



## **IV INTERNATIONAL JOURNEY**

### ***“MEDIA FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION”***

The actual position of the European and Spanish Agriculture, with the present conditions related with the globalisation trends, the multifunctionality asked to agrarian sector, environmental legislation and rural development, and also looking on then future prospect aimed for the farming economy, moved FORO AGRARIO to perform this IV International Journey, in harmony with his habitual trends on plural treatments and open debates, to consider about the Agricultural Media to be used for productive’s processes and the consumers demand

Having in mind the reports, statements and development of the colloquies the Journey’s presents have adopted the following.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

- I. The Production’s Media treated in this Journey (Machinery, Fertilizers, Seeds and nurseries) have contributed eminently to increase the new agriculture’s productivity, conjugating the production with the drastic decrease of the active agricultural population.
- II. The Production’s Media are seriously affected by the raise on price of the raw materials and energy products and also by the reglamentations, more and more urgent, related to environment and the criteria stated by Common Agrarian Policy (CAP) and the Integrated Production of agrarian products. All the prospects include the needful of products and equipment with tested quality.
- III. The increasing introduction of non food crops, with the use of the three media concerned in the Journey, is a new option to consider as substitute of exceeding crops and as new energetic sources. Concerning and suitable acceptance of this cultures would be requested the institutional fit and capable support.
- IV. For to render competent the Media to a new agriculture is required to establish and develop research programmes and transfer of technologies. The Research programmes and transfer of technologies The Research Centres, Universities, enterprises and traders, the farmers and their professional unions and , by the way, the Administration involved.

- V. The whole amount of tractors and agricultural machinery is surpassed and obsolete, consequently more dangerous for users and useless for an adequate profit feasible with the advances of the mechanics actual technologies. That means the compelled renewal of the equipment.
- VI. The severe and strict norms for the tractors and agricultural machinery testing, used for environmental, welfare and traffic considerations, overrate the price of the manufacturing the agricultural machinery and, in many cases, neglects the aspects related with the agricultural function, confusing the possible buyer.
- VII. The concessionaries and dealers of machinery are, actually, in a different position; the requirements of the trade-mark are increasing referred to service quality, and they have not enough economic support having in mind the narrow marketing area. The hardness for disposal of qualified workers and the stocks of unused machinery due to the new selings are more objections.
- VIII. The companies for in common use of machinery by farmers, essential on the modern agriculture, do not dispose of adequate legislation. Consequently, it is needed a public legislation to promote and encourage this activities and to protect the users contracting the services.
- IX. The sector of agrarian mechanization has various confusing points, especially related to a norms with difficulties on their application with any other benefits, that's why the manufacturers and users, with the Public Administrations supports, must to be accorded, creating "workshops" conjunctly or one "patronage" for better compromises, chaneling the questions that, at this moment, are been realized on a dispersed way and non adequate coordination.
- X. The mineral or organic origins of the nutrients included in fertilizers do not affect, according scientific references, to the quality of the food products obtained. Must to be established monographic programmes and specific conditions for fertilization for better complementation of products from both origins.
- XI. The reasonable use of fertilizers is an agricultural practice suitable with the environmental considerations. Its needful to be strictly on the establishment of vulnerable areas by pollution from water contaminate by nitrates, and with the processes to follow.
- XII. A suitable plan for to fertilize involve the peculiar qualities and valuation on soil, climate and culture, and its advisable to follow with technical assistance for better conclusions about the fertilizers requested. Also its very profitable to establish well balanced formulas.
- XIII. It's a priority to approve the Spanish legal regulations complementary to the last EC rule on fertilizers. The requirements for inscription on the Fertilizers' Register and the adjustment of specifics products for fertirrigation, having in maind their increasing interest, request and special an special attention.

- XIV. The liberal treatment of the fertilizers trade has removed the traditional official controls previously taken before to be marketed. For the farmers' warranty the specification and nutrients riches agreed with the public norms must to be reasonable activities on inspection and control from the different Administrations
- XV. The material for reproduction, seeds and nursery plants, are a basic factor on agricultural production, so much interesting for food consumption as raw materials diversifies or production of ornamental plants and environmental activities. Under those conditions, the seeds and nursery plants are a cardinal link on the productive and chain and request an specific policy for to obtain a maximum quality at a reasonable equilibrated price.
- XVI. Among the distinctive manners defining the seeds and plants qualities has a particular significance the varieties identity (vegetal varieties) as statement of the genetic patrimony who distinguish special countenance like productive capacity, behaviour in respect of climatic or parasite averses and product's quality. The attainment and development of new varieties performed by public or private during the past century, with figures so eminent like Norman Borlang (Nobel Peace Reward), deserve the grateful by his contribution to human welfare. The seed producers industries are one of the most payers on I+D (12-15% over sales)
- XVII. The respect to the intellectual property (protection of the obtentor rights and warrants) will encourage the private contribution to obtention of new varieties, without detriment of the subsidiary public activities most relevant like the applicable to minority cultures. In order to obtain the best results, its not enough the only support to these activities but also is needful an effective control and a true eradication of clandestine marketing of seeds and plants and in the same manner with the wounding of the obtentors' rights
- XVIII. The professional activity on seeds and plants production and distribution, jointly with a competent lawful basic and the operative public control and certificate of the vegetal media of production, compose a system as a technical necessity and establish a warranty of quality for the agents involved: obtentors, producers of seeds and plants, farmers, trade and industrial agents, users and consumers.
- XIX. Its pressing to advance on to authorize the plants and varieties genetically modified (O.M.G.) for the progress and competitively of European agriculture. On this way, and based on scientific studies well contrasted, the public authorities must to lead the tuition of the population about Food security as an issue and environmental question.
- XX. The new CAP will do an immediate impact on Spanish agriculture, and will be negative for the use of quality seeds, fertilizers and machinery, and only can be reduced if the "decoupled" is only the 75%. Its estimated that if the "decoupled" is total the agricultural surface of Spain may be reduced, on cereals culture about 2 million hectares and a production's decrease up to 3 millions metric tons on cereals, leguminous etc.

XXI. According with the new CAP reforms to be applied in Spain on 2006 year, its priority to stimulate the farmers for a better management of their estates, with reasonable and the best use of the Production's Media and to obtain the maximum benefits.

The participants at the Journey, establishing this Conclusions, thanks to Foro Agrario the opportunity for to be displayed and forwarded to the political, economical and social institutions with responsibilities on their regional, national or common agricultures.

Madrid, 22<sup>th</sup> of november of 2004