

Organic Seed Production and Plant Breeding – Strategies, Problems and Perspectives

**International symposium on organic seed production and plant breeding
21 and 22 November 2002 in Berlin
organised by ECO-PB in co-operation with Stiftung Ökologie & Landbau and the
Humboldt University Berlin**

The European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB) is preparing an international symposium on the state of the art and future developments in Organic Seed Production and Plant Breeding – strategies, problems and perspectives, 21/22 November 2002 in Berlin at the Humboldt University.

The fact that the EU-regulation 2092/91 for organic agriculture will no longer accept conventionally propagated seed and planting material for organic food production by the end of 2003, has stimulated several seed companies, research institutes and farmers to get engaged in organic seed production. With organic seed production many other aspects have to be taken into account, like variety trials, research on adjusting threshold values for seed-borne diseases, permitted seed treatments, improved seed production system and so forth. Some initiatives already exist for more than 20 years, others have just started. To meet the requirements of the organic farmers and consumers we have to scale up and further build up the expertise network and get an overview on what is going on, how, where and with whom.

The aim of the symposium is to show and discuss different scientific and practical approaches to meet the requirements, problems and challenges in organic seed production and plant breeding in Europe anno 2002.

The symposium will start in the evening with keynote speakers on the 21st of November and a buffet as part of the opening event, surrounded by posters of researchers. On 22nd of November the program will include oral and poster presentations. All breeders, researchers, experts and farmers involved or interested in organic seed production and plant breeding are invited to participate at the symposium. The official language will be English.

Those who would like to present a poster or give an oral presentation are invited to send in the title and abstracts before August 15, 2002 to Klaus.Wilbois@FiBL.de. After August 15, you will receive further information on the conference.

All poster abstracts (1 A4-page) and oral presentations will be presented in a symposium proceedings.

For more information on ECO-PB and the monthly e-mail newsletter on organic seeds and plant breeding, see www.eco-pb.org.

Organisation: ECO-PB in co-operation with Stiftung Ökologie & Landbau and Humboldt University Berlin
Location: Humboldt University of Berlin, Unter den Linden 6
Time: 21 November 2002 17.00-21.00, 22 November 9.00- 17.00
Participation fee: 50 Euros
Further information: Dr. Klaus-Peter Wilbois, e-mail: Klaus.Wilbois@FiBL.de

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Netherlands: Report on onion variety trials in the Netherlands

The first report on onion variety trials in the Netherlands 2001- 2004 of Edith Lammerts van Bueren and Rob van den Broek is now available on the ECO-PB web site under www.eco-PB.de/09/onion_lbi_2001.pdf.