Public minutes from LIBBIO 42M consortium meeting



LIBBIO 42M consortium meeting was held remotely with 22 participants on 31st March and 1st April 2020.

The project progress was discussed, especially the results of agronomic trials in Greece, Spain and Portugal, frost tolerance trials in Romania, green silage production in Austria and GWAS trials in the Netherlands and Portugal. The progress has been according to plan. However, COVID-19 and the closing of lab facilities is starting to delay several project tasks, GWAS, biomass process development and farmer field demonstration. Partners are still aiming to finish the project in September, but the COVID situation might lead to extension of the project.

The progress in the first 42 months has been good. After only a few years of breeding and line selection it looks like proper economy of Andean lupin agriculture has been reached in some European countries, especially in relation to crop rotation where other crops benefit from the enhanced nutritional properties of soil, generated by the lupin. These results are expected to generate further breeding and enhanced economy for the whole value chain.

First processing trials, in continuous operation, demonstrate economic feasibility of cold pressed Andean lupin oil for quality cosmetic applications such as hair conditioner, lipstick or facial creams. Moreover, farmers can be paid a fair price for their Andean lupin beans with these applications.

Two of the participating SMEs have already started to plan for exploitation of the results and to expand their business. Vandinter Semo BV plans to have the first Andean lupin variety listed on the European variety list by the end of 2020 and provide seeds to farmers in 2021. Color&Brain BV is developing a new cosmetic line within their ZoiY[®] brand with enhanced properties based on Andean lupin ingredients. Color&Brain will submit as producer "Refined Andean lupin seed oil" as cosmetic ingredient to the international Personal Care Products Council (PCPC) and will notify this ingredient and products made with it to the Cosmetic Products Notification Portal (CPNP) of the EU. Color&Brain is also working on vegan food concepts based on Andean lupin ingredients and will market these products with a new EU-registered brand. Larger industries have followed the project and assessed stepping in as the Andean lupin agriculture growers.

Two peer review papers have been published in the last six months and three are expected to be published in the coming six months.

BBI JU and DG Research regard LIBBIO as a success, a success story is currently being written for publishing via the DG Research and Horizon 2020 sites.

Remote technical meetings will be held in June 2020 and the next consortium meeting is planned in Groningen in the end of September, along with a final project conference.



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