

SYNTROPIC FARMING PROMOTED WORLDWIDE BY THE AGENDA GOTSCH

On November 15th and 16th, 2018, [two conferences with Ernst Götsch, the creator of the principles and methods of Syntropic Agriculture](#), will be held in the Municipality of Mértola (Portugal).

The Conferences will focus on the social and economic impacts of modern agriculture practices and solutions of how to use farming as a transformation process of actual greatest environmental challenges. In particular, Ernst Götsch will present his most current innovations and projects on themes as: grain cultivation in large-scale designs; getting over herbicides; mechanization challenges and ideas for innovation; a new paradigm for global farming.

In the [Agenda Gotsch website](#) the Syntropic Agriculture is defined as an agricultural model where natural processes are translated into agricultural practices in their form, function and dynamics. In Syntropic agriculture the restoration of highly productive ecosystems independent from external resources enables the provision of ecosystem services, with special highlight on the regeneration of soil, the regulation of micro-climate and the enhanced efficiency of the water cycle.

The conferences organized in Portugal are part of a wide program of international dissemination of the principles and methods of the Syntropic Agriculture that the Agenda Gotsch realizes to stimulate the use of this innovative way of farming.

Ernst Götsch is a Swiss researcher who developed soil recovery techniques in the early 1980s on a farm in Bahia (Brazil) through planting methods that mimic the natural regeneration of forests. With the accumulation of more than three decades of work that resulted in the restoration of 480 hectares of degraded land a set of principles and techniques called *Syntropic Agriculture* have been developed, that enable integrating food producing dynamics with natural regeneration of forests.

The Agenda Götsch project started in 2011 from a partnership with the [Life in Syntropy Team](#), to promote the Syntropic Farming principles, techniques and ongoing projects in order to spread information worldwide and [to increase the debate around sustainable agriculture](#). In 2015, for example, with the support of the *Fazenda da Toca* (Brazil) where Ernst Götsch developed large scale models of Syntropic Farming, the Agenda Gotsch produced the [short-documentary Life in Syntropy](#) which was presented in COP 21 events in Paris.

In the Lifeinsyntropy website the article [Life cycle, stratification and succession](#) presents one of the characteristics of Syntropic Farming...*the use of consortia of plants in high diversity and*



density. From the initial moment of planting, the goal is to co-create agroecosystems similar to the original ecosystems of each place, both in its form, as in its function and dynamics. That is why we do not talk about crop rotation but species succession. Our plantations cannot consider just one crop, or simple consortia of 2, 3 or 4 species. In order to recreate the macro-organism, it is necessary to work often with more than 30 different species.

A complete syntropic system evolves in time and space, transforming the living conditions and taking the environment to a new (and higher) fertility level. The composition of the species in a syntropic consortia takes into account a series of factors that combine practical, economic and ecological aspects. But apart from those that may be circumstantial limitations of each case, the puzzle of the composition of a biodiverse consortium observes the synchronization of these three aspects: Life cycle of each species; relative height within each consortia cycle; the successional stage of each species.

Choosing species with different life cycles allows us to plant them all at the same time, as each will thrive and stand out in the system at a different moment. We also choose species according to their needs and functions that they will perform in the system....

Orchestrating the consortia over time allows a dense cultivation of a high species diversity. Each plant mobilizes resources and promotes modifications that allow the establishment of other plants. In Syntropic Farming we define which species will be planted considering their suitability to the conditions in which the ecosystem is found, its ecophysiological function, its lifetime and the farmer's productive goals... The whole system benefits from the hygroscopic mycorrhizal associations it creates. That results in more vigorous plants, more photosynthesis, more water.

Syntropic Agriculture is a set of techniques and principles that can be translated for each specific situation. Using this knowledge and with the technical assistance of the Agenda Gotsch, countless projects have been carried out in various countries and they are [presented on the lifeinsyntropy website](#). Each project is focused on different aspects of agriculture (the strengthening of specific productions, the saving of water, the replacement of pesticides) and as a whole they show the great potential of the methods of Syntropic Agriculture.

The greatest input of the Syntropic Agriculture is the knowledge and the Agenda Gotsch is engaged in the implementation of [training courses and conferences](#) organized in collaboration with the organizations and institutions involved and which request them.

To know more

[Conferences in Portugal](#)

[Agenda Gotsch website](#)

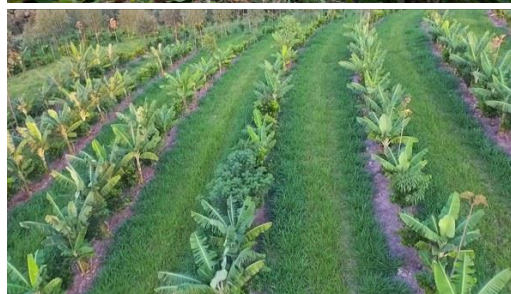
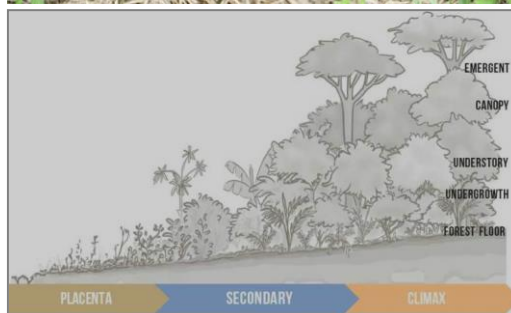
[Lifeinsyntropy website](#)

[Life in Syntropy Video in Youtube](#)

[Lifeinsyntropy in Facebook](#)

[Restoration by use in lifeinsyntropy website](#)

[Agrofloresta em Portugal Video in Youtube](#)



[Syntropic Agriculture in ultrakulture.com website](http://ultrakulture.com)

[Syntropic Agriculture Video in globalsocialchange.com](http://globalsocialchange.com)

[Syntropic Agriculture in holosdesign.com.au](http://holosdesign.com.au)

[Syntropic Farming in Indonesia in studentvillage.greenschool.org](http://studentvillage.greenschool.org)

[Syntropic Farms Australia in Facebook](#)

[Da horta à floresta - From garden to forest](#)

[Agrofloresta em Grande Escala - Fazenda da Toca](#)

[Agricultura sintropica in sitiosemente.com](http://sitosemente.com)

[Agricultura sintropica in cooperafloresta.com](http://cooperafloresta.com)

[Sistemas agroflorestais in Youtube](#)

[Agricultura sintropica in oglobo.globo.com](http://oglobo.globo.com)

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[Syntropic Agriculture in Mozambique](#)

