



Η Πράξη συγχρηματοδοτείται
από την Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση (ΕΤΠΑ)
και από Εθνικούς Πόρους
της Ελλάδας και της Κύπρου



Newsletter

On Friday, November 23, 2012 at 10:00 am, the kick-off meeting of the partners involved in the "Rational Management of Biotic and Abiotic Parameters in Hydroponic Cultivation of Tomato and Lettuce- 'HYDROFLIES' " took place at the premises of Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICh), which has been established on the basis of K3_01_03 on 15/10/2012 at Inter-Border Cooperation Programme between Greece-Cyprus 2007-2013, co-financed 80% by the European Union (ERDF) and 20% by National Funds of Greece and Cyprus.

The aim of the project is the development of closed hydroponics systems in greenhouses (recycling nutrient solutions) for two important vegetables, tomato and lettuce, grown in Crete and Cyprus, as well as farmers training to use them. Furthermore, the "Hydroflies" team will develop a mass rearing system for two important beneficial insects that will be used to control various herbivore pests such as *Tuta absoluta*, whiteflies and others in order to minimize the use of pesticides. Finally a management protocol for nutrient solutions and phytopathological problems will be drawn up for these crops especially for Crete and Cyprus microclimate, which can be used to implement a single certification for these products. By doing thus, we hope to increase the existing qualities of the products while maximizing their safety for their consumption.

The public union participants are the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICh), the Institute of Olive Tree & Subtropical Plants of Chania (ELGO-DIMITRA) and the University of Crete (UC) which combine significant research experience in these issues, and through their direct cooperation in this proposal, their expertise will be transferred and developed directly through farmers in Crete and Cyprus. The transfer of knowledge to farmers will be achieved through the participation of the Municipality K. Polemidia (DIPO) in Cyprus and of MAICh and ELGO in Crete.

