

Forewords

Welcome in the first
newsletter of the
CLAS !

"We are pleased to introduce the CLAS, a centre dedicated to the study and support of the development of agroecology and sustainable food systems. Exchanging, sharing, researching and advising are the key activities of our centre.

This first newsletter reflects our commitment to support the agroecological transition in Europe and around the world. Help us expand our community by sharing this newsletter with your network!"

Alexander Wezel, Director of research, ISARA.

Discover what the CLAS is and what we do



Portrait of our guest, Andrés Muñoz-Sáez

Early September 2024, we had the pleasure of welcoming Prof. Andrés Muñoz-Sáez from the University of Chile. During his stay, he had the opportunity to join our Agroecology Master students during an excursion to southern France to discover new systems and exchange with local stakeholders.

[Discover more about his activities here](#)

Cover crop for more sustainable cropping systems!

Reducing agricultural inputs by using cover crops in conjunction with cereals: that's the aim of the CASTOR project (Cover crops to foster agroecological transition and input reduction). Plant cover is an agroecological lever, offering ecosystem services including improved soil structure, better water retention and reduced erosion. Integrated into cereal crop rotations, they also make it possible to limit the use of chemical inputs by promoting a balanced agroecosystem.



The CASTOR project is about testing practical solutions to support more sustainable agriculture. It offers promising prospects for farmers looking for innovative practices that respect ecosystems and are economically viable.

[Find out more about this project](#)

1st International Conference



In cooperation with Agroecology Europe, we organised the CLAS 1st International Conference on September 12th, 2024 on « Crossed Perspectives: Agroecology Insights from Europe and Chile ». Keynote speakers, Alexander Wezel (ISARA) and Andres Muñoz-Sáez (University of Chile), addressed agroecology from two distinct angles, European and Chilean ones, in presence of 80 attendees.

[More information](#)

A publication on the socio-economic performance of agroecology

Alexander Wezel, Director of Research at ISARA, recently took part in a podcast on Radio Vino, the web radio station dedicated to natural wine and gastronomy. The programme explored agroecology from an economic perspective, a subject on which Alexander is co-author of a scientific publication entitled 'Socio-economic performance of agroecology'.



[To read the full study on HAL](#)



[Listen to his interview](#) (in French) on Radio Vino, where he reflects on the conclusions of this study and discusses the potential of agroecology to respond to the challenges of climate change and food security.

Landscape 2024 - Agroecosystems in Transformation: Visions, Technologies, and Actors



CLAS colleagues had the pleasure to present several of our research activities at the Landscape 2024 Conference held in Berlin during 17-19 September. Ioanna Mouratiadou, Associate Professor in Agricultural Economics, chaired a session on the socio-economic performance of agroecology, and presented results of the study 'Socio-economic performance of agroecology.

A review', as well as insights from the PATH2DEA project on digital tools and agroecology. Edwige Fain, Research project manager, presented a poster on the PERFECO project, assessing the economic performance of agroecology in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, France.

ISTRO 2024: Innovating for sustainable soils on a global scale



At the end of September, Joséphine PEIGNE, ISARA researcher and member of the ISTRO (International Soil Tillage Research Organisation) board member since 2022, participated at the 22nd conference dedicated to soil work and soil quality. Organised by Virginia Tech University (Virginia, USA), the event brought together researchers from all over the world.

Joséphine presented her work on direct seeding in organic farming and co-authored studies on the evaluation of agricultural practices and soil quality. She also took part in visits to local farms to learn about typical crops grown in the region, such as cotton and peanuts.

The conference helped to strengthen collaborations with European and South American researchers, paving the way for future joint research and teaching projects.

[More information](#)

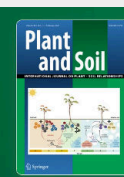


Our latest publications



[Home](#) > [Plant and Soil](#) > [Article](#)

Conservation tillage influences soil structure, earthworm communities and wheat root traits in a long-term organic cropping experiment



[All our publications](#)

What's next ?

Do not miss our coming conferences and events and subscribe to our newsletter

[Calendar](#)

Legal Notice

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