

Agroforestry: associating trees and agriculture in the interests of the environment, farmers and foresters

Agroforestry may be defined as the umbrella term for agricultural practices which integrate trees and woodland species into an environment of production (cultivation and growth) and take their inspiration from the model of the forest in agronomic terms. Its environmental and economic benefits have been scientifically proven, including: reduced use of inputs, carbon storage, improvements in soil fertility, erosion reduction, biodiversity stimulation, better management and protection of water resources, and also further reductions in production costs.

Agroforestry farmer = person engaged in agricultural activities and forestry

Agroforestry advisor = person advising in the coherent development of agroforestry practices on land divisions



Trainings and innovative educational tools for agricultural actors

Agroforestry is an ancient practice that was gradually abandoned. The training of agricultural stakeholders is one of the fundamental elements in the new development of agroforestry practices in Europe. **Education is essential, not only in order to make this innovative method of production known, but also in order to allow the acquisition of new competencies and knowledge by those working in the agroforestry agricultural profession.**

Tools to be implemented:

- Classes, group work, conferences
- In-field and online training
- Self-training
- Thematic workshops
- Case studies
- Visits to agroforestry plots
- Tutored work placements on farms



The groups which the training programs will target are the following: students, farmers and future farmers, workers, teachers, instructors and agricultural consultants.

The training resources will be distributed to the following: managers of training centres, schools and universities, managers of training systems in the regions and in the state, officials of major professional organisations, NGOs and policymakers

What results will the project achieve?

- A description of existing training programs and an identification of relevant requirements
- The identification and evaluation of existing educational tools
- The enrichment of the European book of professional reference for agroforestry farmers
- The design of repositories and training devices
- The production of teaching materials including multimedia tools
- The practical validation of educational material
- An analysis and distribution of obtained results

European book of professional reference for agroforestry farmers

Created under the previous AgroFE project, the book of professional reference describes the tasks that agroforestry farmers and foresters should be able to achieve. It also serves to support the transfers in training. The Agrof-MM project will enrich the existing book due to the development of a section devoted to the Mediterranean and mountainous areas.

To learn more about the Agrof-MM project

<http://agrofmm.eu>

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An ambitious project in agroforestry training

The AgroF-MM project:

“Training in Agroforestry – Mediterranean – Semi-Arid Zones – Mountain” aims to:

- Train over a 3 year period between 130 and 150 agricultural professionals in Europe
- Improve and develop educational tools for training to make it long-lasting
- Develop a unique agroforestry qualification program in each European country

Agrof-MM both reinforces and complements the European project AgroFE, which was completed in December 2015. It extends the geographical boundaries of the AgroFE project to encompass the Mediterranean and the mountain areas, broadening the level of training and opening it up to new players.

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Training agricultural stakeholders in the development of agroforestry in the Mediterranean and in mountain areas

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