THREE ASPECTS, ONE CONCEPT: AGROECOLOGY

Agroecological practices and human interactions for a new approach for science
An example at the University of Liege

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Biodiversity, the cornerstone for agroecological practices

Farmer’s socio-economic environment influences its practices at the field scale. Actors of the territory are asked to design practices at the landscape scale. Human interactions are central to develop a sustainable agriculture (1).

An up-scaled system based on human interactions

Promoting ecosystem services asks for multidisciplinary as well as participatory and action-oriented approaches. Indeed, they are numerous and diverse (4). It involves the understanding of ecosystem functioning via biodiversity as well as foreseeing practices impacts on the natural and socio-economic environment (5).

New approach for science

Challenge traditional scientific research

Multidisciplinary approaches

Participatory and action-oriented approaches

Innovative educational programs in universities

Food System

Production system

Farmer

Decision maker

Educator

Consumer

Citizen

Influence one another’s decisions

Participatory and action-oriented approaches (2, 3) are novel research methods. They give the opportunity to integrate the multiplicity of stakeholders involved in the food system when innovating in agriculture.

AgricultureIsLife: a agroecological research platform?

40 researchers from 16 units

Multidisciplinary

Knowledge transfer

Common research platform

Practice learning and functioning

Practice impacts

4 research axes

Results

Efficient tools and technologies

Valorization of agricultural products

Feed back

Round table with the stakeholders

Farmers

Processors

Consumers

Politicians

Participatory and action oriented approach


