

# SAVE-News 3/2000

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

## **EU regulation 1467/94: A new programme?**

Six months after the new programme „conservation, description, collection and use of genetical resources in agriculture“ was created under EU regulation 1467/94, a committee was convened to review the programme of work. A meeting was organised for this purpose in Brussels on the 26th of June 2000 with government representatives, genebanks, breeders and NGO's. The constructive atmosphere and stimulating discussions give hope that the new programme will reflect effectively both the advice of experts and the points of views expressed by participants at the meeting.

The following themes were discussed and led to recommendations for the new programme:

- the program should be continued;
- the in-situ/on farm activities should become a major component;
- the animal sector should be given more weight;
- NGO's should be more involved;
- the EU should function primarily as co-ordinator and have less direct links between projects and committees;
- As the programme broadens its scope, it will be necessary to involve directly Member States in implementation (project advertising, evaluation, evolution).

Since the direction of the new version of the programme is now in the hands of Dr. Christian Anz in DG VI, there appears to be a new drive in bringing up to date and carrying out EU regulation 1467/94 so often described as dead. More details will follow in the Autumn 2000 SAVE report.

## **SAVE Foundation and Monitoring Institute on Internet**

Since the beginning of June the SAVE Foundation is available online. Due to difficulties with our webhost Strato in Berlin, our entry onto internet was delayed for more than half a year. The webpages give information on the aims and philosophy of the organisation; they allow an overview of the rules and procedures; it is possible to see the list of members of the Board of Directors and particular commissions. There are many links to our partner organisations. SAVE News, issued four times yearly, can be consulted under the title "Actuality" and will be updated when necessary (for example a report on last month's meeting in Brussels on the EU-program 1467/94 will be posted). So far projects are simply listed. This list should be extended so that every project is briefly described or an intermediary report can be downloaded. Visit the website and put in a

bookmark (order the sites as you prefer them) and you will always be informed on the latest activities of SAVE Foundation. For any feedback an e-mail form can be opened. The URL is : <<http://www.save-foundation.net>>.

The Monitoring Institute for Rare Breeds and Seeds in Europe which works as independent scientific branch of the European SAVE Foundation can also be visited as of now online. However, the databases for current important daily work are not yet in function. The Monitoring Institute can be reached under: <<http://www.monitoring-inst.de>>.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> AKKU Meeting, April 6-7, 2000 (German initiatives working on Crop Diversity)**

The AKKU (Arbeitskreis Kulturpflanzenvielfalt) is an informal group open to NGO initiatives working in the field of cultivation and preservation of crop diversity in the German speaking countries. The aim is to provide a discussion-forum dealing with political and practical issues related to the in-situ conservation and propagation of crop diversity. During the meeting a position-paper was drafted that will be available by the end of the summer (please contact <[gartenacker@psrara.org](mailto:gartenacker@psrara.org)>). Nine initiatives participated in the meeting organized by Pro Specie Rara (PSR) in Basel/Switzerland: Verein zur Erhaltung der Nutzpflanzenvielfalt VEN, Verein zur Erhaltung und Rekultivierung von Nutzpflanzen in Brandenburg VERN, Dreschflegel, Freilichtmuseum Kiekeberg (all from Germany), Arche Noah (Austria); Pro Specie Rara and Sativa Rheinau (both Switzerland) and the European SAVE Foundation.

During the meeting the following topics were discussed: Implementation of the EU seed regulations (especially concerning the marketing of local varieties); The ongoing negotiations concerning the International Undertaking of the FAO; Background of the GFAR meeting (Global Forum on Agricultural Research) in Dresden in May 2000 & accompanying NGO activities; Review and evaluation of the project "Natural Heritage of Crop Diversity" which is nearing completion; The first meeting of the ECP/GR network (European Cooperative Programme on Genetic Resources) on in-situ and on-farm conservation, May 18-20, 2000 in Perugia, Italy, and other topics. The next AKKU meeting will be organized by Arche Noah in February 2001 in Austria.

### **Important dates (extract)**

20 August: 5<sup>th</sup> Rare Breeds Show in Balegem-Oosterzele near Ghent, Belgium (program see above). Contact V.B.Z.H.: Fax 0032-16/44.31.67, e-mail: [s.vandenbergh@yucom.be](mailto:s.vandenbergh@yucom.be)

25-30 August: "IFOAM 2000 – The World Grows Organic " (World Conference of Organic Farming Associations): various manifestations in Basel and Zofingen, Switzerland. Contact: FIBL, Postfach, CH-5070 Frick; Fax: 0041-62/865 72 73 (info at: [www.ifoam2000.ch](http://www.ifoam2000.ch) ).

2-4 September: "Natuur & Fruitfair". Large exhibition of Dutch fruit and berry varieties in the museum „t olde Ras“ in Doesburg (Parallelweg 1). Contact: Stichting Behoud en Bevordering Fruitcultuur, Postbus 83, NL-6980 AB Doesburg; Fax: 0031-313/47 36 72.

23-29 September: Third international Dairy and Shepherd Forum with conferences on: "Animal breeds threatened by extinction in the alpine regions". Contact: Tourismusverband Wipptal, Trins; Fax: 0043-5275/54 71, e-mail: [aktiv.tirol@wienerhof.telecom.at](mailto:aktiv.tirol@wienerhof.telecom.at)

23 Sept. til 3<sup>rd</sup> October: „Festival Animalier International“ at Rambouillet near Paris. One week of meetings and discussions around animals: Sept.26<sup>th</sup> „Fermes pédagogiques“; Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> „Races locales & Biodiversité animale“; => Bergerie Nationale, Fax: 0033-1/34 83 07 54.

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=> Further information is available from:  
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