



**SAVE Head Office:**  
Paradiesstr. 13, D-78462 Konstanz/Germany

Web: <http://www.save-foundation.net>  
E-mail: [office@save-foundation.net](mailto:office@save-foundation.net)

## Animal Genetic Resources in Greece: Monitoring of endangered livestock breeds is completed

The project “Animal Genetic Resources in Greece – Monitoring and Conservation of Rare Livestock Breeds” was carried out from 2004-2006 with the friendly support of the MAVA-Foundation for Nature Protection, Montricher, Switzerland. The present situation, need for action and possibilities for in-situ conservation of autochthonous livestock breeds was recorded. The final report is now published at the SAVE website (in German language): [http://www.save-foundation.net/deutsch/PDF/GR\\_Schlussreport\\_06.pdf](http://www.save-foundation.net/deutsch/PDF/GR_Schlussreport_06.pdf).

The report shows the still enormous extend of livestock diversity in Greece, considering both breeds and types. On numerous islands, in remote mountain areas and border regions, remaining stock of old livestock breeds were found. More than 170 breeds and varieties were recorded. There cannot be any doubt, though, that there is a lot of need for action. Data- and information management by the governmental side is unsatisfactory. Keeper's subsidies for *in-situ* conservation are only paid to a very limited extent as herd-books and registers are often missing.



The co-operation with different nature protection organisations within the frame of the monitoring activities but also when networking with different stakeholders proved to be very fertile: together with WWF Greece, interested stakeholders could be motivated: the “Society for the Protection of Prespa” uses water buffaloes and possibly soon also the



recently discovered Prespa cattle to keep wetland areas open, in the „Marine Park Alonnisos“, last remaining Sykia cattle may soon be used for grazing. Environmentalists in the surroundings of Agrinion gave hints on diverse breeds kept traditionally in oak forests, just to give a few examples.

Furthermore, first steps for a standardisation of goats could be started and the topic of the fast decreasing stock number of donkeys could be discussed.



To prepare sustainable conservation work, networking of responsible bodies was, besides the recording of the present situation, a priority issue. The private sector (experts, keepers, interested public) is, like in most Southern European countries, weak. Networking was therefore very important. Mutual exchange strengthens the self consciousness when dealing with officials, initiates exchange of experiences and supports the dialogue of the rural and the urban population.

As already reported in SAVE eNews 2/2006, interested stakeholders founded the national NGO „Amalthia“, the “Greek society for the conservation of indigenous breeds and domestic animals“ on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2006. Meanwhile, Amalthia has been approved by the governmental side as NGO and is listed as partner in the SAVE network. Its logo are the rounded horns of the Ulokeratiki goats, one of the most endangered goat breeds of Greece. With the support of the emergency fund, first animals could be bought and transferred to safeguard them and to set up conservation breeding (e.g. of the endangered Rodopi cattle). SAVE is very pleased to have met engaged and active partners in the members of Amalthia.



It is now necessary to verify the discovered diversity, initiate appropriate measure where necessary and win the broad Greek public for the issues of agro-biodiversity conservation. Further strategies for future development are the development of demonstration farms as “rescue centers”, closely linked to nature protection areas, the set-up and support of breeders’ organisations, breeders’ meetings and set-up of herd-books. Animal shows should give the broad public the opportunity to experience their living cultural heritage. Breeders and keepers, on the other side, are strengthened through these activities. Cross-border co-operation and product marketing are also on the list of future strategies.

## Annual Meeting of SAVE Foundation and the SAVE Network 28-30 September at Guastalla, Italy

The next Annual Meeting of SAVE Foundation and the SAVE Network will take place in Northern Italy at Guastalla at the occasion of the famous **Guastalla Fair** (see below). It is an unchanged medieval town on the shore of the Po river, residence of a bishop and formerly a duke. The meeting will be organised in collaboration with our Italian partner R.A.R.E. and hosted by the Town Council.



### Provisional agenda:

#### Friday, Sept. 28:

- Arrival of participants, 5 p.m.: welcome drink
- Evening: open meeting of the SAVE Project Commission (explanation of the projects)

#### Saturday, Sept. 29:

- European AgroBiodiversity Day 2007: International Conference "Use it or lose it – conservation of livestock breeds in Europe" (topics see link below).
- Meetings of the Council of Co-operation Partners and the SAVE Board
- Evening: Social Event, with traditional food for dinner (offered by the Town Council)

#### Sunday, Sept. 30:

- Visit of Guastalla Fair and Farewell



**Side events** take place before the official Meeting Thursday afternoon 27 September and Friday, 28 September during day.

At the weekend of 29-30 September the all-Italian Organic Fair and Exhibition "**Pi-ante e animali perduti**" ("lost plants and livestock breeds") will happen at Guastalla. We have the occasion to participate and contribute to this very interesting event!

=> For participation please **register** asap, accomodation will be difficult during event!

