in Europe and carbon offset potential.
2. Contribution of Soil Organic Carbon for ecosystem functions and landscape management.
3. Soil Organic Carbon, soil health and productivity.
4. Economic and policy aspects of "carbon farming".



APOSOLO (Portugal)

STAKEHOLDERS

Scientists of any discipline dealing with sustainable soil, agriculture and landscape management.

Government and EU Commission officials and other policy stakeholders interested in or working on issues related to the sustainability of agriculture and the environment.

Private sector and non-governmental organizations interested in the advances towards sustainable farming and landscape management.

Farmers who want to know more about CA, which has a low carbon foot-print, and how it works in practice for greater productivity, profit and environmental sustainability.

CONFERENCE VENUE and LANGUAGE

The Conference sessions will be held in Brussels at the facilities of the Bedford Hotel & Congress Centre, located in 135 Midi Street, B-1000 (April 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2014).

All presentations and discussions during the sessions will be held in English and no translation will be provided.

PAPER AND POSTER CONTRIBUTIONS

All participants are invited to present papers on any of the conference themes. They will have the opportunity to present their contributions through a

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15 minutes oral or poster presentation. Abstracts must be submitted not later than 01-11-2013 through www.greencarbon-ca.eu. They should not exceed the size of 400 words and should clearly describe the objectives, methods, results and conclusions of the work.

An international scientific programme committee will review all contributions. Final decisions for paper acceptance for oral or poster presentation will be announced by 15-11-2013. Abstracts of registered participants will be distributed in printed form in the Conference Abstract Proceedings at the Conference. In addition, authors can also choose to submit a full paper by 14-02-2014, which will be made available online. The authors of selected papers will be invited to submit their contributions as either book chapters or scientific papers to be published in a special book edition or a special issue of an international peer reviewed journal.

Abstracts or full papers will only be considered for publication if at least one of the authors is registered at the conference, with a maximum of two contributions per registration.

■ DEADLINES

Submission of abstracts by: November 1, 2013

Communication of acceptance: November 15, 2013

Submission of full paper: February 14, 2014

Further instructions on the abstract and paper submission and their format can be obtained at: www.greencarbon-ca.eu

■ CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

On-line registration is possible until March 10, 2014. Registrations received after this date will not be considered on-line and will have to be resubmitted at the Conference registration desk, from April 1, 2014.

Depending on the date of registration the following registration fees will apply:



AEAC.SV (Spain)



AEAC.SV (Spain)

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REGISTRATION FEES	Early bird (until 10-12-2013)	Regular rate (until 10-03-2014)	Desk rate
Non-members of National CA association (NM)	280 €	320 €	360 €
Members of National CA association (M)	240 €	280 €	320 €
Students	120 €	150 €	180 €

The gala dinner fee is 60 €.

Participants registering as members of a National CA Association (M) have to provide a certificate from their Association (to be sent to info@greencarbon-ca.eu). The registration gives right to:

- Attend the welcome and opening session, technical sessions, farm day (incl. transport from Conference venue in Brussels), coffee breaks, lunches at the venue of the event, welcome reception.
- Be included in the list of participants and to obtain a certificate of attendance.
- Submit a paper to be published in the Proceedings of the Conference. For the preparation of these, authors will have to follow the rules for paper presentations provided in the Conference website. In case that the communication takes place in poster format, it will be exposed during the Conference in panels authorized by the organization.
- Receive the conference documentation, including the Proceedings of the Green Carbon Conference. This material cannot be guaranteed to those whose final registration is received after March 10, 2014. In any case, this situation gives no right to refund the registration fee.

■ SPONSORS

The organizers welcome individuals, companies and institutions interested in supporting this Conference. For further information please contact the organizers.

MORE INFO

info@greencarbon-ca.eu