

Project proposal

1.1 Modernisation and sustainability of agriculture and forestry, including their multifunctional role in order to ensure the sustainable development and promotion of rural areas

task n. 30 - *Emerging diseases and threats through alien species in forest ecosystems.*

In the Lazio region, in the last few years, new diseases caused by allochthonous phytophagi had appeared. In particular, they are:

- A galligenous hymenoptera (*Ophelinus sp.*) of African origin, damaging eucalyptus' buds. In the Lazio region these trees constitute an important agro environmental system of wind-breaking belt, that ARSIAL manages, in the Pontina plain as a safeguard for horticultural and flower cultivations.
- A galligenous hymenoptera cynipidae (*Dryocosmus kuriphilus Yasumatsu*), from Corea, damaging chestnut trees. This phytophagus menaces chestnuts, both spontaneous and cultivated, that are quite important in Lazio either for economical or environmental reasons.
- A Lepidoptera (*Cacyreus marshalli*) of South African origin that mines mainly the geranium stalks but also the leaves, flowers and vegetative apexes. Therefore regional nurserymen suffer high economic losses also causing disaffection into the buyers towards this traditional ornamental species.

The project's aims are to deepen the knowledge on the biological cycle of these insects and to individuate prevention and control methods.

Partners sought

Partner
University
Research centres
Public organizations