**Hellenic Republic**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Autopsy of the task force formed by scientists of the Agricultural University of Athens has been held into the flood-affected areas in Thessaly.**

On Friday, October 6 2023, a pertinent task force formed by the Agricultural University of Athens has visited the flood-stricken Thessaly. The Rector of the Agricultural University of Athens, Mr. Spyridon Kintzios along with Professor Emeritus of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Member of the Board of Directors of the Agricultural University of Athens Mr. Ilias Eleftherohorinos, the Professors Mr. Aristeidis Mertzanis, Mr. Dimitrios Bilalis, Mr. Konstantinos Tsiboukas, Mr. Dimitrios Tsitsigiannis ( also member of the BoD), and Assistant Professor, Ms. Sophie Mavrikou, they have all carried out a long autopsy visit at the flood-affected areas in Thessaly, around Lake Karla, laying emphasis on the villages Sotirio and Achilio in Larissa.

Throughout the visit, the task force has had the opportunity to hold a dialogue with the Thematic Deputy Governor in the Primary Sector across the Region of Thessaly, Mr. Apostolos Billis, inasmuch Officers of the Directorate-General of the Regional Agricultural Economy and Veterinary Sector in the Region of Thessaly and Staff of the area qualified in Agricultural Sciences & Agricultural Engineering, as well as with the inhabitants of that geographical area themselves, whose everyday existence is hard to face.

The first estimates of the task force of the Agricultural University of Athens involve assessments about the water withdrawal from certain points, thus enabling the land to be cultivated, with respect to the autumn sowing. However, direct support of the producers is necessary for machinery replacement, while redesigning has reached a breaking point for both the flood protection works and production processes, for example, through the creation of cultivation zones. Finally, the task force composed by scientists on the part of the Agricultural University of Athens have proposed the mass application of modern means of detection of the potential presence of mycotoxins in the crops and the animal feed, upon the aid measures and projects set by the State.

During that visit, an interview was given by the task force of the Agricultural University of Athens at a competent crew of the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation. Anyone interested, may watch a fragment of this interview on the following link: <https://www.ertnews.gr/eidiseis/ellada/prytanis-geoponikou-panepistimiou-pote-tha-einai-aksiopoiisimes-oi-agrotikes-ektaseis-stis-plimmyrismenes-perioxes/> .