

## Newsletter 4

May 2019

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#### Dear reader,

In DiverIMPACTS we strive to achieve the full diversification potential of cropping systems for improved productivity, delivery of ecosystem services and resource-efficient and sustainable value chains. The project is funded under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Research and Innovation programme.

We are pleased to share the fourth DiverIMPACTS newsletter with you, and look forward to sharing more news with you soon. Enjoy!

### Progress made in the first two years of DiverIMPACTS will be discussed at our annual meeting in June



DiverIMPACTS has now been running for two years and our second annual meeting will be held in Arnalp, Sweden from 3 to 5 June. This will be an opportunity to discuss the progress made over the last year, to foster interactions between partners and to start framing the outcomes of the project.

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### European Conference on Crop Diversification -September 18-21 in Budapest, Hungary



The European Conference on Crop Diversification will explore how we can achieve the full potential of cropping system diversification for improved productivity, delivery of ecosystem services and resource-efficient and sustainable value chains. The conference programme is now online and Early Bird registration has been extended until June 20th. Take part in the discussion – we look forward to your contribution!

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# A global dataset to analyse results and quality of meta-analyses on crop diversification



The DiverIMPACTS project developed a dataset providing a comprehensive synthesis of existing experimental data on crop diversification worldwide. The dataset includes the results of 99 meta-analyses assessing the impacts of seven types of crop diversification strategies on the environment, production, and profitability. It is the first comprehensive synthesis of the impacts of crop diversification.

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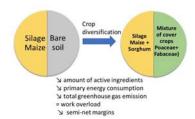
# Fostering learning networks by knowledge exchange between DiverIMPACTS case studies



One goal of DiverIMPACTS is to foster learning networks across national borders in Europe. An exchange visit, in which the Swedish case study 19 met the English case study 15, is an example of how that can be achieved.

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# First assessment of the diversified cropping systems tested in DiverIMPACTS



What are the benefits of spatial and temporal diversification? Based on the first data collected from the field experiments and the different strategies planned for the next years, a first assessment will be performed.

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# Inspiration for on-farm dehulling of buckwheat: visiting France to learn about innovative farm technologies and techniques

UCL organised a 2-day visit to farms in Western France with experience in small scale dehulling of buckwheat to inspire British actors involved in case study 15, which focuses on growing pulses and innovative crops for a less resource intensive diet. Innovative on-farm technology and marketing strategies for minor local crops were discussed.





#### Organic soybeans in the limelight



Organic soybean production and the development of the product path of organic soybeans in Hungary were the major topics of our professional day held within the DiverIMPACTS project.

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### Crop diversification cluster working group meeting

On 15 March 2019, the Working Group on Multi-criteria Assessment and Sustainability met for the first time in Rome. The working group facilitates contacts and interaction among scientists working on multi-criteria assessment and sustainability indicators in the crop diversification cluster, which is made up of six H2020 projects.

## existing tools and methods to promote crop

and advisers

diversification strategies (rotation, multiple cropping, intercropping) at different levels (including the value chain and territory

Inventory of tools for

available for farmers

The database provides an overview of

crop diversification

levels).

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Read more

### Livestock on diverse leys: a return to the past for a promising future

A new article, produced by the Organic Research Centre, reports on farmers that have been combining diverse leys with livestock and some of the pros and cons of this practice revealed as part of the DiverIMPACTS project.

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### **ESA Conference** proceedings: several **DiverIMPACTS** abstracts included

Several DiverIMPACTS papers were presented at the XVe European Society for Agronomy Congress (ESA) in August. The proceedings and book of abstracts are now available.

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# New video on experimenting with strip cropping

Have a look at the new video from WUR about experimenting with strip cropping.

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# DiverIMPACTS webinars

Don't miss the monthly DiverIMPACTS webinars where we present and exchange practical information about the DiverIMPACTS project and its results, with a focus on the DiverIMPACTS case studies.

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