



1st Mediterranean Conservation Agriculture Conference

23 - 24 November 2023 | Tunis, Tunisia

Recent extreme droughts destroying crops in several Mediterranean countries highlighted the urgency of developing adaptation and mitigation strategies to climate change. Conservation Agriculture (CA), although known to be among the best strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change, lacks large scale adoption in the Mediterranean region. There are several concerted efforts across the region to tackle constraints to greater adoption of CA. The first CA conference in the Mediterranean aims to present preliminary results of three PRIMA projects and discuss possible strategies to promote CA with scientists, farmers and policy makers. Sharing and discussing research results, practical experiences and recommendations could contribute to strengthening initiatives and cooperation in the region and help to develop measures to improve the resilience of Mediterranean farming systems.

The organization of the conference is lead by three PRIMA EU (prima-med.org/) funded projects; ConServeTerra, CAMA and 4CEMED. International organizations ICARDA and ECAF, as well as national organizations APAD and INRAT Tunisia are also part of the organizing committee. The conference will be organised as a hybrid event in Tunis.

Keywords: Conservation Agriculture, soil quality and crop productivity, practical recommendations, knowledge gaps, policy, climate change mitigation and adaptation

Program

Wednesday, 22. November 2023

18.30 Optional social dinner for all projects and panelists

Thursday, 23. November 2023

08.30 Welcome address and opening remarks
Hichem Ben Salem (President of IRESA), Mondher Ben Salem (DG of INRAT)

Block I: Recommendations to scientists (Moderation: Michele Rinaldi)

08.45 Presentations by ConServeTerra, CAMA, 4CEMED: Knowledge gaps, research design issues

09.30 Knowledge gaps in CA: Opening statements by panel members
Emilio Gonzales (UCO), Carlos Cantero (UDL), Mourad Latati (ENSA), Sripada Udupa (ICARDA), Hatem Cheikh M'hamed (INRAT)

10.45 Coffee break

Block 2: Recommendations to farmers (Moderation: Harun Cicek)

11.15 Presentations by ConServeTerra, CAMA, 4CEMED: Direct experiences, practical recommendations

11.45 CA in practice: Opening statements followed by a panel discussion with farmers
Aziz El Abidine (CA farmer), Daniel Brémond (CA farmer), Berry Mudge, Gabriela Cruz (APOLOSO), Shieb Wali (CA farmer), Adnan Abdrabbah (CA farmer)

13.00 Lunch

Block 3: Recommendations to policy makers (Moderation: Andrea Monti)

14.15 Presentations by ConServeTerra, CAMA, 4CEMED

14.45 Integrating CA into agricultural policies: Opening statements followed by a panel discussion with policy makers
Michele Pisante (UNITE), Aymen Frija (ICARDA), Fabrice Dentressangle (Prima), Rachid Moussadek (CAMA INRA/ICARDA)

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 Summary of recommendations by reporters

17.00 Discussion of publishable reports (optional)

19:00 Dinner

Friday, 24. November 2023

08.00 Departure to Agroecological and CA Family Farm (300 ha)

09.00 Field visit

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Concluding remarks and way forward

14.15 Departure to hotel

15.00 Arrival

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