BioDiVine: *Demonstrating Biodiversity in viticulture landscapes*

The Life+ 2009 BioDiVine project is about managing biodiversity in vines through landscape. Prevention of pests, diseases and weeds, as well as preservation of soil from erosion or chemical alterations by overuse, salinisation, acidification, or other chemical soil contamination, may be considered at different hierarchical scales. While the field scale has traditionally received much interest in strategic and applied research, the higher hierarchical scales of landscape have only recently gained consideration. Interdisciplinary research on issues such as functional biodiversity and landscape connectivity demonstrates that new options arise when systems managements are approached from landscape scale. Over the last decades, many attempts have been made to enhance the quantity and quality of semi-natural elements left in the countryside such as hedgerows, groves or ground covers.

Most mentioned reasons for the improvement of such habitats are:
- ★ To contribute to nature conservation (food, shelter, migration habitats of plants and animals)
- ★ To improve environmental quality (buffer strips to prevent pesticides and nutrients contamination)
- ★ To promote the aesthetic and legacy values of the countryside.

The LIFE+ 2009 BIODIVINE projects is about emphasizing the above motivations, by enlarging its scope at a landscape level; and also suggest management plans using biological struggle through conservation to demonstrate and enforce the reliability of functional biodiversity.

**BioDiVine in short**

- ★ 6 partners from three EU member states (France, Portugal and Spain)
- ★ Budget: **1 951 043€** - EU financial contribution: **959 523€** (49.18% of total eligible budget)
- ★ Concrete conservation actions:
  - ✓ Introduction of ground covers
  - ✓ Introduction of diversified hedges
  - ✓ Reorganization of low walls and other layout (slopes...)
  - ✓ Use of pheromones
  - ✓ Reorganization of headlands.

For more information, please, visit us at: [http://www.biodivine.eu/](http://www.biodivine.eu/)
Recent News

Biodiversity embraces the variety of genes, species and ecosystems that constitute life on Earth. We are currently witnessing a steady loss of biodiversity, with profound consequences for the natural world and for human well-being. The main causes are changes in natural habitats. These are due to intensive agricultural production systems for instance.

The EU LIFE programme incites European SMB, companies, institutes, public bodies and other stakeholders to develop innovative European projects in order to protect biodiversity, to promote conservation of soil and vegetal diversity and to care for animals and natural world.

**BioDiVine** is one of these selected projects dealing with the protection of our vineyards’ biodiversity in three European countries (France, Spain and Portugal).

★ 2009 LIFE environmental projects:

**BioDiVine** has been approved by the European Commission and its implementation has been carried out thanks to the EU LIFE programme. Some other biodiversity projects have been selected like **BioDiVine**.

A non-exhaustive list is available herein below:

**LIFE MIL'OUV** is an environmental project lead by a French coordinator, which aims at protecting Mediterranean open pastoral habitats (LIFE12 INF/FR/000735). To read more information about this project: [http://www.cenlr.org/2013-05-22](http://www.cenlr.org/2013-05-22)

**SOIL-Montana** is an environmental project run by a Spanish Institute (Neiker-Tecnalia), which focuses on agro-ecosystems health cards in order to promote conservation of soil and vegetal diversity in mountain and bottom valley (LIFE10 NAT/ES/000579). To read more information about this project: [http://212.142.253.17/soilmontana/](http://212.142.253.17/soilmontana/)

**DINAMO** is an environmental project run by an Italian University (Università’ Degli Studi del Molise) which aims to offer a demonstrative management model in order to fight against increasing endangered biodiversity in agricultural and semi-natural areas (LIFE08 NAT/IT/000324). To read more information about this project: [http://www.life-dinamo.it/](http://www.life-dinamo.it/)

URL: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.getProjectList&themeID=95&projectList](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.getProjectList&themeID=95&projectList)
Recent News

★ 2009-2013 best LIFE-Nature projects:

Since 2009, the EU Member States represented on the LIFE Committee, together with the LIFE Unit, have identified the following Best LIFE-Nature projects dealing with biodiversity issues. A non-exhaustive list is available herein below:

COMANACY (Cyprus) is a LIFE-Nature project which deals with conservation management in Natura 2000 sites of Cyprus (LIFE04 NAT/CY/000013).

CASS (United Kingdom) is a LIFE-Nature project which promotes the conservation of Atlantic salmon in Scotland (LIFE04 NAT/GB/000250).

GULF OF FINLAND (Finland) is a LIFE-Nature project which manages wetlands along the Gulf of Finland’s migratory flyway (LIFE03 NAT/FIN/000039).

URL:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.getProject&bestProjects&themeID=93

Upcoming events

★ Birdwatching session (the 28th of May)
Quinta das Carvalhas (Pinhão, Portugal)

In the framework of the "Biodiversity Week" that ADVID will organise from the 28th to the 31st of May, a "Birdwatching Session" will be held at Quinta das Carvalhas (on the left bank of the Douro River facing Pinhão) on the 28th of May.

★ Conferences “Sobre gastronomía, una reflexión con gusto” (from the 3rd to the 5th of July) – Logroño (La Rioja, Spain)

Some courses and events will take place in the University of Logroño in La Rioja from the 3rd to the 5th of July. These summer courses will create a reflection about food and gastronomy. Teachers, food producers, farmers, writers and politicians will debate with students and other stakeholders about the food consumption in our modern societies.
To read the detailed schedule of the conferences: