

# ALTERBROMIDE: DISSEMINATION OF SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES TO METHYL BROMIDE.

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## INTRODUCTION

Alterbromide (contract n° SSPE 022660) is an European Union (EU) project for dissemination of sustainable alternatives to Methyl Bromide (MB), being in force between September 2006 and May 2009. This EU project belongs to the Sixth Framework Programme, priority 8.1-policy oriented research (8.1.B.1.2.: Tools and assessment methods of sustainable agriculture and forestry management).

## CONTEXT

Methyl bromide is a significant ozone depleting substance. It was added to the Montreal Protocol in 1992. The regulations EC2037/00 & EC3093/94 required reduction in MB consumption and it is scheduled to be phased out in EU on 2008 for the majority of its uses.

In the EU countries, non chemical & chemical alternatives to MB are available and have been adopted in several uses in soil disinfection and in post harvest sector.

The project sets up and implements a coordination framework improving the delivery of sustainable alternatives. This partnership is composed of 11 partners from 7 key countries: Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Romania and Spain. Their partners represent different kinds of organisations which permit to have a global view in soil fumigation, in farming and in fumigation research.

## OBJECTIVES

To promote the good practices for MB alternatives towards MB users: Soil fumigators, growers, scientists and decision makers.

## METHYL BROMIDE ALTERNATIVES

### 1. Soil Fumigation

Chemicals: 1,3-dichloropropene, chloropicrin, metam sodium, metam potassium, dazomet, methyl iodide, ethanedinitrile (EDN), dimethyl disulfide (DMDS), and

other chemicals. Non-chemicals: Integrated Pest Management, soil-less culture, soil-solarization, bio-fumigation, steam, crop rotation, grafting, biological alternatives and others.

## 2. Post-Harvest

Phosphine, sulfuryl fluoride, contact insecticides, heat, and others.

## APPROACH

### A. Work on MB alternatives

- Collection of scientific Data.
- Identification of MB alternatives.
- Evaluation of the implementation of successful alternatives.
- Selection of good practices.
- Creation of technical leaflets concerning each MB alternative.

### B. Dissemination of sustainable MB alternatives

- Creation and management of an internet web site: <http://www.alterbromide.org>
- Participation in national and international meetings, in demonstrative trials, in workshops and in training courses.
- Publication of articles in referred journals.

### C. Management of the project

To ensure a dynamic and efficient governance, the project is organized into:

- Four Work Packages.
- Four working groups towards soil fumigators, growers, scientists and decision makers.
- Advisory Panel.
- Steering Committee.

## PARTICIPANTS

For more details see internet web site: <http://www.alterbromide.org> or contact [areflh@aquitaine.fr](mailto:areflh@aquitaine.fr): AGROINNOVA-Centro di Competenza per l'innovazione in Campo Agroambientale (Italy); General coordination: AREFLH-Assemblée des Régions Européennes Fruitières Légumières et Horticoles (France); BGSO-Comité Economique du Bassin Grand Sud-Ouest (France); HORTIS Aquitaine-Stations régionales d'expérimentation en fruits et légumes (France); CIREA-Centre Inter-Régional d'Expérimentation Arboricole (France); CRITT INNOPHYT-Centre Régional d'Innovation et de Transfert de Technologie (France); LNDS-Laboratoire National des Denrées Stockées (France); SAFE-European Association of Soil Fumigators (Belgium); AUA-Agricultural University Of Athens (Greece); ED-European Dynamics advanced systems of telecommunications informatics and telematics SA (Greece); HORTING-Research & Development Institute for Horticulture (Romania); IFAPA-Instituto Andaluz de Investigación y Formación Agraria y Pesquera (Spain); IMIDA-Instituto Murciano de Investigación y Desarrollo Agrario y Alimentario (Spain); IVIA-Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias (Spain); KULEUVEN-Laboratory of phytopathology and plant protection, Katholieke universiteit Leuven (Belgium); WU-Wageningen Universiteit (Netherlands).