ARIMNet2 Young Researchers Seminar

“How to better involve end-users throughout the research process to foster innovation-driven research for a sustainable Mediterranean agriculture at the farm and local scales.”

30 May - 3 June 2016, Institut Agronomique Méditerranéen de Montpellier (IAMM), France

Wild olive as a potential for agriculture and rural area development

Tatjana KLEPO (tatjana.klepo@krs.hr)
Institute for Adriatic Crops and Karst Reclamation, Croatia
CONTEXT & CHALLENGES
(Based on literature review)

Context

- Olive (*Olea europaea* L.) is one of the most important fruit crop on Mediterranean area and it closest relative is wild olive (*Olea europaea* subsp. *europaea* var. *sylvestris*).
- Wild olive (genuine wild and feral) are characterized by significantly higher genetic variability and better adaptability to different ecological conditions.
- Wild olives showed greater level of diversity.

Challenges

- Wild olives proved to be interesting for breeding programs.
- Diversity level is still unknown.
OBJECTIVE & HYPOTHESES

Objective(s) / Research question(s)

- The main objective is interdisciplinary characterization and economic valorization of wild olives on islands of Pag and Šolta.

Hypotheses

- Wild olives are present in restricted area over the Adriatic coast
- Wild olive are very variable and could be used in further breeding programs
METHODOLOGY

Identification
- GIS technology used for identification of wild olive location
- Agro/morphological- protocols described by Garcia-Donas (2001)
- Molecular- SSR and plastid

Characterization
- Olive processing will be done in experimental mill, chemical and organoleptic oil parameters will be done using the standard methods
- Economic potential (Gross margin calculation) and market analysis and consumer willingness for buying wild olive extra virgin olive oil (Becker-DeGroot_Marschak method)

INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS
- Finding wild olive locations and harvesting
- Presentation of preliminary results
- Dissemination and marketing
EXPECTED RESULTS / IMPACT
(INNOVATION)

Expected results
- Data base of locations and characterization of wild olives
- Estimated economic value of wild olives and its potential use in breeding program

Economic impact
- Development and production of a new product (extra virgin olive oil)
- Accessible areas with interesting content (wild olive maquis/forest)

Social impact
- Increasing employment of local population as a consequence of new tourist demand for wild olive oil, cycling paths, etc.
PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP

Partner 1: Faculty of Science and Faculty of Agriculture

- Colleague form Faculty of Science is one of the partners for it expertise in DNA analysis
- Colleague from Faculty of Agriculture is a leading expert in statistical analysis mainly in the field of biodiversity, evaluation and conservation

Partner 2: Agriculture cooperative of Lun and Municipality of Šolta

- Cooperative has the great interest in proposed research for wild olives grown in their municipality where the wild olives are already the principal tourist attraction
- Island of Šolta has similar intention as Cooperative of Lun
Thank you for your attention!