

Science Life

## CONFERENCE “SUSTAINABLE FRUIT GROWING: FROM PLANT TO PRODUCT” AND WORKSHOP ON SEABUCKTHORN, EUROWORKS 2016

Two events — the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conference “Sustainable Fruit Growing: From Plant to Product” and 4<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Seabuckthorn, EuroWorkS 2016 was held in Latvia (17–19 August 2016, at Hotel “Monika” in Rīga). Both events are the sequel of traditions, introduced by Institute of Horticulture, Latvia University of Agriculture (formerly Latvia State Institute of Fruit-Growing) and the German Society for Seabuckthorn and Wild Fruits.

The International Scientific Conference „Sustainable Fruit Growing: From Plant to Product” is an event organised every four years (since 2008) by the Institute of Horticul-

ture, with an aim to bring together scientists and practitioners involved in a range of disciplines of fruit growing science and industry, to present the latest research results and to discuss practical implementation and further needs.

The EuroWorkS, European Workshop on Seabuckthorn was initiated by the German Society for Seabuckthorn and Wild Fruits and is organised as an inter-conference event held every two years, between regular International Seabuckthorn Association Conferences. Previous EuroWorkS workshops have been held in Germany (2010), Lithuania (2012), and Finland (2014).



Participants of the Conference

Both events were attended by 114 participants, who were from 20 countries. Most of the participants came from European countries — including 42 from Latvia, 11 from Finland, 9 from Germany, and 7 from Lithuania, and eight delegates came from Asia (Peoples Republic of China, Russian Federation, Turkey and Uzbekistan). Besides scientists and students, the Conference and the EuroWorkS 2016 also were attended by farmers and producers, especially by those ones working with seabuckthorn and who came from Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, and Romania.

Sessions of both events contained oral and poster presentations covering a wide range of topics associated with fruit crops — from genetic resources and agricultural practices to plant protection and quality of products. Besides major fruit crops and seabuckthorn, few presentations also covered novel or non-traditional fruit plants — *Lonicera caerulea*, *Sorbus*, and *Vaccinium*. Oral sessions of the Conference contained 16 oral presentations, and this event was finished

with attractive an presentation on delayed pruning and girdling of grapevines presented by G. Mahmudov (Uzbekistan). The EuroWorkS 2016 workshop was organised in two sessions, with the main attention to product quality and plant health. Besides planned oral presentations additional discussions were provided at workshop, and presentations were finished by P.-O. Lundquist (Sweden), who introduced workshop participants with novelties in research of root traits of seabuckthorn.

Technical tours for participants of both events were provided, which included introducing with renovated and new laboratory buildings of Institute of Horticulture at Dobeles, and interesting programme, including visiting fruit-farms. Tour, organised for the EuroWorkS 2016 participants also included visit to one seabuckthorn nursery and one producer of seabuckthorn products.

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