

Ecologica: e-learning Tool for Organic Farming

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Abstract

Ecologica is a new approach for getting knowledge by e-learning method. During Leonardo da Vinci pilot project Development of central data bank on European level for the education of ecological farming adviser's e-learning platform was prepared. Knowledge and education centres at eight partner institutions were developed. Collection of a basis of ecological farming knowledge is on a joint server called Ecolibrary. The Knowledge centres perform the dissemination of collected database to advisers and other interested groups in the frame of e-learning training courses based on the mutually developed education material that would be adapted to the given ecological, technological, social, national and economical circumstances of the partners. 14 modules were developed: (i) ecological farming, (ii) EU and national cultural knowledge, (iii) marketing, quality control, communication abilities, (iv) advising knowledge, (v) plant growing, (vi) animal husbandry, (vii) plant protection, (viii) post harvest, storage and processing, (ix) horticulture, (x) agricultural regulations and programs, (xi) conversion to ecological farming, (xii) management and planning of organic farm, (xiii) inspection and certification of ecological farms, (xiv) soil fertility, fertilizing and composting. Training of advisers takes 14 weeks till 6 months depending on the level of preliminary education. The participating advisers get access to the on-line system and they can get the education material weekly, they are examined by test, tasks controlled regularly by tutor. They can perform and finish the training in 14 weeks the shortest and the longest period for learning is 6 months. The graduated advisers will get a certificate about the training program.

Key words: advisers, e-learning, organic farming

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Ecologica: e-obrazovanje za ekološku proizvodnju

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Sažetak

Ecologica je nov pristup dobivanja znanja putem e-obrazovanja. Putem Leonardo da Vinci pilotnog projekta Razvoj centralne podatkovne baze na europskom nivou za e-obrazovanje o ekološkoj poljoprivredi izrađena je platforma za e-obrazovanje savjetodavaca za ekološku poljoprivredu. U osam partnerskih organizacija razvijeni su Centri znanja i izrađena je internetna veza. Elektronska zbirka znanja nalazi se na zajedničkom serveru pod imenom Ecolibrary. Centri znanja brinu za širenje prikupljenog znanja i informacija do pojedinaca kao što su savjetodavci za poljoprivredu i drugi zainteresirani za ekološku poljoprivredu te prihvaćaju program e-obrazovanja. Sadržaji baziraju na zajedničkom razvijanju i pripremi obrazovnog gradiva prilagođenog specifičnim ekološkim, tehnološkim, socijalnim i ekonomskim uvjetima pojedinih zemalja. Razvijeno je 14 modula: (i) ekološka poljoprivreda – osnove, (ii) EU i poznavanje nacionalnih kultura, (iii) marketing, kontrola kakvoće, komunikacijske vještine, (iv) znanja na području savjetodavanja, (v) biljna proizvodnja, (vi) stočarstvo, (vii) zaštita bilja, (viii) posliježetvena tehnologija, skladištenje i prerada, (ix) hortikultura, (x) legislativa i programi u poljoprivredi, (xi) preusmjerenje u ekološku poljoprivredu, (xii) management ekoloških gospodarstva, (xiii) kontrola i certificiranje, (xiv) plodnost tla, gnojidba i kompost. Program obrazovanja traje između 14 tjedna do 6 mjeseci u ovisnosti o prethodnom obrazovanju i znanju. Sudionici imaju on-line vezu do studijskog gradiva i mogu tjedno dobivati nova gradiva. Testovima se tjedno provjerava njihovo znanje i tutori redovito provjeravaju njihov rad. Na kraju dobivaju certifikat koji dokazuje da su program e-obrazovanja uspješno zaključili.

Ključne riječi: e-obrazovanje, ekološka proizvodnja, savjetodavna služba

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