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FOOD LOSSES AND FOOD WASTES: WHICH RESEARCH FROM THE HORTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVE?

Food loss and food waste are perceived in a very similar way from the common opinion, however their ecological meaning is deeply different. Food waste, in the fruit industry is related to many aspects concerning orchard and post-harvest management at any step of the food chain. The common evaluation of fruit quality, which is based on size and visual aspects of the fruit, can be also considered one of the major sources of fruit waste. Is a new concept of quality needed? Indeed the loss a fruit value more than often result in fruit waste though in many cases there is no relation between size and nutritional value. Increasing post-harvest maintenance of fruit is one of the major challenges in terms of fruit quality and sustainability. We will discuss major aspects related to fruit waste from field to fork focusing on research relevant questions we need to face in the next future.

***Relatore* PAOLO INGLESE**

Full Professor of Horticulture at the Università degli Studi di Palermo. Chair of the Bs and Master Courses of “Agricultural Science and Technology”. Chair of Master Courses in “Quality and Safety of agricultural Production” (2013-2015). Member of the National University Council (1997-2006) in Italy for the Plant Science sector. Member of Accademia dei Georgofili, Accademia Nazionale di Agricoltura, Accademia Italiana di Scienze Forestali, Accademia Nazionale dell’Olivo e dell’Olio. President of the Italian Society for Horticultural Science (2007-2013) and editor of *Italus Hortus* (2017-2019). Member of the Council of the International Society Horticultural Science (ISHS) (2007-2015). Member of the ISHS Editorial Board (2010 to date). Convener, key-note lecturer, chair or member of organizing/scientific committees and editorial boards, at several national and international ISHS Symposia. Visiting professor at Volcani Center (Israel); Beer-Sheva University (Israel); UC Davis (California); UCLA (California); Duke University (NC); Universidad de Chile, (Cile); ICARDA (Giordania). He has given invited seminars in over 20 universities and Academies, worldwide. Associate editor of *Frontiers* and *European Journal of Horticulture*. FAO Young Associated Expert (1984) and international consultant since 1999. General Coordinator of CACTUSNET-FAO from 1994 to 2000 and 2014-2017. Author of 110 scientific papers indexed by Scopus and editor and co-editor of scientific and technical volumes at national and international level.

***Discussant* IGNAZIO BUTTITTA**

Ignazio Buttitta (Palermo 23/06/1965) insegna “Storia delle tradizioni popolari” e “Etnologia Europea” presso l’Università degli Studi di Palermo. È Presidente della Fondazione Buttitta, Segretario Generale dell’Associazione per la Conservazione delle tradizioni popolari. Studia i fenomeni di religiosità popolare con particolare attenzione all’analisi del simbolismo rituale e dei suoi processi di trasformazione. Ha effettuato ricerche sul campo in Sicilia, Sardegna, Calabria, Corsica, Creta. Tra i suoi lavori: *Il fuoco. Simbolismo e pratiche rituali*, 2002; *I morti e il grano. Tempi del lavoro e ritmi della festa*, 2006; *Continuità delle forme e mutamento dei sensi. Ricerche e analisi sul simbolismo festivo*, 2013; *La danza di Ares. Forme e funzioni delle danze armate*, 2014.