Summer school

Agroecology and animal production

Are you interested in agroecology systems? And specific in the livestock component? Would you like to broaden and deepen your understanding on this topic from a broad perspective and European context? Then this summer school might be something for you. Agroecology is receiving increasing attention as a sustainable solution for future agriculture. Livestock is a key component in agroecological systems. Yet livestock production gives rise to growing concerns about social and environmental consequences. Implementation of the agroecological approach therefore is of growing importance for the future of agriculture, in specific livestock systems.

Target audience
The Summer School Agroecology and animal production is especially designed for PhD students in the field of agriculture, and professionals in agriculture and the feed and food industry, such as consultants, technical advisors, policy makers and researchers.

Course deliverables
After completion of the Summer Course, you gained in-depth understanding of the holistic and interdisciplinary agroecological approach in relation to livestock systems. Furthermore, you are able to add new knowledge to your field of expertise and to anticipate on future developments in agroecology.

Our approach
The course includes a variety of scientific approaches and teaching methods to facilitate appropriation and application of concepts:

- Systemic approach: “animal” in interaction with other components of the “agricultural system”: forage and cropping system, (natural) resources, ecological environment, socio-economic and biophysical environment
- Multifaceted approach: Multi-criteria, multi-scale, and multi-disciplinary analyses, and decision systems
- Teaching methods: Lectures, Flipped classroom, Digital learning, Field and case studies, workshops
- Participation and interactions: Interactive teaching methods facilitate active exchange of knowledge and ideas with other participants and the experts involved in the course. Social activities offer the opportunity to expand your professional and private network.

Location: Clermont-Ferrand (Centre of France), on the VetAgro Sup Campus (University of Agriculture)
Dates: 26-29 June 2017
Organised by: Heleen van Kernebeek, MSc (WUR), Fabien Stark, PhD (Agreenium)
Programme

26-29 June, 2017 (arrival on the 25th in the afternoon and departure on the 30th in the morning, with good train connection and daily flights between Amsterdam and Clermont-Ferrand).

Theoretical frameworks for agroecological livestock farming systems
To understand the fundamental principles of agroecology and their application to livestock systems.

How to realise transition
To gain an overview of the diversity of levers and practices that can be implemented in the context of the agro-ecological transition: animal traits, animal health and welfare, agricultural practices under extensive, mixed and intensive farming systems.

Assessment of livestock systems under agroecological framework
To be able to mobilize appropriate assessment methods and criteria to take into account the different dimensions of agroecology: nutrient cycles and multi-criteria assessment from farm to regional level.

Innovations to allow agroecological transition
Join in a change process, combining biophysical up to socioeconomic innovation: participative co-design, ecological processes at regional level and functional land management catchment challenge.

Practical information

Costs
PhD: €395,-
Educational staff / post doc: €695,-
Professional: €1495,-
The course fee includes course materials, coffee/tea, field trip, lunches and one dinner. Accommodation facilities are proposed on campus (single room, breakfast and dinner, 5 nights) for €230,- (excluded).

Registration
You are invited to submit your registration before 8 May 2017. After this date you will receive the details about location, payment, programme and participants list. You can register via our website www.wur.eu/academy

Our offer
Wageningen Academy also offers in company training, distance learning modules and summer schools. Check our website for more options.

Contact

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