

# SAVE e-News 3/2016

## Safeguard for Agricultural Varieties in Europe

The quarterly electronic information service of the SAVE Foundation



SAVE Project Office

Neugasse 30, CH 9000 St. Gallen, Switzerland / [www.save-foundation.net](http://www.save-foundation.net) / [office@save-foundation.net](mailto:office@save-foundation.net)

## Arca-Deli Awards 2016



*During the excursion at the SAVE annual meeting in Slovenia all participants could taste some of the products awarded.*

*Picture: Klemen Potočnik*



**Award 2016**

which is then provided with the respective year can be placed on the product, strengthens the sale of

From the SAVE Network a mixture of very different products has been submitted for the Arca-Deli Award 2016. Innovative products that are made of old breeds or varieties and promote living conservation of agricultural biodiversity are awarded. The logo,

these particular products, as experience of past years have shown.

Also in 2016 the jury considered and assessed at the SAVE annual conference the products very conscientiously. Besides the visual and sensory examination, the packaging and labeling will be examined and assessed.

It is striking that many producers label their products very cautious. Often the special value of the product on the packaging is hardly mentioned. Also that a product is the result from the conservation of an autochthonous breed or variety, is rarely mentioned. This information provides the uniqueness of the products! Even for farm-gate sale it is important that this information is noted on the product. Oral information is quickly forgotten!!

The following products have been awarded in 2016:

### **Slovenia**

#### **Mangalitza Bacon**

#### **Pramenka-Sheep Salami**



Bacon and Salami are from the same manufacturer in Adlešiči, Slovenia. They are tasty and interesting. The logo for the products is well thought out. However, there is no reference on the respective breed. It would be a good additional selling argument to add information on the composition such as fat and protein content.

#### **Krskopolje Pig Bacon**

#### **Krskopolje Pig Salami**



Both products were submitted by the organic farm Totter in Gradac, Slovenia. Visual and sensory both products were very good. However there was also a note from the jury for packaging: The production date and any additional information on the product is missing.

#### **Mare's Milk Moisturing Cream**



This very good moisturizer from Mare milk is a very innovative product. But unfortunately on the packaging any indication that this cream has been produced exclusively from the milk of autochthonous breeds is missing. This is an important selling point, which should be exploited in 2016 in accordance with the Arca-Deli Award label.

#### **XXL Knitted Blanket from Belokranjska Pramenka Wool**



To see the knitting with the extra-sized needles is a special experience!

Sheep wool – especially the often rough wool of the autochthonous breeds – is difficult to market today. The idea of producing a blanket with traditional knitting technique, but especially thick needles, is very innovative. Tradition and modernity meets here additionally in another remarkable detail: a QR code on the label leads to further information about the product and its manufacture process on the Internet.

### **Italy**

#### **Dried Grass Pea Landrace Inchixa**



In southern Italy the grass pea (*Lathyrus sativus*) is a traditional food plant, which is however almost completely forgotten. Traditionally, this grain legume is used in Soups and stews. Today it is lovingly selected and conserved on the "Azienda Sa Laureara". The peas are dried and sold in 500g bags directly on the farm in Sardinia. The jury noted that the marketing can be greatly enhanced if more information would be given on the packaging. The indication that it is a very old variety, and how this is to be processed, should be useful in particular if that variety is to be sold on regional markets etc. and not just from farm.

**Hungary****Wild Rose Berry Palinka**

This hard liquor is made from wild rose hips in a traditional way. Therefore, the product is not awarded because of the marketing of an old variety, but because it maintains the traditional production and thus obtains the "crop wild relatives" appropriate appreciation and a cultural heritage is preserved. The Arca-Deli Award is therefore exceptionally granted for this product category.



## The SAVE Network activity plans



The outcome of a survey in spring 2015 (interviews and research), done by a group of students from the University of Wageningen, have been presented at the SAVE annual meeting in Greece last year. On the basis of this presentation the attendees have drawn up a list of important topics. Albert Meijering (SAVE Network Office Wageningen) wrote a management plan in which these outcomes were included.

On the occasion of the meeting this year in Metlika (Slovenia) a workshop was held to implement the activity plan for the next 12 months.

To get a better knowledge of each other, a workshop started on Friday morning with a 'pitch-talk' of each participating organisation.

A 'pitch-talk' is a short time (for example, in an elevator) where you meet someone to explain in only one or two minutes what your idea might be, or

what your strongest arguments are about something.

