

IPM-4-CITRUS



IPM4- Citrus project « Integrated Pest Management for Citrus », is a RISE action (Research and Innovation Staff Exchange) funded by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 Program. The Marie Skłodowska Curie RISE action promotes international and cross-sector collaboration through exchanging research and innovation staff, and sharing knowledge and ideas from research to market (and vice-versa). This aims at knowledge sharing via international as well as inter-sectoral mobility, based on secondments (staff exchanges) with an in-built return mechanism. Such program enables networking and outreach activities, organization of workshops round tables and conferences to facilitate sharing of knowledge, new skills acquisition and career development for research and innovation staff members and a greater contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society

IPM4 -Citrus involves 11 organization partners from the academic and non-academic sectors (in particular SMEs), based in Europe (3 EU Member States: France, Germany and Italy and 2 Associated Countries: Tunisia and Turkey) and 1 third country (Lebanon).

This 48 months-project aims at developing two new bio-pesticides active against citrus pests based on 2 promising, newly identified *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) strains (Btkurstaki BLB1 and LIP) and scale them up from lab to market. The Research and Development (R&D) activities of the project are based on a multidisciplinary approach aiming to:

- raising awareness of stakeholders about health risk factors when using chemical pesticide treatments,
- developing an alternative approach to integrated control based on biological control

Furthermore, the project will pave the way for future commercial exploitation of these innovative Bt-based products by drawing up a feasibility study for future spin-off activities and/or new production lines in partner SMEs.



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