

Olivebioteq 2009: For a Renovated Profitable and Competitive Mediterranean Olive Growing Sector, 15 - 19 December 2009, Sfax, Tunisia

The Olivebioteq 2009 is the third seminar in a series of meetings targeting olive crop. The first seminar on Biotechnology and olive products quality in the Mediterranean was held in Morocco in November 2004, the second Olivebioteq was held in Palermo, Italy in October 2006. The Olivebioteq 2009: For a Renovated Profitable and Competitive Mediterranean Olive Growing Sector was held from 15 - 19 December 2009 in Sfax, Tunisia, and organized by the Tunisian Olive Tree Institute in collaboration with several national and international organizations. Dr. Saleh Shedifat, Olive Network Chairperson, and Mr. Mohamed El-Kholy, AARENINA Olive Network focal point in Egypt represented AARINENA in the meeting along with 200 participants coming from 12 countries including: Algeria, Egypt, France,

Greece, Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and USA. The meeting was aimed to discuss the results of scientific research and deliberate to make results useful for the innovation of the Mediterranean olive oil sector.

Aiming at improving the competitiveness of the Mediterranean olive growing sector, many topics of scientific research and useful implementations were presented and discussed.

Key areas raised were: olive biodiversity in producing countries, crop production practices in olive orchards, climate change impacts on olive culture, best practices for olive oil and table olives processing, innovations in using by-products, olive marketing and economics and new trends in super high density olive plantations.



Participants of Olivebioteq 2009, 15-19 December 2009, Sfax, Tunisia

The event provided an excellent environment to exchange experiences and discuss potential cooperation in new olive research projects across the Mediterranean Basin. The Olivebioteq 2009 included an exhibition for olive tree products, olive oil tasting sessions, training workshops on traceability and roundtable discussions on aero-palynology, importance of olive cultivation in rural development and the impacts of the economic crisis on the olive supply chain

The participants adopted to hold the fourth Olivebioteq at the Institute of Olive Tree and Subtropical Plants in 2011 in Greece.