



6th Seminar on Agrobiodiversity
"Economic Value of Local Breeds and Varieties"
Annual Conference of the European SAVE Network

The hunt of the Eden's fruit

Preservation of local landscape and
agrobiodiversity, via sustainability

Muriel Hendrichs
2012

ProFrutteti

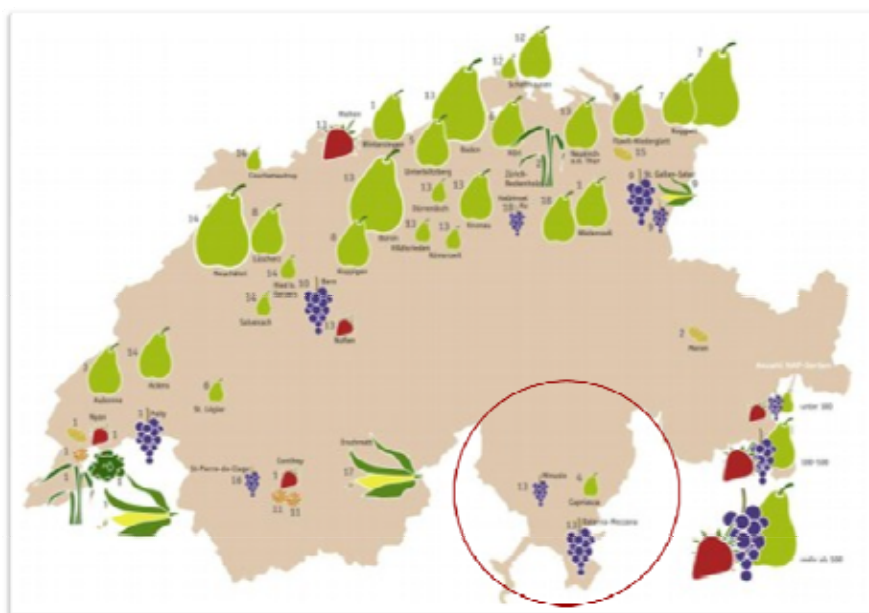
september



Conservation of Fruit trees in Switzerland



Conservation of Fruit trees in Switzerland



Pear = fruit trees collections

ProFrutteti Project- introduction



- 1996 Foundation of Capriasca Ambiente Association
- 1998 First apple and pear inventory in Capriasca
- 2006 Foundation of ProFrutteti team

2007- 2010 Conservation and valorisation of old apples' trees varieties and the associated landscape of Capriasca (PAN 03-60; FOAG)

- 2009 Creation of the ProFrutteti orchard in Manno (introduction collection)
- 2010 Beginning of the Cantonal inventory (different donors)

2011 Beginning of the description project (04-PAN-P23; FOAG)

- 2012 Inauguration of the ProFrutteti orchard in Tesserete (primary collection)

ProFrutteti project- introduction



Sala Capriasca (10 km from Lugano) -Ticino

ProFrutteti project- introduction



Luigi Rossi, La Pianura, 1920

ProFrutteti project- introduction



For many reasons, the regional fruit heritage was in danger!



ProFrutteti project- introduction



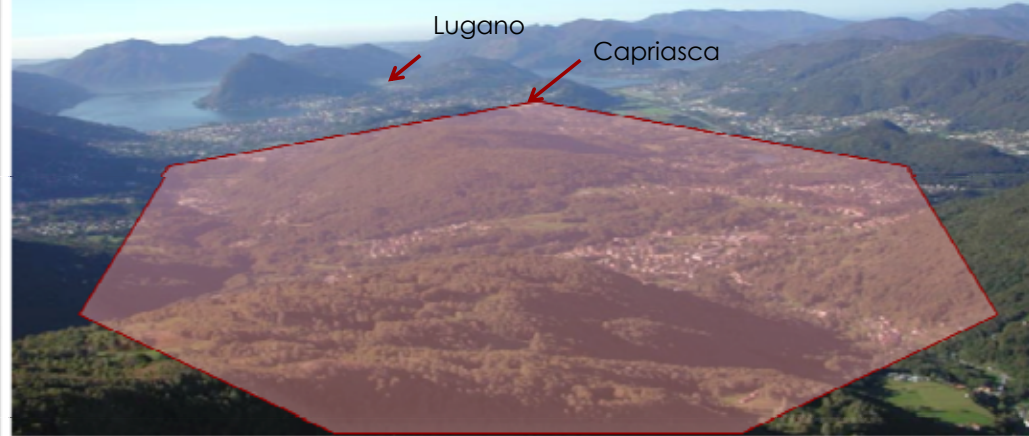
Project aims:

- Mapping of old trees
 - Recovery of ethnobotanical knowledge and description of old varieties
 - **Creation of conservation orchards**
- Management of existant orchards
 - Promotion of interesting varieties and trasformation products

Ethnobotanical inventory

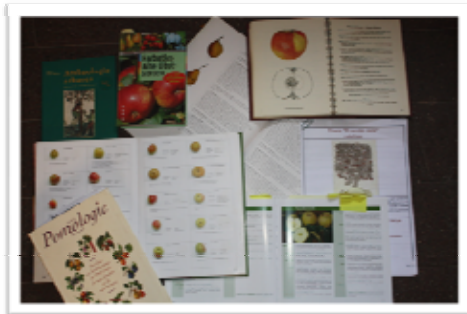
*Ethnobotanical inventory:
study of old apple trees' heritage in Capriasca and recuperation
of historical and cultural aspects associated*

