University of Banja Luka Faculty of Agriculture

Project: Mineral improved food and feed crops production for human and animal health in Balkan Countries



This project was very useful for our institution and our agriculture in general.

- Trace elements deficiency in plants has been found in regions of SEE countries.
- Copper (Cu) and selenium (Se) deficiency were found in pasture and blood of sheep in BIH.
- Application of practical and basic knowledge of agronomical technologies (e.g. fertilisation, cropping systems) can lead to increase in trace element content in consumable food and feed crops.

The main result of this project is increasing quality of feed for animal nutrition, ie. enriching the feed with selenium and zinc.

- In addition, as a result of the project can be listed as follows:
 - 1 a PhD student is finising doctoral study in Norway,
 - technical staff was on course for new laboratory techniques,
 - as well as we will publish several articles in journals.
- This project was implemented in cooperation with the Institute of Agriculture of Republika Srpska.
 Experiments have been conducted on their plots (4 years) and they have provided us the technical support (workers, machinery, etc.)

The knowledge generated through the project gave a clearer picture of micronutrient status of soil, plant and animals for the region.

- Agronomic technology of biofortification of field crops with zinc and selenium used for animal feed or human food is made aware to farmers.
- The local authority should encourage the practice of bio fortification by providing incentives to farmers and by making public awareness of its importance for animal and human health.

 Good connection among research teams from NMBU and other six universities in Western Balkan involved in project has been established.

- A great potential for future cooperation.
 - Analytical capacities are significantly improved.
- Researchers and students are very interested in further cooperation.

Practical knowledge about applied soil and liquid fertilization doses and significance of use Se and Zn in regular fertilization practice were presented trough experimental trial demonstration.

- Short information about the impact of this practice in silage maize production were collected in leaflets as farmer help for better farming practice in future.
- Through this experiment, farmers were introduced with the importance of selenium and zinc on qualitative and quantitative traits of maize silage production and the significance of these traits for animal and human health.

















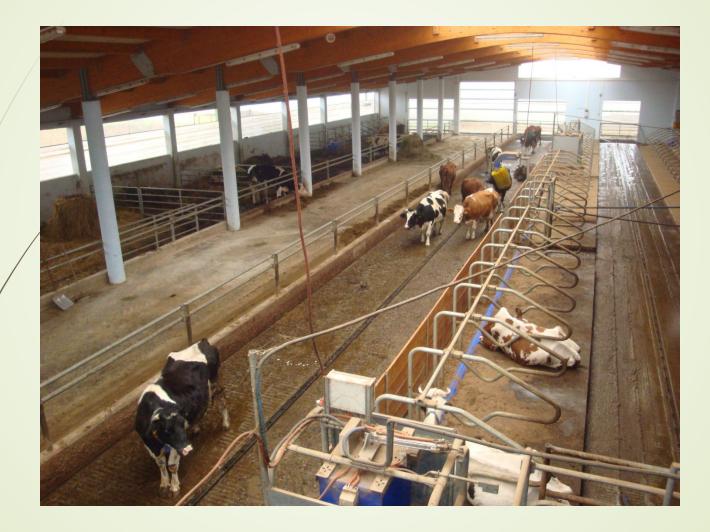














Thank you!