Four questions were needed to be answered in about two minutes:

1. Explain your organisation
2. Which project or activity of your organisation is the most successful and you are proud of?
3. What are the needs of your organization in general?
4. What do you expect from the SAVE network to reach the goals of your organization?

Boris Grabrijan brought a beautiful alarm bell from his National Park to warn when the two minutes were finished. In the following hour more than 14 organisations presented themselves. This was very useful to get an idea about the participating organisations.

There are different organisations with different financial support and different policies but still a lot in common. The needs that were mentioned mostly were exchange of knowledge and working together to get a stronger message in Brussels, not only to be acknowledged, but also to get more funding.



With the information from the 'pitch-talk' in mind four working groups were formed spontaneously to discuss an important topic for an activity plan for the next 12 months.

The first group (plants) with participants of Arche Noah, Vern, Rete Semi Rurali and De Oerakker came up with a major focus on the knowledge improvement of volunteers who often carry out the work of improving rare varieties and crops. The following activities for a follow up of this discussion were stated:

- Quality monitoring of volunteers
- Organisation structure for volunteers
- Mutual recognition and cooperation with farmer gardens
- A meeting of plant conserving organisations to discuss educational training of volunteers hosted at Arche Noah in Austria.

The second group (Amalthia, RARE, SZH and others) deepened out the needs of all organisations and asked the SAVE network team to:

- Draw up an inventory of the four most important actual running projects and activities in every country / organisation.
- Draw up an inventory of projects or activities all partners would like to set up in the future.
- Share these documents online, to stimulate knowledge exchange and cooperation in future projects (and maybe work together in fundraising).
- Set up a congress in the long term, about either plants or animals, to make SAVE more known, and to attract more members.

The third group (SLE, GEH and SZH) wants to focus on two concrete projects:

- Working together in a disease protocol, as a follow up of the ELBARN project.
- Develop a plan for collaboration to exchange practices in protecting livestock against predators (wolves).

The fourth group deepened out the possibilities of the Heritaste label. They proposed a platform where producers and consumers can exchange experiences and evaluations.

Recognition of the label and possibilities to find the products are main conditions for this plan.

It is up to the groups to take initiative on these action plans. Looking back at this very fruitful meeting we look also forward to the outcomes this year.

With the fees of all members the SAVE network has a little budget to facilitate meetings or other activities that are needed for those activity plans. The SAVE Network Office ([office@save-network.com](mailto:office@save-network.com)) will keep in touch with the groups and ask for the need of financial support to fulfil their activity plans for the next 12 months. Each group shall give a short presentation about the results of their work at the next SAVE annual meeting in Portugal.



Besides this strong discussions, the well organised SAVE meeting was a full success: the presentations of the SAVE seminar have been as diverse as the SAVE network is. The excursions gave a potpourri of impressions of work, life and conservation of rare plants and breeds in Bela Krajina, Slovenia.

All presentations are available on:

[www.save-foundation.net/en/network/conferences](http://www.save-foundation.net/en/network/conferences)

A big Thank you very much to Dargo Kompan and his team from Ljubljana University!

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**The SAVE meeting 2017 will take place in Ponte de Lima, Portugal, September 7 – 9, 2017**

## Mare's Milk Production - an innovative approach for conservation in Slovenia

Conservation of traditional horse breeds often is problematic, because these breeds usually have been multi-purpose breeds for working and riding, harness and traction. Today, their use is very limited. In Slovenia a new way for valorisation of traditional horse breeds like the Slovenian draft horse, the Posavina Horse and the Lipizzan horse: the mare's milk production.

Mare's milk is known for its good effects for human health already since ancient times:

- In China, mare's milk was used as medicine 3000 years ago. It was treated as miracle medicine. Rulers of the Ming dynasty called it "Divine Nectar".
- 800 B.C., Hesiod described mare's milk as an every day's food in his poem "Work and Days".
- The Greek antique poet Homer wrote in his Iliad that mare's milk caused a very good income.
- The Mongolian ruler Kublai-Khan drank »kumys«, fermented mare's milk every evening. A herd of white mares was bred only for him and his children.
- People from Asia, especially from the Mongolian step, as well as Siberia's nomads used mare's milk, which helped them to strengthen their immune system. They also enjoyed its taste.
- In recent history, the Russians were the first who used mare's milk for medical purposes. The first sanatorium was established in Samara in 1858. Leo Tolstoy, the author of the famous novel "Anna Karenina", wrote "Mare's milk regenerates my body and perpetuates my spirit".
- During World War II the German doctor Rudolf Storch became familiar with the medicinal effects of mare's milk. After his return from his captivity, he set up the first stud farm for mare's milk production in Germany.

