



Operational Group:

BDMIRA - Sustainable and competitive sweet-potato at Mira irrigation zone: innovative practices and organizational dynamic.

BDMIRA - Batata-doce competitiva e sustentável no Perímetro de Rega do Mira: técnicas culturais inovadoras e dinâmica organizacional.

Practical problem

Sweet potato productivity at Mira region declined due to phytosanitary/cultural practices problems in nurseries/field, affecting, among others, Lira variety, a Protected Geographical Indication. Lack of free virus 'Lira' plant material lead to import others with economic/ecological constraints.

Partners

Type:

Research/ Teaching

Agri association

Agri enterprise

Name:

INIAV, I.P. – Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária; ESA/IPS – Instituto Politécnico de Santarém/Escola Superior Agrária

AHSACV – Associação de Horticultores do Sudoeste Alentejano e Costa Vicentina

ASF Portugal Unipessoal, Lda; Gemüsering Portugal Produção Hortícola Lda.

Project

Objectives:

Provide a production model to obtain virus and diseases free plant propagation material (in vitro culture) and production/post-harvest technologies better adapted to local soil and climatic conditions; Increase, at national/international level the competitiveness of nurseries/producers through the adoption of a new organizational dynamic; Implement environmental friendly cultural practices.

Expected results:

To obtain the Portuguese sweet-potato Lira variety (Protected Geographical Indication) of higher quality; Transfer of methodologies (nursery, production and post-harvest) to increase between 30-50% of sweet potato yield; Publish a practical guide.

Results so far/first lessons:

Build the project with the stakeholders since the idea arose. Project will start soon but meanwhile project team knowledge includes: diseases and pest diagnostic; irrigation/fertilization/post harvest technologies (INIAV); in vivo, in vitro plant propagation techniques (ESA/IPS); production experience for national/foreign markets (ASF and Gemüsering); producers association experience in awareness rising and stakeholders engagement/participation (AHSACV).

Who will benefit:

Nurseries, farmers and their associations, food industry, enterprises, research/development institutes and universities.

Start: November/2017
End: October/2020

Budget: 150.000 €



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