



**Ecological transition  
starts with agronomy,  
increasing IPM uptake  
with biocontrol, and  
significant pesticide  
dependency reductions**

**When:** 20 October 2022 at 09:00-12:00 CET

**Where:** Slovenian Parliament  
(Šubičeva ulica 4, Ljubljana) & Online

**Languages:** Slovenian / English



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
DRŽAVNI SVET



# PROGRAM

Chairperson: Natalija Svrtan

## 09:00 Start of the meeting

- Welcome by **Natalija Svrtan**, Pesticide Action Network Europe - 5 minutes
- Welcome by **Cvetko Zupančič**, Chair of the Commission for Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia - 5 minutes

## 09:10 - 09:40 Keynote speeches

### European and Slovenian institutions together in ecological support to Slovenian agriculture

- **Maša Žagar**, acting director of the Directorate for Agriculture - 10 min
- Pathways towards a pesticide-free agriculture in Europe - **Dr. Christian Huyghe**, Scientific Director of Agriculture, INRAE (online) - 10 min
- Can we ensure food security and self-sufficiency without conventional agriculture - **Branko Tomažič**, Vice Chair of the Commission for Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia - 10 min

## 09:40 - 10:25 Pathways towards pesticide-free future

- **Franc Bogovič**, Member of the European Parliament - 10 min
- SPRINT project and case study in Slovenia - **Dr. Matjaž Glavan**, Biotechnical faculty University of Ljubljana - 10 min
- Breaking the pesticide dependency treadmill by moving towards biodynamic vegetable growing - **Zvone Černelič**, the organic vegetable farmer. - 10 min
- The potential of the organic sector in Slovenia - **Aleš Fister**, organic farmer - 10 min

## 10:25 - 10:55 Towards a pesticide-free agriculture in Slovenia with the uptake of alternatives such as biocontrol

- Applying functional (agro-)biodiversity as a tool to increase orchard resilience - **Lene Sigsgaard**, University of life science Copenhagen (online) - 10 min
- Biocontrol solutions proven to work in Slovenian agro-environment - **Dr. Jaka Razinger**, Kmetijski Inštitut Slovenije - 10 min
- Biological control solutions and their benefits - their essential role for a full agroecological transition working with nature - **Jennifer Lewis**, IBMA (online) - 10 min

## 10:55 - 11:35 Solutions for nature-friendly and economically efficient farming methods

- Beginnings of biodynamics in Slovenia - **Meta Vrhunc**, Založba Ajda Vrzenec - 10 min
- Reducing the use of chemically synthetic pesticides without reducing the yield - **Marija Marinček**, President of NGO Zveza društev ekoloških kmetov Slovenije - 10 min
- Brand DEMETER - **Dr. Mihael Kasaš**, President of NGO Združenje Demeter Slovenija - 10 min
- The potential of organic agriculture as a method for protecting nature and the environment in Slovenia - Prof. dr. **Martina Bavec**, University of Maribor, Slovenian ambassador of organic farming - 10 min

## 11:35 - 11:55 Debate with participants

## 11:55 Closing word by David Cary