(Hendrichs Muriel, UNINE, 2009)



- Reconstruction of fruiticulture history in the region
- Highlighting of the most important old varieties

Ethnobotanical inventory- methodology



Varieties identification

- Books→ new and old Pomologies
- Visit to fruit expositions
- Interviews with pomologists



Historical/ethnological aspects

- Archives, libraries, Center of ethnography and dialectology
- Interviews with old peoples, apples' owners, hobbyists and professionals

Ethnobotanical inventory- methodology

Variety description:

- Morphological and phenological traits
- Local and classical names
- Fruits utilisation (methods of transformation, recipes)
- Agronomical practices (grafting, pruning)
- Regional distribution, curiosities and others



Ethnobotanical inventory- results

In Ticino during the 1700s fruiticulture wasn't very developed (Schinz 1770 – 1772); the situation changed at the end of the 1800s, nevertheless fruiticulture stood very familiar.



Luigi Rossi, *Il mosto*, 1905

Capriasca: a special situation

- In the 1600s : juice production was already important.
- Beginning 1900s: many trees and press.
- Until 1950: Essentially subsistence fruiticulture, only partially economic.



Results: fruiticulture in Capriasca

Why apples?

- Strong and resistant tree
- Long harvest time (june- november)
- Long conservation period (avril- june)
- High vitamins content
- Versatility of utilisation



Ethnobotanical inventory- results



Local varieties (41)

Bella di Bigorio	Mela cuore	<i>Pom banan</i>
Bona di Lopagno	Mela grassa	<i>Pom popin</i>
Brutta ma buona	<i>Mela Ghiaccio</i>	<i>Pom rav/Pom piatt</i>
Calvilla a strisce	Mela pera Lopagno	<i>Pom rossin rigata</i>
Calvilla arcobaleno	Mela profumata gialla	<i>Pom rossin unita</i>
Cristallina di Sala	Mela verde di Origlio	<i>Pom rugin</i>
Culo di Gallina	Mela verda di Bigorio	<i>Porgnec</i>
Falsa Jacques Lebel	Mela uovo	Prato grande
Falsa Mantovana	Monte Bré	Renetta d'Astano
Hidalgo	Musa gialla	Rossona
Ligornetto	Musa rossa	<i>Sant'Anna rossa</i>
<i>Luisa</i>	Musa Ruggine	Sole di Sarone
Mela a pera	<i>Ornamentale rossa</i>	Zulu
Mela bronzo	Pisa di Lugagnolo	

Ethnobotanical inventory- Pom rossin rigata



Ethnobotanical inventory- Porgnec



Ethnobotanical inventory- Culo di gallina



Ethnobotanical inventory- Mela ghiaccio



Ethnobotanical inventory- results

Classical varieties (31)

Aargauer jubiläum	Gloria Mundi	Renetta del Seeland
Banana d'inverno	Grand Alessandro	Renetta di Champagne (i Champagn o Champagnin)
Bella di Boskoop (i Boskooof)	Jacques Lebel	Renetta di Kassel
Birformiger apfel	Limone d'inverno	Renetta grigia francese
Calvilla di Danzica	Mela Campana (i Glochen)	Rosa di Berna
Calvilla rossa d'autunno	Mela Margherita (Sant'Anna o Pom da Sant'Ana (gialla-rossa))	Tobiässler
Calville du roi	Mela Sona	Trasparente bianca (Sant'Anna o Pom da Sant'Ana (bianca))
Capel de preve	Musone di Como	Trasparente di Croncels
Carla	Regina delle renette	Usterapfel
Cramoise de Gascoyne liscia	Regina Sofia (Ticinella)	
Cramoise de Gascoyne ruvida	Renetta bianca del Canada	



Ethnobotanical inventory- Musone di como



Ethnobotanical inventory- Calville du roi



Ethnobotanical inventory- Banana d'inverno



Creation of conservation orchards



72 varieties → primary collection

150 entries → Introduction collection (Description project 2011- 2014)

Creation of conservation orchards



New orchard
(140 trees)

Piana di Sala



Conclusions: outcome for the region



- Recuperation of an interesting open space for agriculture
- **Management of existant orchards**
- Growing interest in new plantation
- Growing interest in old varieties
- New center for apple juice production
- New traditional event: "Apple day"
- Didactical activities

Conclusions: new center for apple juice

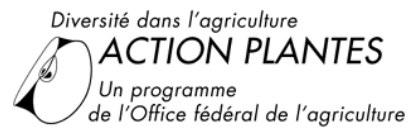
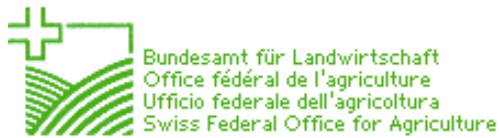


2012: 22'000 litres

Conclusions: didactical activities



Thanks



Schweizerische Kommission für die Erhaltung von Kulturpflanzen (SKEK)
Commission suisse pour la conservation des plantes cultivées (CPC)
Commissione svizzera per la conservazione delle piante coltivate (CPC)
Swiss Commission for the Conservation of cultivated plants (CPC)





**Thank you for your
attention!**



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