



**Climate resilient farming
and forestry systems
and water management**

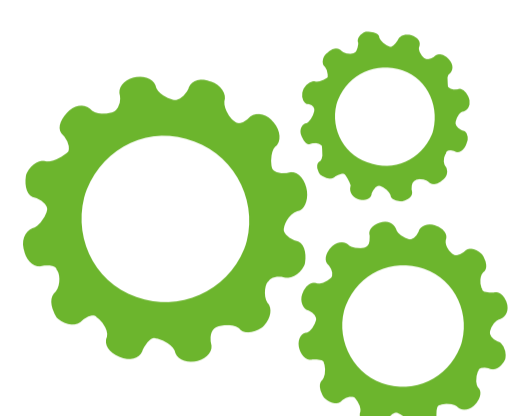


**AGRI
Innovation** summit 2019

Operationnal Group

Improvement of the cropping systems of the onion to reach zero phytosanitary residue on finished products and in the environment

Amélioration des itinéraires techniques de l'oignon
pour tendre vers le zéro résidu de phytosanitaires
sur les produits et l'environnement



Practical problem

Improve farming practices in order to obtain
a product labelled "zero pesticide residues".



Partners

Coopérative Origine Cévennes, Chambre régionale
d'agriculture d'Occitanie, SICA CENTREX,
Parc National des Cévennes.



Calendar

Start: 01/01/2018
End: 01/01/2021



Budget

Total amount:
€428,159

Objectives of the project

- Perform a water quality diagnosis of streams in the production area of the AOC sweet onion Cévennes;
- Test biocontrol products and develop strategies to control foliage and bulb diseases (bacteriosis, mildew) effective even under high pressure conditions and to produce a product free of pesticide residues and without impact on stream water quality;
- Look for alternatives to chemical weeding that are adapted to the conditions of cultivation of sweet onions of Cévennes: paintings, mechanical weeding adapted to terraces and cropping systems...

Main activities

- Stream water quality diagnosis;
- Measures of the impact of pest control strategies on residues in the marketed product;
- Mechanical weeding test and other alternative weed control solutions;
- Efficacy testing of alternative products against bacteriosis and foliage diseases.

Expected results

- Know the potential impact of agricultural practices on water quality;
- After diagnosis on agricultural practices, reorientation of protection strategies and evaluation of their impact on residues in the product, the following years;
- Study and design mechanical transplanting and weeding tools to maintain current planting densities and assess economic performance;
- Evaluate the efficiency and the benefit induced on the marketable yield of biocontrol products acting against the main diseases of the onion.

Results so far/first lessons

Trials on alternative weed control methods were initiated and allowed the collection of first technical-economic references on the subject. Products classified as "Stimulating of the natural defenses" on bacterial diseases, have been highlighted several consecutive years with interesting efficiency.

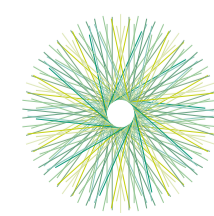
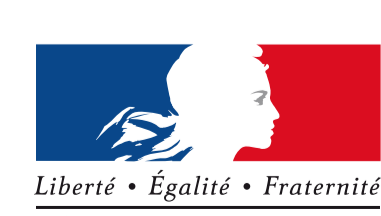
Who will benefit

This project will provide producers with solid and evolving references in terms of strategy to fight pests and alternative weeding, allowing them to move towards an environmentally friendly production system, innovative and economically efficient. It will allow the two collective marketing structures to obtain a product labelled "zero pesticide residues" coming from a result below the Quantification Limit, defined as the smallest value by laboratories with an "acceptable" accuracy (Health document 11945/2015, European Commission). This "label" will enable to maintain and develop the quantities marketed with a good valuation, meeting consumer expectations regarding the absence of residues.

Supported by:



Contact: Cédric Portal
Mail: cedric.portal@occitanie.chambagri.fr



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