



Si4Crop: REPORT ON END USER DISSEMINATION

Silicon is known to enhance plant growth, improve stress resistance, and increase crop yields. The project aimed to bridge knowledge gaps, enabling farmers and researchers to utilize silicon more effectively to enhance agricultural practices. One of the important aspects of Si4Crop Project was to create awareness of the importance of Si application in crops in Serbian farmers and broaden public interest in the health benefits of Si for humans and domestic animals. During the Project team members actively communicated with end-users (individual farmers, farmers associations, local extension services, consultants, agronomists, and agro- and fertilizer companies) through media, social networks, and Project's website, but also by organizing events like "Silicon Filed Day" and Seminar for the target audience. All activities of our Project are available on Project's website: https://si4crop.bg.ac.rs/ and instagram profile: Si4Crop

To help farmers to adjust the need for Si fertilizer input in soil, the earliest goal of Si4Crop was publishing the manual for soils testing and protocols to determine plant available Si concentration. (In Serbian langue, intended for Serbian extension service in agriculture). Manual is available on Project web site in section Farmer Corner and several hard-copies were were distributed among end users (PSS Zrenjanin for instance.)

An interview with Dr. Ljiljana Kostic Kravljanac "The importance of silicon in plant nutrition -How important is it and what are the unknowns?" was published in the business portal eKapija (https://www.ekapija.com/news/3591948/znacaj-silicijuma-u-ishrani-biljaka-kolika-je-njegovavaznost-i-u-cemu). In the interview she highlighted the significance of silicon in agriculture and emphasized how the implementation of the Si4Crop project will contribute to the practical application of new knowledge in this under-researched area. TV program "New Serbian Minds: Silicon Nutrient for Plants" was filmed with Si4Crop team and it was broadcast on National Television, Radio Television of Serbia (RTS), within the scientific program. (17.02.2023. The length available RTS YouTube full is on the channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ya9KEl6_dbo&t=273s). Dr. Ljiljana Kostic Kravljanac, Dr. Jelena Pavlovic, Dr. Predrag Bosnic, Dr. Igor Kostic, Tijana Dubljanin, and Maja Trailovic participated in this TV realization of this TV program.

We organized the in-field demonstration of the Project's results on the effect of different Si fertilization technologies on the performance of two major staple crops of the region, wheat and maize. This event, titled **Silicon Field Day**, brought together individual farmers and farmers associations, local extension services, consultants, agronomists, and agro- and fertilizer





companies. After visiting the demonstration plots, Si Field Day participants had an opportunity to participate in a Discussion panel with the Si4Crop team.







Seminar entitled: "Silicon in Crop production" was held on 27.11. 2024. in Hotel Holiday Inn, Belgrade. The seminar was a significant step towards raising awareness about the importance of silicon in agriculture. It highlighted the role of silicon in agricultural production, particularly in the context of climate change and sustainable practices, laying the foundation for the further development of scientific and practical solutions in this field in Serbia. Following the opening address by the principal investigator, Dr. Ljiljana Kostić Kravljanac, who briefly presented the project's goals and significance, the audience was addressed by a special guest, Dr. Miroslav Nikolić, President of the International Society for Silicon in Agriculture (ISSAG). Dr. Nikolić announced the upcoming 9th International Conference on Silicon in Agriculture, which will take place in Belgrade from September 15 to 19, 2025. This was followed by a lecture by Dr. Kostić Kravljanac on the topic Availability of Silicon in Soil and the Rhizosphere. Dr. Jelena Pavlović spoke about Silicon Uptake, Transport, and Role in Plant Stress, while Dr. Predrag Bosnić provided insights into the practical application of silicon in mitigating the effects of climate change, using examples from agricultural practice. The Seminar was attendened by 33 guests from scientific, academic and professional community (Agricultural cooperative Beška, Sunoku d.o.o. Agricultural expert service Zrenjanin, Despotika Winery, Institute for Soil Science, Belgrade, Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Faculty of agriculture,





University of Belgarde, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgarde, Institute for Multidisciplinary Research, University of Belgrade.)



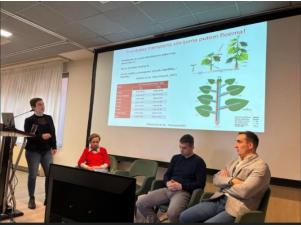
Dr. Igor Kostic, Dr. Jelena Pavlovic, Dr. Predrag Bosnic, Dr. Ljiljana Kostic Kravljanac



Milos Stanojevic, Ana Paravinja, Tijana Dubljanin, Maja Trailovic



Dr. Ljiljana Kostic Kravljanac: Si avaiabilty in soil Rhizophere



Dr. Jelena Pavlovic: Silicon Uptake, Transport, and Role in Plant



Dr. Predrag Bosnic: practical application of silicon in mitigating the effects of climate change



Dr. Predrag Bosnic, Dr. Igor Kostic, Dr. Jelena Pavlovic, Zorica Stankovic, Dr. Ljiljana Kostic Kravljanac and Dr. Miroslav Nikolic







Имамо част да Вас позовемо на семинар

Силицијум у биљној производњи

Хотел ИН, Београд, 27. новембра 2024. године

Програм

- 11:00-11:10 Поздравна реч руководиоца пројекта *Si4Crop* (програм ИДЕЈЕ, Фонд за науку Републике Србије)
- 11:10-11:25 Уводно обраћање председника Међународног друштва за силицијум у пољопривреди (ISSAG)
- 11:25-11:40 др Љиљана Костић Крављанац: Приступачност силицијума у земљишту и ризосфери
- 11:40-12:00 Кафе пауза
- 12:00-11:15 др Јелена Павловић: Усвајање, транспорт и улога силицијума у стресу биљака
- 11:15-12:30 др Предраг Боснић: Примена силицијума и ублажавање последица климатских промена: примери из пољопривредне праксе
- 12:30-13:00 Дискусија
- 13:00-14:00 Коктел

У име тима пројекта *Si4Crop, др Љиљана Костић Крављанац* Универзитет у Београду – Институт за мултидисциплинарна истраживања













УЧЕСНИЦИ СЕМИНАРА

Силицијум у биљној производњи

Хотел ХОЛИДЕЈ ИН, Београд, 27. новембра 2024. године Шпанских бораца 74, 11070 Нови Београд

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