



LIETUVOS SODININKYSTĖS IR DARŽININKYSTĖS INSTITUTAS

Albino Maggio

Office 25
COST Office
Avenue Louise
1050 Brussels
Belgium

Babtai, 16th of December, 2008, Nr. S3-423

COST 863 WG 1
SGM Small berry variety evaluation

Dear Albino Maggio,

I am writing to request authorization to convene a small group meeting on the topic of small berry variety evaluation. This topic is covered by COST 863 in WG 1 "From genomics to variety evaluation". Aim of the meeting is to discuss achievements and future prospects of small berry (strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant and high bush blueberry) variety evaluation in Europe.

This meeting is devoted to create well defined outputs such as the description of the EU varieties evaluation network, more effective evaluation sites, list of varieties annually evaluated, major descriptors. In this meeting we expect to make analyses - comparison of data available from different research institutions. It makes possible evaluation of the influence of geographic and climatic conditions on plant performance, fruit quality and disease resistance.

The topics for the meeting are: strawberry variety evaluation, raspberry variety evaluation, and blackcurrant and high bush blueberry variety evaluation in Europe. Discussion about actualities of small berry varieties network will be organized.

The meeting is planned to take place at Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (Gedimino pr. 3, LT-01103 Vilnius). I will act as the local organizer and convenor and I am requesting acceptance for 14 COST delegates. They will represent 12 countries.

The preliminary programme of the meeting is attached.

Yours sincerely,

Audrius Sasnauskas
COST 863 Management Committee

Preliminary programme for COST 863 WG 1 SGM : *Small berry variety evaluation*

LITHUANIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, Gedimino pr. 3, LT-01103 Vilnius

Wednesday 28th January

Arrival of participants to Vilnius

Thursday 29th January

12.30 Welcome and introduction

13.00 – 16.00 Strawberry variety evaluation

Rytis Rugienius, Nobertas Uselis „Breeding and evaluation of strawberry varieties in Lithuania”

Agnieszka Masny „Evaluation of strawberry varieties in Poland”

Darinka Koron „Evaluation of strawberry varieties in Slovenia”

Sezai Ercisli „Strawberry cultivar evaluation in Eastern part of Turkey“

Philippe Cartier „The organization of the test of introduced strawberry varieties in France“

Gianluca Baruzzi „The Italian Strawberry National Variety Network: the results of last two years of evaluations”

Carmen Soria „The strawberry variety network in southern countries”

Discussion. Actualities of strawberry variety network in North, Middle and South Europe. Common descriptors.

16.00 -16.30-Coffee break

16.30- 18.30 Raspberry variety evaluation

Sarmite Strautina "Evaluation of raspberry varieties in Latvia“

F. Dénes Fertőd „Primocane raspberry breeding in Hungary

Paulina Mladin „Evaluation of small berry varieties in Romania”

Sezai Ercisli „Raspberry cultivar evaluation in Turkey“

Discussion. Actualities of raspberry variety network. Common descriptors.

Dinner at Vilnius

Friday 30th January

8.30- 10.30 Blackcurrant and highbush blueberry variety evaluation

Audrius Sasnauskas, Tadeusas Siksniunas „Breeding and evaluation of blackcurrant varieties in Lithuania”

Sarmite Strautina "Evaluation of blackcurrant cultivars and selections in Latvia“

Saila Karhu „Evaluation of blackcurrant varieties in Finland”

F. Dénes Fertőd „Blackcurrant trial results in Hungary“

Darinka Koron „Evaluation of highbush blueberry varieties in Slovenia”

Discussion. Blackcurrant and highbush blueberry variety networks – problems and perspectives. Common descriptors.

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.00 The variety network as expected by the nurseries

Danilo Bernardini “The variety network as expected by the nursery organization in the southern area”.

Philip Lieten „The variety network as expected by the nursery organization in the northern area”.

12.00 - 13.00 General discussion

Discussion about actualities of small berry varieties network: Plan of activities and publication.

What outputs can be expected from this network.

14.00-19.00 Excursion to Lithuanian Institute of Horticulture (Babtai)