### Production of Mare's Milk in the 21. Century

Around 30 million people in Asia consume mare's milk every day. The most known producers are Mongolians, who traditionally live as nomads. The majority of the milk is for domestic needs. Milk is the only available food most of the time. Mare's milk is appreciated also in the region of former Soviet Union.

In Europe, mare's milk has become popular in the 1990s. Germany, Italy and France were the first European countries, where the production started. Other European countries followed.

### Mare's milk production in Slovenia

In Slovenia, only a few enterprises are registered for mare's milk production. The only approved and officially controlled company is LacMar d.o.o., which buys mare's milk from registered premises and is packed, frozen and distributed. The company has retail trade as well. In addition, mare milk is also applied for cosmetic products, such as soaps, shampoos and creams.

Only mares of Slovenian

autochthonous breeds (Slovenian draft horse, Posavje horse and Lipizzan horses) are used for the milk production. All milked mares are included in a breeding program for autochthonous breeds.

### Mare's milking technology

Mares are milked when the foals are two months old. Mares milking technology is very different from ruminant milking. The main difference is that the foal has to remain in touch with the mare for the whole period of milk production. Milking is more frequent than at cows or small ruminants, about twice to four times a day. It is necessary to separate the foal from the mare a little bit before the milking. Milking by hand results in a lower yield compared to machine milking, but the microbiological picture is better.

More information and products from frozen mare's milk to soap and moisturizing cream can be found on:

<http://kobilje-mleko.si/en/p1.html>

For the order of products, education, production or processing of mare's milk (mobile plants, equipment, etc.) please contact: [info@equine-milk.eu](mailto:info@equine-milk.eu)



## Conservation of the Fruit Orchards in Europe – Individually or Collectively?



Orchard landscapes with predominantly standard fruit trees in Europe north of the Alps are witnesses and relicts of a traditional fruit growing culture with a small-scale, often cooperatively organized, mixed farming, with a versatile, extensive use of the land for the production of fruit, timber, grazing, arable - and gardens.

As part of the industrialization of the late 19th and early 20th century, this small-scale structures north of the Alps became rare and disappeared in some regions completely.

Only in a few, mostly impassable areas the standard fruit-tree gardens remained extensive. Recently the pressed, small farming structure experienced a renaissance through niche markets for organic products.

For a long time the orchards have been at the mercy of influences as described above and disappeared therefore rapidly: from 1.5 million hectares in Germany in the 30s of the 20th century to today about 400000 ha. Europe-wide there are still approximately 1 million hectares of orchards existing. In the past 30 years the process of shrinkage decreased through a stop of the grubbing up premiums, increased tree care measures and replanting. Nevertheless, only in few areas in Europe orchard landscapes are existing. Orchard Landscapes are areas in with standard fruit tree

orchards which are forming the landscape together with settlements and a living orchard culture. Examples can be found, inter alia, in the Normandy

### **PROCLAMATION FOR THE MEADOW ORCHARDS OF EUROPE**

*The meadow orchard landscapes of Baden-Württemberg in the southwestern Germany - with mainly tall grown apple-, pear-, cherry-, plum- and walnuttrees - are an extra beautiful example of organic, agroforestral cultural landscapes of Europe and the entire world. Due to their particular traditional cultural presence and biodiversity the european meadow orchard landscapes together are of outstanding universal value and should be honoured as serial, tangible, transboundary heritage sites by UNESCO."*

*(Version 29.August 2016)*

and Brittany, in some states of Germany, parts of Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Switzerland and Romania.

