

THE ALBANIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENTS AT NATIONAL LEVEL THE MASS TRAPPING TECHNIQUE, KEY-TOOL OF THE “INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PACKAGE ON OLIVE”



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In Albania, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food decided to support at national level the implementation of the mass trapping technique, the key-tool of the IDEASS Albanian innovation “Integrated Pest Management Package on Olive”, to fight against the olive fruit fly infestation.

According to this decision, the Ministry, through the Plant Protection Institute, supported with his fund the Region of Berat for the treatment of 17.000 olive trees during the year 2006. During the year 2007 about 17.000 trees have been treated in the Region. As a result of this practice, the olive fruit fly infestation at the harvest was very low: 3-7%.

During the year 2008, 14.267 olive trees have been treated in the Region of Durres, 54.000 trees in the Region of Berat, 45.000 trees in the Region of Vlore and 3.000 trees in the Region of Lezha. In that year, the olive fruit fly infestation was below the threshold level.



During 2009, about 109.000 olive trees have been treated with this ecological technique in seven different Regions of Albania.

The “Integrated Pest Management Package on Olive” is the first Albanian innovation of the IDEASS international catalogue. It is a strategy to control one of the most dangerous olive pests, the “olive fruit fly”. The innovation was developed in Albania by the Plant Protection Institute (PPI) of the Albanian Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the leading institution of a wide research consortium.

The use of the IPM package brings relevant benefits to

the environment, since it allows a reduction in the use of pesticides and in the amount of pesticides residues on olive products, thus increasing the beneficial fauna in the olive ecosystem. The relevant economic benefit is represented by the opportunity for farmers to produce organic olive oil and to introduce it into the national and international markets at very advantageous prices.



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