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Agricultural Biodiversity in the Carpatians [ABC]

Cross-Border Cooperation in the
Carpathian Region for sustainable
Conservation of Agricultural
Biodiversity

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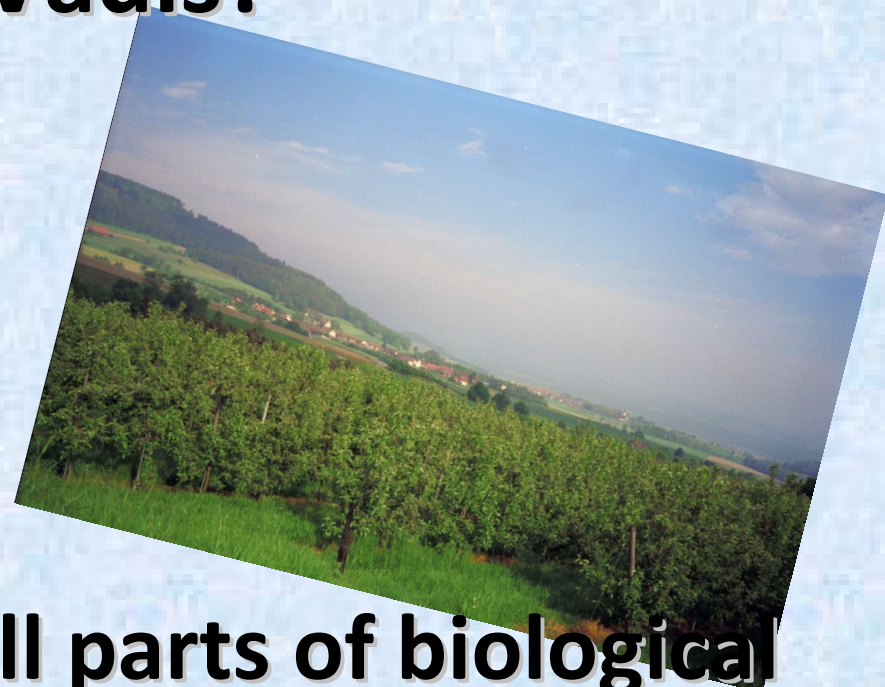
Diversity of Species



Agro-Biodiversity Quo Vadis?

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- **Livelihood**
- **Agrobiodiversity= all parts of biological Diversity, which are important for Nutrition and agriculture**





Species, Breeds, Cultivars and Landraces

- **Species = organisms that are able to crossbreed and have reproductive offspring**
- **A breed is a subgroup of a species**
- **A cultivar is a cultivated variety of a plant**
- **A landrace is a local variety of a domesticated animal or plant species**



Breeding

Since man has been settled, plants were selected (about since 20'000 years



Animals are domesticated since about 12'000 years



Modern Breeding versus Conservation of Agricultural Diversity

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Hybrids since ca. 1960

Yield increase by "Inbreeding"
Uniform maturity date
Easy to use

Genetic Bottleneck

Certain properties are lost

Extreme combinations of genes provide disease





Agrobiodiversity is grown historically

- Man has selected plants and animals
- Man has adapted plants and animals
- Man developed farming methods and techniques
- Man threatens diversity

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Impact of Agrobiodiversity

- Rural Development
- Nature Conservation
- Traditional Knowledge
- Food security
- Climate Change
- Farmers Rights
- Advocacy



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SAVE Foundation: Services

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- Making contacts with international organizations and authorities
- Information on European / international legislation, agreements and funding
- Organization of international expert meetings and seminars
- Logistical support for national and regional conservation activities
- Know-how exchange between partner organizations
- Coordination of cross-border conservation projects, etc.



Agricultural Conservation in the Carpathians legal Background

- Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians
- FAO Global Plan of Action: Plants; Animals
- EU Regulations on Rural Development
- National laws and regulations

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SAVE Foundation and SAVE Network, Konstanz/Germany; www.save-foundation.net and www.agrobiodiversity.net



Agricultural Conservation in the Carpathians experiences

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- Workshop on Rare Breeds and Plant Varieties in the Carpathian Mountains 1999
- Follow up activities
- Experiences: example Valachian Sheep



Agricultural Conservation in the Carpathians Example Valachian Sheep

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and Work goes on.....

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