In view of this wide-spreading, albeit quite tattered, carpet of landscapes with a living agroforestry and fruit growing culture the idea was born in autumn

2014 to collate these cultural landscapes to a World Heritage Site - a serial, material, cultural World

### **Declaration of Intent**

*"Yes, I consider the application, provisionally titled "Traditional Meadow Orchard Landscapes of Europe as World Cultural Heritage Site" justified. I see these traditional, ecological meadow orchard landscapes in Europe as endangered tangible cultural assets of outstanding, universal value in the sense of the "Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage" in its current form\*.*

*It is my wish to see national initiatives undertaking to consider the conditions and prospects of a UNESCO nomination as well as making initial proposals for the form and conception of a national component for a cross-border European "meadow orchard landscapes" heritage site. These proposals should be forwarded to the relevant national authorities for review with the intention of formal nomination. The intention should also be cross-border contact and cooperation.*

*I am willing to participate in these efforts on a voluntary basis and within the scope of my own abilities, without legal obligation."*

Heritage landscape. The Status of a World Heritage Site is one of the strongest tools of the international community for the protection of culture and nature. It requires state responsibility, a quality management plan and monitoring of developments. In the case of orchard culture, a particularly high-quality cooperation of all concerned to the common heritage is necessary: landowners, national and local authorities, landscape management experts, infrastructure, manufacturing services, but also cultural workers.

The „Friends of World Heritage orchard landscapes in Europe“ developed a declaration of intent in which the participants declare a cross-border cooperation with the aim to conserve the orchard culture as World Heritage Sites in Europe. An appeal in the sense of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage of the World (World Heritage Convention) is one possible way to promote the recognition of orchard landscapes as a World Heritage.



To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection criteria. Two of them fit to the fruit orchards of Europe:

“(v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change”; and:

(x) to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.”(<http://whc.unesco.org/en/criteria/>)

([www.unesco.de/infothek/dokumente/uebereinkommen/welterbe-konvention.html](http://www.unesco.de/infothek/dokumente/uebereinkommen/welterbe-konvention.html))

A proposal on this matter will be prepared to the German state of Baden Württemberg, and if appropriate, to set the approval procedure in motion. In each participating country a separate proposal needs to be worked out according to the special national procedure for a serial World Heritage

Freundeskreis Weltkulturerbe Streuobstlandschaften Europas, Peter Scharfenberger Kirchstr. 5 D-72622 Nürtingen Tel: 491772521002

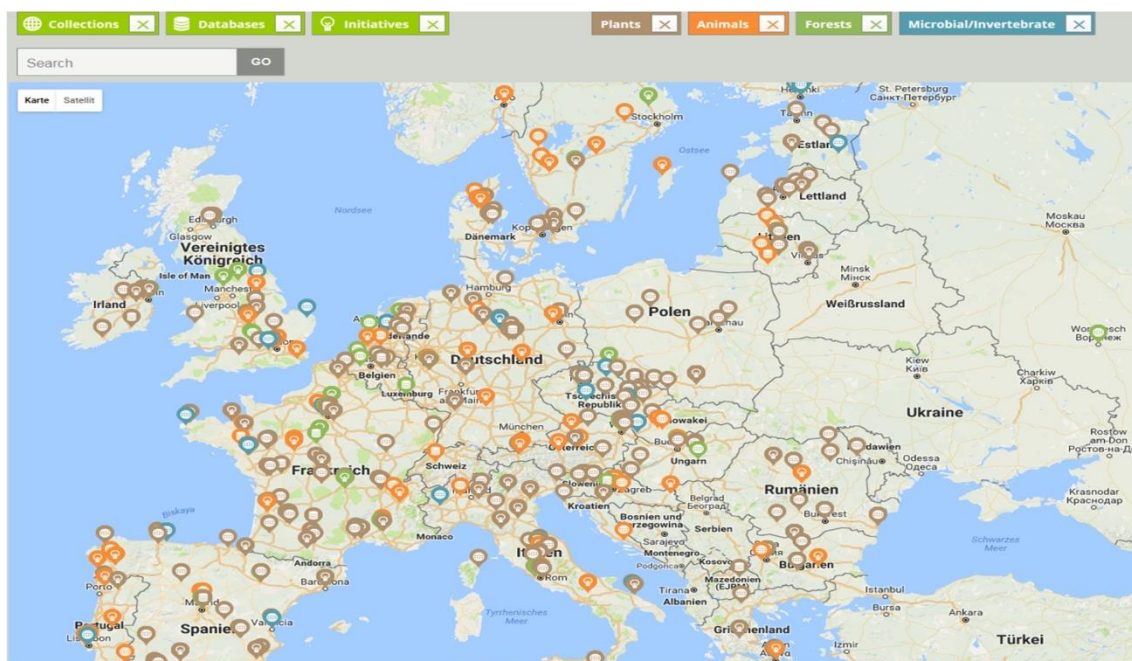
e-mail: [imkere@scharfenberger.de](mailto:imkere@scharfenberger.de)

(ref.: StreuobstKultur)

[www.facebook.com/streuobstpflge/](https://www.facebook.com/streuobstpflge/)

Facebook:

# Preparatory Action – EU Plant and Animal Genetic Resources



The evaluation of the second Community programme on genetic resources in agriculture underlined the need for further action to enhance conservation of genetic diversity within agriculture and to promote the sustainable use of traditional varieties and breeds so as to make conservation economically viable.

