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MULTIPLIER EVENT

‘ENHANCING VOCATIONS IN BREEDING’

The programme was divided in two sections depending on the audience, ‘Orientation for young breeder’s careers’ aimed to orientate master students in their specialization and early entrance to the job market and ‘Promoting plant breeding vocations’ aimed to introduce the plant breeding sector to high school students.

Pogramme:

Orientation for young breeder’s careers		
9:00 - 11:00	Presentation joint work master students participating ISP Chairs: M ^a José Diez/Ana Fita/Adrián Rodriguez	Salón de Actos ETSIAMN
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-12:45	Round table with the sector: ‘Trends in vegetable breeding’ Chair: Jaime Prohens/ Ana Fita	Salón de Actos ETSIAMN
12:45-13:15	Students and sector talk together (all participants join)	Salón de Actos ETSIAMN

Promoting plant breeding vocations		
9:30 -10:00	Presentation ‘Plant breeding a job for the future’ Presenter: Jaime Prohens	Salón de actos CPI cubo rojo
10:00-11:00	Visit breeding labs and COMAV’s Germplasm bank Split groups	
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-12:45	Visit COMAV’s Greenhouses and experimental fields	COMAV greenhouses
12:45-13:15	Students and sector talk together (all participants join)	Salón de Actos ETSIAMN

The programme resulted very interesting for the 74 participants including master thesis students, high school students, professors and breeders. The high school students were



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surprised to know all the science and technology surrounding the plant breeding industry. Also they were happy to meet with elder students that encourage them to follow their steps.

During the round table 'Trends in vegetable breeding' different views were compared and discussed. First the speakers presented their point of view in different aspect of the horticultural breeding. Elena Zuriaga (IVIA) talked about breeding in tree fruits, Antonio Monforote (CSIC) talked about trends in biotechnology applied to plant breeding mainly using new genome editing tools (eg. CRISPR-Cas9), Carles Cortés (Cactus Loft) talked about the ornamental sector using Cactus as example and Claudio Vidal (Inveseed) talked about the challenges of the breeding sector in terms of seed market. Then a very interesting discussion with students started. Several aspects arose such as whether the governments should encourage certain breeding objectives (plant resilience, higher production, more environmentally friendly, intercropping) or not, and how they can do it. It was also discussed who set the breeding objectives (markets, farmers, distributors, etc). In addition, it was discussed the role of the IP rights on the technology access for small farmers and companies.

As a conclusion, we can say that it was a very fruitful day, which achieve the objective to spread the EPBC project activities in general and horticulture plant breeding in particular.