

# SAVE-News 1/2001

*This newsletter is issued four times a year by SAVE Foundation (Safeguard for Agricultural Varieties in Europe)*

## Internal Save

The transfer of the SAVE office to Konstanz has been a success. Work is in full swing and all those involved are highly motivated. The Mayor of Konstanz declared his support for the SAVE Foundation on the occasion of a reception for our representatives. A fruitful collaboration with the partner organisations in the same building has already been established. The press has even described the building at 13 Paradiesstrasse. as "the center of competence for a sustainable environment and agriculture".

In the Board and the Commissions of the SAVE Foundation a new three-year mandate has begun:

=> The newly elected members of the Board of Directors are:

- Austria: Dr. Berthold Traxler, Vienna
- Belgium: Staf van den Bergh, Holsbeek
- France: Prof. Bernard Denis, Nantes
- Ireland: Mike Miklis, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny
- Italy: Dr. Massimo Angelini, Voltaggio, and Isabella Dalla Ragione, Perugia
- Portugal: Eliseu Bettencourt, Oeiras
- Slovenia: M.Sc. Drago Kompan, Domzale

=> The newly elected members of the Project Commission are:

- Italy: Dr. Riccardo Fortina, Torino
- Switzerland: Bela Bartha, Basle, and Waltraud Kugler, St.Gallen

Waltraud Kugler has been nominated head of the project commission. She previously directed the project office of the SAVE Foundation and she is therefore thoroughly up to date with the relevant information. She has now an honorary position with SAVE.

The next annual meeting of the SAVE Foundation will take place from 21-24 August 2001 in Budapest, Hungary. This will give the occasion for excursions to the "Farmer-Expo" in Debrecen and to the farm estate of the Hortobagy national park with old Hungarian animal breeds (Steppe cattle, Racka sheep, Nonius horses). The excursions will be organised together with colleagues from RBI (Rare Breeds International) and EAAP (European association for animal breeding). Although on this occasion the main focus of interest will be old animal breeds, there will still be some interesting points for plant connoisseurs.

## **New Projects**

The Karakachan population in Bulgaria has conserved a range of original animal breeds. Today, still in existence, although very threatened, are the small Karakachan horse, the small black Karakachan sheep, and the Karakachan sheep dog. Our Bulgarian partner organisation, Semperviva, has been working hard and successfully since 1992 for the conservation of the sheep dog. This breed is now used more and more to protect herds of wolves, lynx and bears in nature protection programmes. Semperviva would now like to turn its attention to the Karakachan horse and the Karakachan sheep. At its meeting, the Board of Directors of SAVE Foundation approved the project as long as the necessary funds can be obtained.

## **A need for a practical harvesting machine?**

Producing seed from small pieces of land is very arduous. Whether at home, in schools, in botanical or breeding gardens, whether for hobby or for official duties, appropriate technical tools are mostly unavailable. With homemade hand threshers, the seeds are more likely to be crushed than harvested. The hand extraction of seeds from ears of corn, or from dried fruit is time consuming and tedious. There is now a simple, inexpensive and efficient solution for the problem. The Kurt Pelz firm in Bad Godesberg, Germany, has developed a prototype of a transportable, all-purpose harvester which can be used either manually or mechanically (for example connected to a drilling machine or a power take off) Weight: 9 kg; volume: 250x500mm; drum diameter 200mm with three beating elements. The simple construction enables harvesting from fragile species (vegetable, medicinal plants, ornamentals) as well as more as more robust species (cereals, maize) and avoids the possibility of unwanted mixing of seeds. Price, included VAT and packing: 900 Euro. with extras such as sieves and adaptor for mechanical use with a drilling machine. For further information: Kurt Pelz Firm, Holzemerstr. 24, D-53343 Wachberg-Villip, Tel/fax: +49-228/32 52 88.

## **Important dates (extract)**

22-23 February: 4th AKKU Meeting (Initiatives working on Crop Diversity) Schiltern Castle, Austria; Info: [www.arche-noah.at](http://www.arche-noah.at), E-mail [info@arche-noah.at](mailto:info@arche-noah.at)

26-31 March: First International Workshop on Pasture-landscapes and Natur Conservation, Lueneburg, Germany. E-mail: [redecker@uni-lueneburg.de](mailto:redecker@uni-lueneburg.de)

2-3 April: 5th Meeting of the Council of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy, Strasbourg, France. Info: [www.strategyguide.org](http://www.strategyguide.org), E-mail: [eladio.fernandez-galiano@coe.int](mailto:eladio.fernandez-galiano@coe.int)

18-20 April: Conference "Global Agriculture 2020: which way forward?"; John Innes Centre, Norwich Research Park, Norwich, UK. E-mail: [agric.2020@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:agric.2020@bbsrc.ac.uk)

13-15 June: Workshop on Finance for Biodiversity, Montreal, Canada. Info: <http://www.biodiv.org>, E-mail: [secretariat@biodiv.org](mailto:secretariat@biodiv.org)

22-24 June: Slow Food Festival in Bonn, Germany; "Arc of taste", Furtherance of regional products and their producers; Info: [www.slowfood.de](http://www.slowfood.de)

8-12 July: 4th European Conference on Grain Legumes, Towards the Sustainable production of healthy food, feed and novel products, in Krakow, Poland. E-mail: [c.boutin-aep@prolea.tm.fr](mailto:c.boutin-aep@prolea.tm.fr)

18-19 August: International meeting for the coordination of the Mangalica breeding, Budapest, Hungary. Contact: SAVE Head Office. E-mail: [office@save-foundation.net](mailto:office@save-foundation.net)

21-23 August: Annual Meeting of the SAVE bodies in Budapest, Hungary. Excursions to the "Farmer-Expo" at Debrecen and to the farm estate of Hortobagy Nationalpark with rare breeds of Hungary. Contact: SAVE Head Office. E-mail: [office@save-foundation.net](mailto:office@save-foundation.net)

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=> Further information is available from:

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