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248th ACS National Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Document ID: 21089

Program Area: AGRO: Division of Agrochemicals

Symposium Title: (AGRO036a) IUPAC: Stewardship, Regulation, and Outreach: Common Global Goals in Pesticide Stewardship

INSTITUTIONS

1. University of Cordoba, ETSIAM, Department of Rural Engineering, Cordoba, Córdoba, 14014, Spain
2. European Conservation Agriculture Federation (ECAAF), Brussels, B-1040, Belgium
3. University of Évora, Institute of Mediterranean Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (ICAAM), Evora, Portugal
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Reason for Abstract Submission: I was specifically invited to submit this paper.

Invitation from: Dan Campbell

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Criteria are met: Are met by at least one author

Presenting author will register: Yes

Abstract will be withdrawn if author cannot attend: Yes, I agree

Abstract will be withdrawn if presenter is a no-show: Yes, I agree

Abstract submitted only once: Yes, I agree

Equipment Needs: No response indicated

Comments to Organizers: No response indicated

Preferred Presentation Method: Oral Only

Should this Paper be Considered for a SCI-MIX? No response indicated

Student Type: No response indicated

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Title: Conservation Agriculture in Europe: Making Sustainable Agriculture Real

Abstract Body: In the European Union, society demands quality and safe agricultural products. The Common Agricultural Policy has to address challenges such as food security, climate change and sustainable management of natural resources, while keeping the rural economy vibrant. Many prevailing policies aim to achieve greater sustainability in agriculture. Some policies are pan-European, such as the CAP, some are national such as the Rural Development programs, and others more specific, such as the Directive on sustainable use of pesticides.

Conservation Agriculture is an agro-ecological approach to sustainable production intensification. It is based on three core principles: minimal soil disturbance, maintenance of permanent soil cover, and cropping system diversity/rotations. A variety of benefits accrue from CA and these can contribute to the objectives of Europe 2020. However, so far Europe has not shown much interest in the adoption of CA, despite many promising research results from within Europe confirming its suitability.

Keywords: Food security, Common Agricultural Policy, sustainability, pesticides, agro-ecological approach

PrePrint: No response indicated

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