



“HARNESSTOM with the Spanish Genetic Resources network event GO FITONET”

On July 18, 2024 the GO FITONET event “Traditional varieties of tomato and melon. Origin and current potential” took place at the facilities of FUNDACIÓN GRUPO CAJAMAR located in Paiporta (Valencia), where two other members of HARNESSTOM project Dr. Antonio Monforte and Dr. Clara Pons, both from the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Plants (IBMCP-CSIC) participated actively. The operational [GO FITONET](#) includes among its objectives the creation of Living Labs and pilot projects, as well as the development of a web and mobile application (FitoNet) designed for farmers, producers and companies, collecting information and knowledge obtained by network partners by companies, as well as the obtained from the National Inventory of Plant Genetic Resources of the collections of the National Plant Genetic Resources Program, that of other characterization data and that relating to pre-improvement materials obtained by Agrofor groups.

GO-Fitonet Operational Group aims to promote the cultivation and consumption of tomato and melon varieties. The history of these varieties was explained by expert in the field including HARNESSTOM partners Antonio Monforte and Clara Pons from IBMCP-CSIC, Talks included the domestication history from the centers of origin of the crops to the present, and traditional high-quality melon and tomato varieties selected in previous programs will be presented. Attendees were also able to taste a huge selection of tomato and melon varieties and to their impressions. All these activities fell within the scope of HARNESSTOM (harnesstom.eu) the EU funded project on tomato prebreeding for increased resilience and high organoleptic value.

The event was divided into two blocks, one dedicated to tomato and the other to melon. In both cases, the origin and domestication of the melon and tomato varieties with resistance to viruses and pathogens, while maintaining their high organoleptic quality, were presented, showing the progress achieved with the aim of promoting their cultivation and consumption. Finally, tomato and melon selected varieties from GO FITONET project were tasted by the participants.

The complete program is available at the following link:
<https://www.plataformatierra.es/formacion/go-fitonet-variedades-tradicionales-de-tomate-y-melon-origen-y-potencial-actual>





Dr. Antonio Monforte, member of the HARNESSTOM project, during his presentation at the GO-FITONET meeting.

