



SALVERE News

Issue 1, July 2009

SALVERE - Semi-natural grassland as a source of biodiversity improvement - A CENTRAL Europe Project

Biodiversity sells

Semi-natural grassland can be a valuable resource - it has not only a ecological high value, also the economic value should not be neglected:

Seed and plant material harvested from this high value grassland helps maintaining and protecting grassland with its biodiversity and can be a profitable source of income for innovative farmers.

Introducing SALVERE

The project SALVERE wants to promote High Nature Value Farmland (HNVF) with its biodiversity as a valuable resource to help sustainable rural development. The project will contribute:

- to protect biodiversity present in semi-natural grassland. The use of native seed, studied and transferred in the project, will prevent genetic pollution of local populations originating from the use of conventional seed mixtures of alien species and varieties
- to create the technical conditions for an increase of species-rich areas in intensive agriculture or urbanized regions
- to add value to extensive semi-natural grassland. Improving and transferring sustainable methods for harvesting their seed will allow additional income to be obtained from them. This is important as semi-natural grasslands are mainly distributed in less favored areas.

Objectives and Questions

- What is the current situation of this high value grassland, what does relevant agricultural policy for it and what are future trends?
- We study the seed production in semi-natural grasslands
- We will improve harvesting and storage techniques of the seed produced in those grasslands
- We will improve techniques how to establish new high value areas by using the semi-natural grassland seed
- transfer of the improved techniques.

First International Workshop

The first public appearance of the project SALVERE was made from 26 and 27 May 2009 at the Agricultural Research and Education Center Raumberg-Gumpenstein, a project partner (www.raumberg-gumpenstein.at): A well received international workshop was organized, with 38 invited participants from 9 different countries.

This workshop was a possibility to bring people and institutions together working on our project topics and to collect and present an overview on the situation of High Nature Value Grassland outside of the partner countries.

All presentations and papers can be seen and downloaded from our project website: <http://www.salvereproject.eu/content/1-international-salvere-workshop>.

About CENTRAL Europe

SALVERE is a project in the frame of the CENTRAL EUROPE programme. It encourages cooperation among its member countries to improve innovation, accessibility and the environment and to enhance the competitiveness and attractiveness of their cities and regions. CENTRAL EUROPE invests € 231 million to provide funding to transnational cooperation projects involving public and private organisations from Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia. See <http://www.central2013.eu>

Did you know...

During the project SALVERE there are...

- ...4 regional workshops, one international workshop and one big final conference organized
- ...21 trial and demonstration sites set up to collect important data and demonstrate methods and results
- ...8 institutions from 6 countries working together: Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia. The coordinator Michele Scotton comes from the University of Padua, Italy



The participants of the international SALVERE workshop at AREC Raumberg-Gumpenstein

Website online -

Visit www.salvereproject.eu

You want to everything about High Nature Value Grassland - you are eager to know who is behind the project SALVERE? Come and visit our website at www.salvereproject.eu and your curiosity will be fulfilled!

You will find in-depth information on the project topics, on the activities during the project and also all manuals, publications and presentations produced to download. The website will be updated regularly!



Outlook

Presentation of the project at the 15th European Grassland Federation Symposium 2009 (EGF)

7-9 September 2009 Brno, Czech Republic

Regional Workshop in Poznan, Poland

22-23 September 2009

Imprint

SALVERE News wants to inform about the project SALVERE and is distributed electronically. It also can be downloaded as PDF free of charge from <http://www.salvereproject.eu/files/salverenews1.pdf>

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