

WELCOME

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HISTORY

In 1979 the OECD Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems was first established.



PURPOSE of PROGRAMME

The Programme's purpose is to:

1. Provide a sound scientific knowledge base to agricultural policy-making
2. Contribute to an informed public debate on current and emerging agro-food issues
3. Promote scientific understanding and standards between major regions of OECD



PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

The Programme promotes two types of activities:

- RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS and
- SPONSORSHIP OF CONFERENCES

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Programme is managed by:

- Management Committee, composed of eight scientists and research administrators, which elaborate the Programme, ensures its scientific quality, awards fellowships and approves workshops and conferences to be subsidised.
- A Governing Body, composed of a representative from each participating country, defines the general orientation of the programme.

LIST OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAMME

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Czech Republic

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Korea

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Slovak Republic

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

United Kingdom

United States

Main Research Themes for 2005-2009

- **Theme 1:** The Natural Resources Challenge
- **Theme 2:** Sustainability in Practice
- **Theme 3:** The Food Chain

THE NATURAL RESOURCES CHALLENGE

Theme 1

The sustainable use and protection of natural resources is essential to support continued food production and quality of life for humans, domestic animals, and wildlife. Efficient use of natural resources includes activities in the production of livestock, **forestry products**, food-crops, and fisheries to provide new, specialty, and value added products, as well as innovative approaches to assessing the vulnerability of the environment to management practices that involve renewable resources considerations.

Examples of topic areas might include:

- Addressing environmental issues related to natural resource stewardship.
- Monitoring and evaluating natural resource stewardship efforts
- Planning and management for availability and efficient utilisation of water, soil, air, biomass, and energy.
- Societal options and responses to ensure environmental protection, the availability and quality of natural resources, energy options, and the countryside, **including forests**.
- Cross-discipline and technology evaluations to assess sustainability, including models and databases.



SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE

Theme 2

Sustainable agricultural systems have been an attractive area of research over the last decade, as it targets maintenance of resources and biodiversity within a productive agricultural system. This theme aims to fund activities that link research to adopting sustainable practices, tackle issues that have historically limited such adoption, and bridge research disciplines. *Cont/*



Theme 2 continued

Activities in this theme include social and bio-economic considerations, as well as scientific research aimed at providing the information and justification land managers need to assess the risk of adopting new practices that predominately offer long-term benefits in return for a more stable natural resource base

Example of topic areas might include:

- New tools for predicting, detecting, and fighting pests in a sustainable perspective.
- Strategies that evaluate compromises when human and natural resources, innovative technologies, the environment, and social issues are involved.
- Development and implementation of innovative concepts, including bio-energy, that focus on the efficient use of natural resources while enhancing sustainability.
- Strategies, techniques, and incentives to encourage adoption of production systems that emphasise long-term sustainable goals.
- Risk assessment and management

For Further Information on our Programme

Programme's E-mail Account:

AGR.Prog.@oecd.org

Programme's Website:

www.oecd.org/agr/prog/

