



# OFFICE INTERNATIONAL

du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux

association sans but lucratif

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Regroupement des fédérations européennes des jardins familiaux

Membre d'Europa Nostra

Statut participatif auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

1926-2016

**90 ans**

**The Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux  
calls upon all allotment gardeners to take part in the Week without  
pesticides organized from 20th till 30th March 2016**

Pesticides poison our environment, cause many diseases and endanger the future of our planet. They concern all living species: plants, animals, fishes, birds, insects and of course mankind. They are responsible for cancer, neurodegenerative diseases and infertility among mankind. They are present nearly all over the food chain.

Allotment gardeners are careful for their health and the health of their garden.

The allotment gardeners are at the forefront in the battle against the use of pesticides. But much remains to be done, because pesticides are not only used in the garden: many families use them at home under various forms (aerosols, sprays, cleaning and care products), all of them very harmful for our health and the environment.

This week is now organized nearly on all continents.

The main subjects in 2016 are health and the sensitization of individual people and families.

In 2016, for the 11th edition of the week without pesticides:

We must be alert and invest many efforts so that the ban of Round Up, produced by Monsanto, stipulated by Europe will not be discussed again and that the legislation becomes more and more severe.

The allotment gardeners have to become even more aware that a garden cultivated ecologically enables them to grow a healthy food and to have a beneficial influence on nature (fauna, flora) and environment.

The Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux and the member federations therefore invite all the allotment gardeners:

- to make an adequate soil preparation,
- to compost their green and kitchen waste,
- to use organic fertilizers,
- to support the installation of useful animals and insects,
- to choose plants that are adequate for the local climate,
- to apply crop rotation principles,
- to use alternatives to pesticides,
- to reject plants that are genetically modified but on the contrary to increasingly cultivate old plant species and varieties,
- to use low polluting primary products and to recreate a mostly closed circular flow of elements (composting and mulching )
- to avoid polluting water and soil by f.ex. renouncing to use nitrates, phosphates and herbicides,
- to plant or install on the allotment sites diverse structures as for ex hedges, bushes, heaps of branches, tree groups or solitary trees under the observation of the principles stimulating biodiversity,

In order to reach these aims, the International Office recommends to its affiliated members and the federations invite their associated members :

- To help the individual gardeners by providing them with adequate gardening advice, given by trained specialist garden advisers,
- To increase the training of gardening advisers and advisers for plant protection in the associations and federations,
- To realize more environment projects in the allotments associations

The Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux calls upon all allotment gardeners to take part in this campaign organised from 20th till 30th March :

- by organizing activities having a model character,

- by organizing lectures and debates,
- by opening the allotment sites to the neighbours in order to spread examples of best practice,

Information on <http://www.semaine-sans-pesticides.com/>