=> Link for information & **registration**: <http://www.save-foundation.net/pdf/Guastalla.pdf>



## European Agrobiodiversity Day (EAD): 29<sup>th</sup> September 2007



“Use It or Lose It” is the slogan for this year’s European Agrobiodiversity Day. Under the banner of this theme the SAVE Foundation draws attention to the synergism between traditional farming structures, rural development and the conservation of agrobiodiversity. There are many ways in which the use of traditional farm animals, plants and agricultural systems can enhance modern lifestyles. From tasty products through to beautiful landscapes, these plants, animals and ways of life bring so many benefits. Protecting the agricultural biodiversity of Europe aids rural development, promotes tourism, provides a healthy, local diet and provides a good genetic basis for future food security. If we don’t want to lose it, we should use it!

Papers for EAD to download from: [http://www.save-foundation.net/EAD/EAD\\_en.htm](http://www.save-foundation.net/EAD/EAD_en.htm)

### Newsflash

#### Elli Broxham:

##### **new coordinator of the SAVE Head Office in Konstanz**

From June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Head Office in Konstanz will be coordinated by Elli Broxham. She is British (but can speak German), born in 1974 and has studied Environmental Policy and International Development at the Open University, GB. She worked previously at the Monitoring Institute for Rare Breeds and Seeds in Europe where she coordinated various projects and, especially, managed the project Continuous Monitoring in the Alps. At the SAVE office in Konstanz she will take over the general programme coordination as well as the coordination of the new project ELBARN (see SAVE eNews 1/2007)



#### **Underutilized Plants for food, nutrition, income and sustainable development**

Underutilized plants are species with under-exploited potential for contributing to food security and nutrition by combating ‘hidden hunger’ caused by micronutrient deficiencies; they often have medicinal properties and other multiple uses; they provide options for improved incomes to the poor, and for environmental services to the global community. These species collectively receive little attention from research, extension services, farmers, policy and decision makers, donors, technology providers and consumers. That’s why the Global Facilitation Unit for Underutilized Species in Maccarese-Rome (et alera) plans an **International Symposium** at 3-7 March 2008 in Arusha, Tanzania. For more information see: <http://www.icuc-iwmi.org/Symposium2008/index.htm>, Contact: [underutilized-species@cgiar.org](mailto:underutilized-species@cgiar.org)

## Important dates (extract)

5-8 June: International Symposium: Environment and Culture in the Mediterranean Region. Antalya, Turkey. Web: <http://geomed2007.balikesir.edu.tr>

10-17 June: World Gathering of Nomads and Transhumant Herders; La Granja (Cantabria), Spain. E: [pastores.sinfronteras@pastos.org](mailto:pastores.sinfronteras@pastos.org), Web: <http://www.pastos.org>

20-22 June: Colloquium "Live plant collections: place and role in conservation"; Nancy, France. Contact: [AFCEV@jardin-bota.uhp-nancy.fr](mailto:AFCEV@jardin-bota.uhp-nancy.fr), Web: <http://www.afcev.org>

20-22 June: 11th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production, Basel, Switzerland. Contact: [info@erscp2007.net](mailto:info@erscp2007.net); Web: <http://www.erscp2007.net>

28-29 June: Seminar "Biodiversity in Austria. Contributions from agriculture & forestry." lectures and excursion, HBLFA Raumberg-Gumpenstein, Irdning, Austria; Contact: [franz.fischerleitner@raumberg-gumpenstein.at](mailto:franz.fischerleitner@raumberg-gumpenstein.at), Web: <http://www.raumberg-gumpenstein.at>

1-2 September: 25 year Jubilee ProSpecieRara Foundation, Bern, Switzerland. Contact: [info@psrara.org](mailto:info@psrara.org), Web: <http://www.prospecierara.ch>

1-7 Sept: FAO International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources, Interlaken, Switzerland (with exhibition of rare Swiss breeds from ProSpecieRara). Web: <http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/genetics/angrvent2007.html>

13.-15. September: EurSafe 2007 - Sustainable Food Production and Ethics. Biocenter University Vienna, Austria. Web: <http://www.nas.boku.ac.at/eursafe2007.html>, Contact: [eursafe2007@boku.ac.at](mailto:eursafe2007@boku.ac.at)

14-15 September: Workshop "Agriculture in Alpine Protected Areas - Best practice and NATURA 2000"; National Park Hohe Tauern, Austria. Web: <http://www.alparc.org>, Contact: [chloe.manfredi@alparc.org](mailto:chloe.manfredi@alparc.org)

24-28 September: Second International Conference on Health and Biodiversity (COHAB 2007), Galway. Ireland.



28-30 September: Annual Meeting of SAVE Foundation and SAVE Network on the occasion of the Allitalian Organic Fair in Guastalla (near Parma), Italy. Web: <http://www.save-foundation.net/pdf/Guastalla.pdf>

29 September: European Agro-Biodiversity Day (**EAD**). PR event to the topic "use it or lose it" (conservation through consumption). Various activities of the SAVE Network organisations in their respective countries. Contact: [info@monitoring.eu.com](mailto:info@monitoring.eu.com).



13-15 October: International Conference "The Role of the Donkey and the Mule in the Culture of the Mediterranean", Island of Hydra (near Athens), Greece. E-mail: [ed.emery@britishlibrary.net](mailto:ed.emery@britishlibrary.net), Web: <http://www.geocities.com/DonkeyConference>