

CALL FOR PAPERS (Abstracts)

French EU Presidency Seminar “What research to meet the pesticides reduction objectives embedded in the European Green Deal?”

International Scientific Conference

Dijon-France, 2nd June 2022

In the context of the future French presidency of the EU in the first half of 2022, INRAE will organize an officially accredited seminar known as “What research to meet the pesticides reduction objectives embedded in the European Green Deal?”. This seminar will include an **international scientific conference** for which the following call for papers has been designed. The conference will cover a large scope of scientific domains related to crop protection and pesticide use.

1. Objective of the Conference

Current crop protection in EU agriculture heavily relies on chemical pesticides to control weeds, pests and pathogens. European authorities, consumers and citizens are calling for a drastic reduction in the use and impact of chemical pesticides. The European Green Deal has set new targets and defined a roadmap with multiple strategies, including Farm to Fork and Biodiversity 2030. Ambitious targets have been set for agriculture and food, namely the goal of reducing by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides, as well as the use of more hazardous pesticides, by 2030.

This ambitious objective will require an in-depth change with new approaches based on prophylaxis, agroecology and the commitments of the sectors, but also major breakthroughs in the conception of new agricultural systems where crop protection does not rely only on the application of chemical pesticides.

French and European research is clearly in line with this ambition with major paradigm shifts and disruptive research strategies which should lead to such breakthrough innovations. The objective of this scientific conference held under French EU Presidency is to bring together researchers and professionals from all over Europe to share and discuss the latest scientific advances providing insights and solutions to pave the way for an agriculture with much less chemical pesticides and ultimately with none at all.

The conference is co-organised by the French Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE), the French Priority Research Programme “Growing and Protecting Crops Differently” and the European Research Alliance “Towards Chemical Pesticide-Free agriculture”. It will be held at the Dijon exhibition and convention centre (<https://www.dijon-congexpo.com/en/>) on the 2nd of June. English will be the speaking language.

Four main scientific fields will be covered in the Conference:

- Bio-inspired management of Crop Health
- Genetics and breeding of new cultivars for new services
- Cropping system and agrotechnology
- Agri-food system transformation and societal adoption.

It should be noted that the conference will be part of a larger seminar that will also propose discussions between researchers and professionals, with the civil society, within European projects coordinators, as well as field visits. You are most welcome to take part in the entire seminar on 2-3 June.

2. Call for Scientific Communications

Researchers are invited to send proposals for 15 minutes' oral communications in the different areas mentioned above. All research disciplines are concerned. Papers should present original research results that can contribute to the transition to pesticide-free agriculture or to a strong reduction in dependence on pesticide of culture systems.

Communications will be selected by an international scientific committee on the basis of these 2 pages documents. **Proposals must be sent by 1st February 2022 at the following e-mail address: europa@inrae.fr**

Communications will be selected for either long presentations (15') or for 180 seconds pitches.

After the conference, the proposers will be invited to submit full length text to be published in a special issue of an international scientific journal on the topic of the conference.