

# FRUIT TREES UNION OF KOSOVA



## The vision of the UNION

Supplying the local consumer with quality apples produced by local producers

## Introduction of the Fruit Trees UNION

Several meetings were organized around Kosovo with apple associations during 2010. The first meeting with all members of the UNION was organized in Ferizaj on 19 September 2010, where they unanimously decided the need of having together all associations under the one umbrella called FRUIT TREE UNION.

On 20 December 2010, the Fruit Tree Union was registered officially by Ministry of Public Administration.

## The mission of the Fruit Trees UNION

The overall mission of the UNION is to organize all fruit tree producers within one organisation, always having in consideration to protect their interests with aim to increase the quantity and quality of production through implementing the advanced modern technologies as well as favourable climatic condition that our country offer to us.

## Members of the UNION

Representatives of the Associations:

- Agroferma, Malishevë,
- California, Viti,
- Fer-Fruti, Ferizaj,
- Molla nga Dardana, Kamenicë,
- Pema, Kovragë,
- Pema-De, Deqan,
- Pemëtaria, Pejë,
- Saturni, Gjakovë,
- Teqe, Lipjan,
- UVB, Blagaja

Other members

- NGOs,
- MAFRD,
- Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation,
- Kosova Chamber of Commerce,
- Faculty.



## Albanian Agribusiness Council visited fruit trees UNION

Presidents from 14 fruit tree associations including leaders of Albanian Agribusiness Council (AAC), Project Coordinator Mr. Andon Rrapokushi and Mr. Gjon Gaspri, the Executive Director visited the fruit tree Union in Kosovo (25 members participated).

Firs visit was organized in the office of the fruit tree union in Ferizaj, where they had chance to know more about the vision and mission of the Union as well as to see the future collaboration. After that, a field visit to the Integrated Production apple orchard (Pozharan-Viti) was organized where the delegation had chance to see the advanced IP implementation. Two special guests participated in the event, Prof. Dr. Agim Zajmi, professor of arboriculture in faculty of Agriculture in Pristina and Mr. Binak Krasniqi. The fruit tree union has received the official invitation to participate in the international fair in Albania during September 2011.



### Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture

Minister of Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Mr. Blerand Stavileci and adviser Mrs. Nyserete Doda had opportunity to meet with board of the Fruit Tree Union of Kosova.

They used the opportunity to share the achievements and difficulties of the fruit producers as well as to show the willingness of the Union for further collaboration in this sector.

### Conclusions

Mr. Stavileci, consider that the fruit sub sector is in the priority of MAFRD.

He promises to continue with close collaboration with UNION in any aspect.

In addition to this, one of the members from the Union will be part of the committee for grants within the Ministry; this can help to distribute grants in proper place and to the good farmers.

## Other activities and meeting organized by fruit tree union

There are number of activities and meetings organized by fruit tree union of Kosova.

- Present vision and mission of the Union to HPK Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation and Riinvest;
- Participate in different events organized by Ministry of Agriculture;
- Visit for delegation from Albania and chief of the Sweden Cooperative base in Stockholm Mr. Armando;
- Two events organized by Union which are dedicated for farmers (Dukagjini region);
- Promote the fruit tree union through media (RTV 21);
- Participate in Albania fair in Tirana in behalf of the Union.



### Headship of the fruit trees Union

- Sadri Lulaj, president,
- Hazir Sijarina, Secretary,
- Gazmend Hoti, Cashier

### Action groups of fruit trees Union

There are number of sub groups called as action groups created by Union. The aim of the group is to improve more the functionality of the Union.

Action groups:

- Information group,
- Marketing group,
- Training group,
- The lobbying group,
- Project proposal group.

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Web page for fruit tree union;
- ◆ Increase knowledge's in different sub-groups of the Union;
- ◆ Training on business planning and marketing;
- ◆ Post harvest training;
- ◆ Exchange visit with members of the Union;
- ◆ Integrated Production has to be the minimum standard for all fruit tree producers within the Union;
- ◆ Visit in the region/EU, about gathering more information about management of the Union;
- ◆ Improve the irrigation system for all tree fruit producers of the Union.

### Conclusion

The Fruit Trees Union has in their umbrella around 221 members, all tree producers with around 247 hectares. Apple is one of the dominated crop with 205 hectare, followed by Plum with 31 ha and Pears with 6 ha. Other trees fruit top and soft fruit (peach, walnut, blackberry, strawberry etc with 5ha.

### Address and contacts of the Fruit Trees Union

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