

Preliminary agenda

Innovations towards sustainability in plant variety testing



Brussels 10 December 2024

Morning session: 9:30-12:30

Opening (DG Agriculture -TBC, Francois Laurens and Lisa Black, coordinators of INVITE and INNOVAR respectively)

Introduction to plant variety testing (European Commission – DG SANTE – TBC)

Innovations in genotyping: Potential of molecular markers and molecular-based indicators for (sustainability) traits and for reference collections.



The INVITE project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 817970.

Innovations in phenotyping : Potential of cost-efficient and effective phenotypic tools in helping examination offices and post-registration offices in conducting trials.

Variety testing optimisation for evaluation of performance and resilience: Presentation of the assessment of network efficiency; and how models and new statistical tools could help predicting variety performance. In addition, the concept of ‘envirotyping’ and the integration of novel traits in VCU assessments to evaluate the sustainability of candidate varieties will be addressed.

Harmonisation: Presentation on how innovations could contribute to harmonisation in plant variety testing in Europe.

Lunch break

Poster session about concrete scientific results and innovations + demo session of (phenotyping) tools

Afternoon session: 14:00-16:30

Keynote speech (*European Parliament – TBC*)

Stakeholder panel discussion:

- INVITE and InnoVar representatives
- CPVO
- Breeders – seed industry representative
- Farmers – COPA-COGECA

Presentation of the key messages, perspectives and concluding remarks (*François Laurens, INVITE coordinator*)