Under the title “Better integration of ex situ and in situ approaches towards conservation and sustainable use of Genetic Resources at national and EU level: from complementarity to synergy” the EU Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, launched a preparatory action in July 2014 for a period of 2 years. The action covered plant, animal, forest genetic resources as well as microbial and invertebrate genetic resources.

The aim of this preparatory action was to deliver inputs on how to improve communication, knowledge exchange and networking among all the actors potentially interested in activities related to the conservation of genetic resources in agriculture. Finally, the preparatory action aimed to find ways towards a sustainable and economically viable use of these resources. The preparatory action should support the EU in recognizing the potentials for added value in the field of the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural genetic resources. The website with details on project developments and results can be accessed at: [www.geneticresources.eu](http://www.geneticresources.eu).

SAVE Foundation – as a European I-NGO – has been involved in that action through the participation in several workshops, the final conference and a case study, which is published in the final report of the project.

The draft version of the final report works out four implications for the conservation and use of genetic resources in the EU and globally:

- The importance of genetic resources has increased and will continue to increase even more.
- There is much opportunity for improved conservation methods and access to genetic resources, both on the technical and organisational level.
- Other areas of research relevant to genetic resources like conservation biology and socioeconomics are clearly in the shadow of genomics and should be supported more.
- For small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and non governmental organisations (NGOs) it will be increasingly difficult to continue to play a role in the genetic resources arena as it becomes more and more dominated by molecular approaches. These companies and associations need to be supported in terms of capacity building and technology application.

## Newsflash

### Alp Horizons: The Future of the Alpine Valleys and the Role of Culture: Bergell Resolution



At the conference «Mountain Regions Where to? The Future of the Alpine Valleys and the Role of Culture» in Salecina (Maloja, Switzerland) in June more than 40 participants from Switzerland, Valtellina, Vorarlberg, Tyrol and Bavaria formulated the following resolution:

In the face of huge challenges in the mountain areas such as economic instability, demographic changes and the loss of political importance – we've figured out the following:

- that the cultural identity in the alpine regions provide power and dignity and allows the encounter between the rural and the urban space at eye level

- that especially culture initiatives provide an important basis for a future sustainable regional development.

Thereafter, we highlight the following demands to policy, cultural funding and regional development:

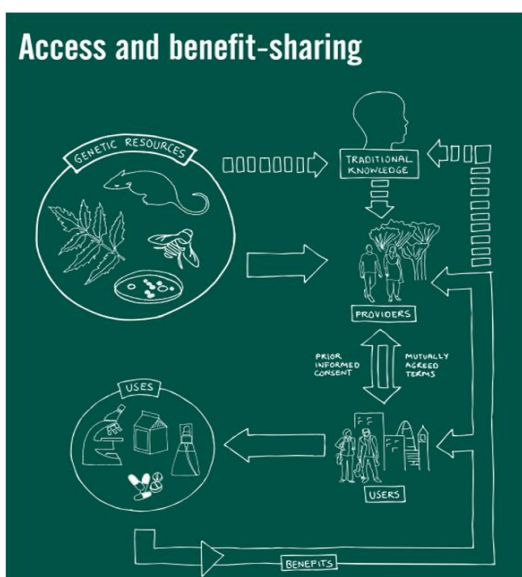
- The full range of alpine culture must receive a higher priority.
- Especially local and regional cultural initiatives should receive the importance and place they need to set relevant impulses for an increasing quality of life in the mountain regions.
- The cultural landscape is an important part of life in the mountain regions – museumization and overexploitation needs to be prevented
- The Alpine region has a huge potential of outstanding cultural workers and innovative cultural initiatives. Let's use this opportunities through promotion of this dialogue and break new grounds

The participants „Alpine Valleys Where to?

