**Hellenic Republic**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Dynamic Participation of the Agricultural University of Athens in the 29th International Fair of Agricultural Machinery, Equipment and Supplies –**

**Agrotica 2022**

The 29th International Fair of Agricultural Machinery, Equipment and Supplies - Agrotica 2022 was held from 20 – 23 October 2022 at the Thessaloniki International Exhibition & Congress Centre (TIF HELEXPO). The Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) has achieved a dynamic participation, presenting a robustly organized and staffed booth, raising visitors’ awareness on the educational and research activities of the University, offering token gifts, as well.

 The Rectorate Authorities have given their presence at the organization of that exhibition, namely the Rector, Mr. Spyridon Kintzios, the Vice Rector for Finance, Programming and Development, Mr Iordanis Chatzipavlidis, the Vice Rector for Administrative, Academic and Student Affairs, Mr Nikolaos Dercas and the Vice Rector for Research and Lifelong Learning, Mr Stavros Zografakis, with a view to promoting extroversion, highlighting the wide range of scientific fields that the Agricultural University of Athens wields.

Α great number of eminent personalities have visited the exhibition stand of the Agricultural University of Athens, such as the Minister of Rural Development and Food, Mr. Georgios Georgantas, the Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Food, Mr Simos Kedikoglou, the General Secretariat of Agricultural Policy and European Funds Management, Dr. Konstantinos N. Baginetas, the Leader of the Official Opposition and former Prime Minister, Mr Alexis Tsipras, along with the former Minister of Rural Development and Food, Mr. Stavros Arachovitis, the Governor of the Region of Central Macedonia and President of the European Committee of the Regions, Mr Apostolos Tzitzikostas, the Deputy Governor of Pella Region, Mr Iordanis Tzamtzis, the Mayor of Voio within the Municipality area of Siatista, Mr Christos Zeuklis, as well as the President of ELGO-Dimitra, Mr Serco Haroutounian.

Furthermore, the Rectorate Authorities of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki have honoured the AUA pavilion with their presence, representatives from the Department of Agriculture of the School of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Environment of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki have been present at that event too, wherein they were all shown around the exhibition stand of the Agricultural University of Athens with excitement.

In addition, a large number of Faculty Staff and Researchers of the Agricultural University of Athens have been in attendance at the exhibition stand facilities, by providing information to all the interested parties upon the innovation, entrepreneurship and know-how actions in the area of research, fostered by the Agricultural University of Athens, like Professor, Mr Dimitrios Bilalis, Assistant Professor, Ms Sophie Mavrikou, who has been a representative of the Team of the European University EU-CONEXUS, concerning Smart Urban Coastal Zone Sustainability, Professor, Ms G. Economou – Antonaka, Director of the Marketing & Research Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs), called “In.MAP”, Associate Professor, Mr Spyros Fountas, Professor, Mr Dimitris Bouranis, Professor, Mr Petros Roussos, Professor, Mr Dionysios Kalivas, Professor, Ms Maria Kapsokefalou, the Dean of the School of Plant Sciences, Professor, Mr Dimitrios Savvas and Associate Professor, Mr Thomas Bartzanas, too.

It is worth mentioning that many Faculty Members of the Agricultural University of Athens have contributed significantly to the successful outcome of that event, having been nominated as lecturers at the scientific conferences held throughout the Exhibition, taking into consideration for example, the detailed presentation of the Associate Professor, Mr Thomas Bartzanas and the Vice Rector for Finance, Programming and Development, Professor Mr Iordanis Chatzipavlidis at the workshop, entitled: “Sustainability and Innovation”, besides the extensive presentation of the Dean of the School of Plant Sciences and Director of the Laboratory of Vegetable Production, Professor, Mr Dimitrios Savvas, at the pertinent conference of the Laboratory of Vegetable Production.

 Besides, the Institute of Agriculture & Food (I.A.F.) of the Agricultural University of Athens, along with the Association for Sustainable Development OMFALOS, have organized a workshop under the title: "The new CAP, the food crisis and the national strategic planning", having as conference speakers, the Vice Rector for Research and Lifelong Learning, Professor, Mr Stavros Zografakis, Professor, Ms Maria Kapsokefalou, Professor, Mr Efstathios Klonaris, Emeritus Professor of the Agricultural University of Athens, Mr Charalambos Kasimis, former General Secretariat of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, too. At the above event, Professor, Mr Nikolaos Dercas, the Vice Rector for Administrative, Academic and Student Affairs of the Agricultural University of Athens has also attended that colloquium.

In conclusion, this year’s participation into the 29th International Fair of Agricultural Machinery, Equipment and Supplies – Agrotica 2022, has become a success story and received a warm and positive response from both the official bodies and agencies in Greece and the ordinary booth visitors of the University. The Agricultural University of Athens has once more given prominence to the constantly evolving social, research and academic profile of the University, featuring the high level of quality of the Academic Community Members.