NOVA-BOVA master course

NON-CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL

Lithuanian University of Agriculture, Kaunas, Lithuania
10-14 October, 2005

Course description

The aim of the proposed course is to give an overview of modern non-chemical weed control in ecological (organic) farming system, to exchange information on the current state of knowledge and experience in weed control of ecological farming system, to improve the analytic skills of young weed scientists and to create contacts between them.

The course will emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of modern weed science integrating with plant science, crop ecology, agroecology and weed control enginery. The programme of the course include crop rotation; mechanical, preventive, thermal and physical weed control systems, law of field crop productivity, principles of weed ecology, allelopaty and biological weed control, field trips to experimental station and organic farm.

During the group-work sessions, the participants will analyse the topical ecological weed control issues in Baltic, Nordic and Central European countries.

Background: In the process of joining EU, the Baltic countries need to adapt their agricultural system to the new market situation. Agriculture products from the today's industrial agriculture are not environmentally friendly and every year consumers in all of the Word are asking more and more products of organic (ecological) agriculture.
As a result, in recent years ecological and economic factors stimulated a need and a necessity to decrease the use of pesticides (especially of herbicides) or even to refuse of them. That is possible only by using alternative means of weed control in the organic (ecological) farming system.

The aim of the proposed course is to give an overview of modern / non-chemical weed control in ecological (organic) farming system, to exchange information on the current state of knowledge and experience in weed control of ecological farming system, to improve the analytic skills of young weed scientists and to create contacts between them.
The course will emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of modern weed science integrating with plant science, crop ecology, agroecology and weed control enginery. The programme of the course will include crop rotation; thermal and physical weed control, law of field crop productivity, field trips, and preventive weed control.
During the group-work sessions, the participants will analyse the topical ecological weed control issues in Baltic, Nordic and Central European countries.

Distance learning – home task: Individual distance studies of the obligatory literature and presentation on one of the topics proposed by course organizers. Presentations should concentrate on the problems in the home country. **Basic course literature** for course participants (before meeting in Lithuania) - "Physical Control Methods in Plant Protection", Vincent C., Panneton, Flueurat-Lessrd F. (Eds.), 2001.

Participants: The course is intended for the **post-graduate**, **MSc** and **PhD** students and researchers from the Baltic Agricultural Universities. Number of course students - **20**.

Language: **English**.

Number of credits: **4,5 ECTS**

Deadline for registration: **9 September, 2005**

Distance learning module starts from **10 September, 2005**.

Meeting in person: **10-14 October, 2005**.

Venue: **Faculty of Agronomy, Lithuanian University of Agriculture,**
Studentu 11, Akademija, LT-53361, Kauno raj., Lithuania.

Course leader: **Assoc.prof. Vytautas Pilipavicius**, Department of Soil Management, Lithuanian University of Agriculture
E-mail: *vpilip@nora.lzuu.lt*
Phone: *+370 37 752 266*
Fax: *+370 37 752 271*
Address: *Studentu 11, Akademija, LT-53361, Kauno raj., Lithuania*

Course teachers:

Assoc.prof., dr. Vytautas Pilipavicius,	Lithuanian University of Agriculture, LZUU
Assoc.prof., dr. Jesper Rasmussen,	The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, KVL, Denmark
Assoc.prof., dr. L.O.Brandsaeter	Norwegian University of Live Sciences, UMB
Assoc.prof., dr. M.Ausmane	Latvia University of Agriculture, LLU
Assoc.prof., dr. J.Kopmanis	Latvia University of Agriculture, LLU
Prof., habil.dr. Petras Lazauskas,	Lithuanian University of Agriculture, LZUU
Assoc.prof., dr. Vaclovas Boguzas,	Lithuanian University of Agriculture, LZUU
Assoc.prof., dr. Juozas Pekarskas	Lithuanian University of Agriculture, LZUU

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