Salecina / Bregaglia, 19th June 2016

[http://www.cipra.org/de/publikationen/resolution-bergeller-tagung?set\\_language=de](http://www.cipra.org/de/publikationen/resolution-bergeller-tagung?set_language=de)

## EU ABS Regulation 511/2014: Guidance Documents



2014 the EU Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Regulation implementing the Nagoya Protocol was adopted. The implementation is difficult, because clear definitions are missing.

Additionally it is not entirely clear who in what way has to ensure the fair benefit sharing. Therefore, the EU and some European countries are developing guidance documents on how to implement the regulation. SAVE Foundation was involved in the preparation of guidance document for the area of animal genetic resources. It is of practical importance, clearly to explain the difference between "use" and "research and development", because in many areas, in the conservation scene and in the modern breeding the line between "research and development" and "Use" becomes blurred.

The guidance document explains what users from genetic resources need to do in order to act in

accordance with national / domestic legislation on access and benefit sharing (ABS) and how this will be overseen by the competent national authorities.

For plant genetic resources the guidance document was published beginning of September in the Official Journal of the European Union. (C313): <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2016:313:TOC>. For example out of scope of the ABS regulation are plant genetic resources which are covered by a specialized international ABS instrument, as commodities, and/or not subject to "research & development"

For the conservation of livestock it is important, that conservation breeding does not belong to the ABS relevant "research & development" activities. The exchange of material for conservation breeding does not run under a special contract or additional costs for the international ABS fund.

Recently also in Switzerland guidelines for plant genetic resources and ABS have been completed.

The result is an informative brochure in English, illustrating the relationships and commitments clearly. It can be downloaded here

<http://www.naturalsciences.ch>



## Variety-Savers: New Link

Due to problems with the american network service provider, SAVE lost the usage authorization for [www.variety-savers.net](http://www.variety-savers.net). Now Variety Savers works under [www.variety-savers.info](http://www.variety-savers.info) and [www.variety-savers.com](http://www.variety-savers.com).

Both links are working and we look forward to a lively exchange on the platform. The Variety-Savers network can also, as always, be reached through the link on the SAVE website.

## Variety-Savers

The European Network of Breed and Seed Savers

Home About My Page Members Search Groups Photos Links FAQ My Network Heritaste Consultation  
Books and More Store Arca Deli Awards 2016 SAVE annual meeting

NEWS

Two weeks ago at the European Pastoralists Assembly organized by ESN in Koblenz, Germany, more than 50 pastoralists from 17 countries signed a common declaration, entitled the "Koblenz-Ehrenbreitstein Declaration", more information see: <http://shepherdnet.eu/>

The SAVE eNews is a quarterly eNewsletter - read the most recent edition here: [SAVE eNews 2/16](#)

**Mitwirkung ausdrücklich erwünscht**

Das traditionelle landwirtschaftliche Wissen im Alpenraum droht, mit dem anhaltenden Strukturwandel für immer verloren zu gehen. Mit der auf dem Wiki-Prinzip aufgebauten Online-Enzyklopädie [www.fundus-agricultura.wiki](http://www.fundus-agricultura.wiki) gibt die Stiftung SAVE Gegensteuer. Eine Mitwirkung ist ausdrücklich erwünscht. Jede fachkundige Person kann ehrenamtlich ihr Wissen einbringen. Voraussetzung für eine Teilnahme ist eine Registrierung auf der Webseite für eine der vier Kategorien Pflanzen, Tiere, Kulturtechniken und Raumrhythmus

Welcome to the European network of breed and seed savers!

Variety-Savers is the dedicated social network for networking and listing all keepers of indigenous livestock breeds and cultivators of indigenous cultivated plants found in Europe. [More about this website](#)

SAVE Annual Meeting 2016

We have the pleasure to invite you to the next Annual Meeting of the SAVE Foundation and the European SAVE Network in Metlika, in the Kolpa Nature Park, Slovenia

It will take place on **15 - 17 September 2016**.

Information and registration: <http://www.save-foundation.net/english/conferences.htm>  
or: [ponja.remijn@szh.nl](mailto:ponja.remijn@szh.nl)

Groups

<b>Denmark</b>	<b>Waterbuffal</b>	<b>Poultry</b>	<b>Horses</b>	<b>Cattle</b>
3 members	5 members	7 members	4 members	9 members

[+ Add a Group](#) [View All](#)

SAVE Foundation

Sign Out

Inbox

Friends - Invite

Settings

Events

[+ Add an Event](#)

Donate

About

SAVE Foundation created this Ning Network

Google Translate

Sprache auswählen

Powered by Google Google Ub