



International Agricultural
Machinery Exhibition

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EIMA International: Record Crowds in First Three Days

Attendance at the Bologna-based industrial fair grew by 7% over the first three days of the last edition in 2006, and the number of foreign visitors accounted for 20% of the total, as Day Four focussed on international fair cooperation and technological innovation

EIMA International, one of the world's leading agricultural equipment fairs now nearing its conclusion at the Bologna fair quarter, continues breaking its own attendance records with 74,000 visitors flocking through the entry gates in the first three days, 7% up on the last edition in 2006. The share taken by foreign visitors was also up to an impressive 20%. Large crowds were also on hand for Day Four, suggesting the record-breaking run will continue.

For the professionals, one of the main events was the announcement of two fair cooperation agreements whereby UNACOMA Service, which organises EIMA International, will export its know-how in joint projects in India and Abu Dhabi.

Thanks to agreements with the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Company and the Indian Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, EIMAGulf will be held in Abu Dhabi next April and EIMA Agritech in New Delhi towards the end of 2009.

Events linked to research and developed were in the limelight again, for example, a debate on the Isobus protocol early in the morning and, in the afternoon, forums on electronics in machine safety and thermal and electrical power from wood and cellulose biomass. The first two were organised by UNACOMA and the third by the Italian Biomass Association (Itabia). A seminar organised by CEJA, the European Young Farmers Council, dealt with technology and 'multi-functionality' in bio-energy development in the Euro-Mediterranean area against the backdrop of young agriculturists,

Machinery and credit came up in the afternoon at a seminar organised by Agrifidi Emilia Romagna, a credit guarantee cooperative whose role in buying machinery was the item debated. "Ours is a support role for farms," said Alberto Rodeghiero, the coordinator of the Agrifidi cooperatives in the region, "to lower interest rates, trying to concentrate micro-funding from public institutions in order to cut the cost of money."

"To have specific credit lines for the purchase of machinery," added Massimo Goldoni, the president of UNACOMA, "is fundamental for supporting the market, but even more for the competitive edge of farms."

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