

The enhancement of water: a comparative study between irrigation techniques and water management for environmental sustainability

Description

World population is growing at a rapid pace, and is expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050. This will strain the already limited natural resources: water, energy and arable land. As a consequence, we need to change the way these resources are used in agriculture: efficiency is becoming the key to fighting water shortage and food scarcity. This course will present innovative approaches and technologies in sustainable agriculture. It will promote rational and efficient use of resources, showing the major trends for different crops and agricultural conditions with a focus on both drip irrigation and pipe drum irrigation as key elements to increase efficiency and sustainability in agriculture.

Program

- **Monday:** Water management in the Po Valley: the multiple uses of water for agriculture, energy and environmental management
- **Tuesday:** Drip irrigation: providing water and nutrients to the plant roots
Application to different crops
- **Wednesday:** Visit to EXPO Milano 2015
- **Thursday:** Pipe drum irrigation of different crops: economic, technical and environmental features
- **Friday:** Comparison between different irrigation techniques and trends of application in the Italian and European agricultural markets

Lecturers and Guest speakers

Ettore Fanfani – Consorzio Bonifica Muzza Bassa Lodigiana

Claudio Gandolfi – Università degli Studi di Milano

Guido Gazzotti – AMIS, Associazione Macchine Irrigatrici Semoventi

Riccardo Geffer Wondrich – Parco Tecnologico Padano

Alberto Puggioni – Netafim Italia Srl

Field trips

- Muzza Irrigation system, the energy plant and the Water Museum of Paullo (Mi)
- “*Agriculture of Tomorrow: demo field for sustainable agriculture systems*”, Lodi Agri-Food Research Cluster
- A farm that uses a pipe drum irrigation system (to be confirmed at a later date)

Participants' profile:

- Agri-food related companies
- Farmer associations
- Agriculture Department officials, employees and related institutions
- Early stage researchers and Ph.D. students
- Academics
- Others with a specific interest in the topics

Period

Sept. 21st – 25th, 2015

Location

Convento di Sant'Agostino
 Piazza Winifred de' Terni
 Gregori 5
 26013 Crema (Cr) – ITALY

Language

The course will be delivered in English. Upon request, this course can be repeated in another language.

Scientific advisor

Parco Tecnologico Padano,
 Lodi

Participation fee

The participation fee is € 1,600.00. For applications made before June 23rd, 2015 a 20% discount will be applied (participation fee = € 1,280.00). If two or more members of an organization apply for the same course the first participant will pay the full fee, but additional members will have a reduced participation fee of € 1,200.00. The participation fee includes:

- Tuition costs, including all training materials and use of the location's training facilities and related services
- Participant costs, including the course field trips, transfer to and from EXPO Milano 2015 + entrance ticket, the lunches of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, a gala dinner and special evening event, and a final dinner.