

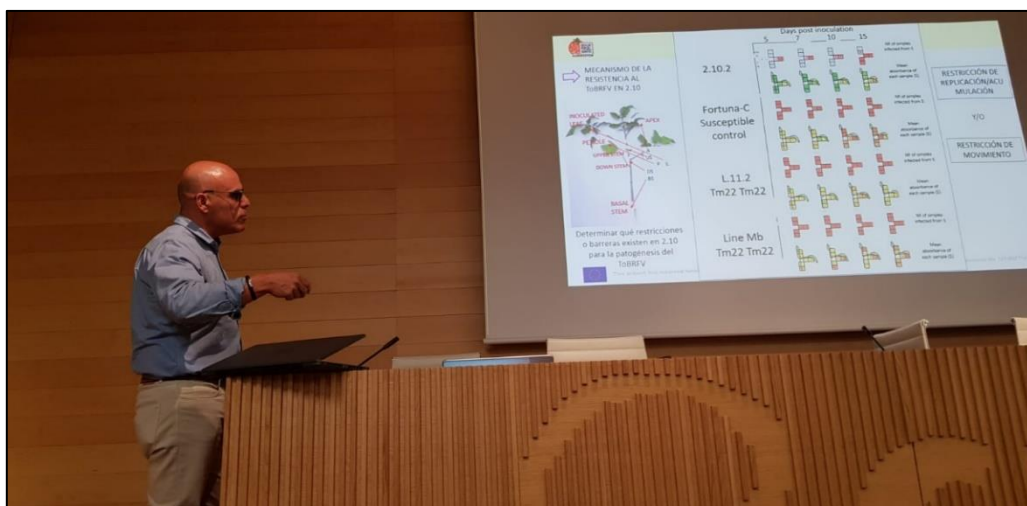


“A HARNESSTOM Workshop directed to the general public in Almeria highlights the use of genetic resources to tackle challenges in tomato”

Almería, the largest tomato producing area in Spain and home from most of the tomato exported to Europe hosted on the 20th November 2024 a workshop on the use of genetic resources to increase tomato resilience and organized by the EU-funded HARNESSTOM project (<http://harnesstom.eu/en>) at the CAJAMAR partner facilities. The workshop was directed to the general public but also to scientists, breeders and tomato growers and farmers. The aim is to cover the genetic strategies used in HARNESSTOM to increase tomato tolerance to changes associated to climate change that affect tomato cultivation and productivity, and also to introduce resistances to emerging tomato diseases and strategies for participatory breeding. The workshop took place at the “salon de actos” of “las mariposas” building at Cajamar in and attracted locals that listened carefully to the presentations and engaged actively in the discussion

The workshop included short introductory talks presented by leading researchers: Prof Antonio Monforte from The Spanish National Research Council (IBMCP- CSIC) who covered breeding for increase tolerance to climate change conditions; Prof Salvador Soler from the Polytechnic University of Valencia who presented the latest advances in resistance against emerging diseases such as that caused by the Tomato Brown Fruit Rugose Virus; and Prof. Joan Casals from the Fundación Manuel Agustí in Catelldefels who described different strategies they are following for engaging farmers and citizens in participatory breeding and citizen science and engaged the participation of the audience by posing them some questions in relation to his topic. The workshop was completed by a round table with the participation of the above speakers and of the Harnesstom coordinator Toni Granell (CSIC) led by the local organizer Carlos Baixauli (CAJAMAR) that resulted in a lively exchange and discussion on the use of genetic resources to increase tomato resilience. Among the audience several technical staff from the association of producers and main producing companies were present that contribute to the discussion.

These activities had impact in different media “A en verde”, LinkedIn, X and Facebook.



Photograph: Salvador Soler during his presentation at the Workshop





Jornada de Mejora del Tomate frente al Cambio Climático y Enfermedades Emergentes



Para quien: Sector Productivo, Científicos y Técnicos
Dónde: Cajamar. Casa de las Mariposas
Cuando: 20 Noviembre 2024 de 16:00 a 18:00



Poster of the Workshop on “Use of genetic resources to increase tomato resilience” that took place in Almeria in the frame of the Harnesstom Final Conference.

