

Optimizing IPM - Attractive challenges of H2020 EU project OPTIMA

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ABSTRACT

OPTIMA - Optimised Pest Integrated Management to precisely detect and control plant diseases in perennial crops and open-field vegetables (<http://optima-h2020.eu/>). An EU project financed under H2020 (ID: 773718) program, which is composed of a consortium of 17 partners led by the Agricultural University of Athens, Greece. The objective of this project is to develop new Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices appropriate for each crop. OPTIMA include a holistic approach for the selection of the best combination of bio and synthetic PPPs, together with highly efficient application including disease prediction models, spectral early disease detection systems and precise spraying techniques under real field conditions. Concerning the spray application technology, three different products are in development process: a boom sprayer for carrots (IRSTEA-France), an orchard sprayer for vineyard (UNITO-Italy) and a mistblower for apple trees (UPC-Spain). The intention is to develop three “smart sprayers” able to generate a good spray application process, in line with the canopy characteristics, including a reduction of environmental contamination and a complete traceability process.

References

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