LIFE eGymer

Using smart traps and pheromones to control the gypsy moth: ecofriendly control in practice

Environmental problem

Lymantria dispar (L.) (Lepidoptera: Erebidae) is an indigenous species that infests oak forests in Central and Southern Europe, Asia and Africa. It constitutes a huge environmental problem since it is a voracious eater that completely defoliates trees and cause health problems to humans and animals (e.g., allergies, skin irritations).

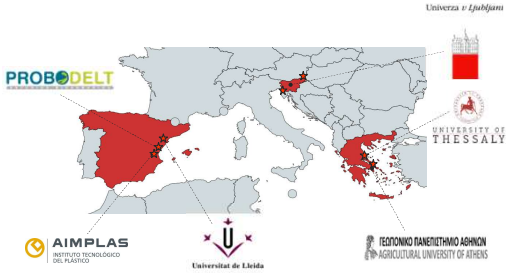
The scope of the research project is the use of smart traps and pheromones to monitor and control of *L. dispar* in Greece, Spain and Slovenia, where the air spraying and targeted applications with insecticides are not always feasible.

Aims of the project

- ✓ Design and develop novel recyclable traps.
- ✓ Continuously monitor infestation levels with the use of ICT.
- ✓ Minimize infestation in specific and diverse target areas.
- ✓ Reduction of application costs compared with the use of insecticides.
- ✓ Reduction of nuisance caused by larvae.
- ✓ Improve the design and efficiency of pheromone traps.
- ✓ Utilization of mating disruption for *L. diaspar* control.
- ✓ Demonstrate the positive influence to local biodiversity conservation.
- ✓ Dissemination of ongoing results to relevant forest protection agency, local authorities and local associations.

Beneficiaries

- ✓**UTH -** University of Thessaly (Coordinator) – Greece
- ✓**AUA** – Agricultural University of Athens – Special Account for Research Funds (Associated beneficiary) – Greece
- ✓**AIMPLAS**- Asociacion de Investigacion de Materiales Plasticos y Conexas (Associated beneficiary) – Spain
- ✓**PROBODELT** - Probodelt SL (Associated beneficiary) – Spain
- ✓**UL** - University of Ljubljana (Associated beneficiary) – Slovenia
- ✓**UdL** - Universitat de Lleida (Associated beneficiary) – Spain



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Program information

- ✓ Code of the project: LIFE20 ENV/GR/000801
- ✓ Duration: 01/09/2021 – 31/08/2024, 36 months
- ✓ Total project budget: 1,851,981.00 €
- ✓ Total eligible project budget: 1,793,881.00 €
- ✓ EU financial contribution requested: 986,633 € (= 55%)
- ✓ Current status: In progress

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