

Anton Rosenfeld
HDRA
Ryton Organic Gardens
Coventry
CV8 3LG

Summary of the day

A workshop organised by the HDRA Research Department, Heritage Seed Library and International Programme, to discuss and move forward thinking and action on organic seed production and the role of farmers as breeders. We are fortunate to have the renowned participatory plant breeder Dr Humberto Ríos Labrada from the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Havana, Cuba, who is visiting the UK.

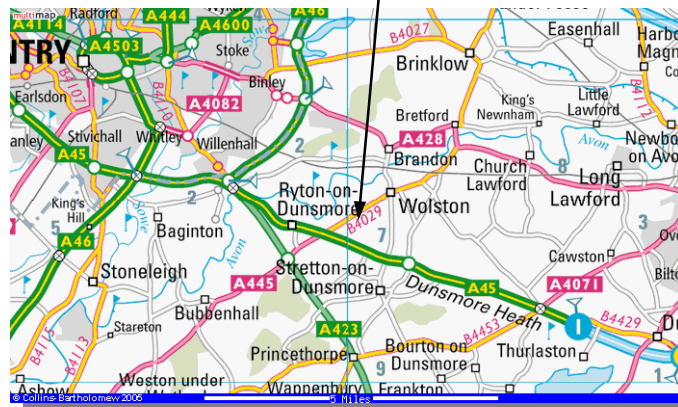
Further information

Further details of HDRA's research work, both in the UK and overseas can be found at:
www.gardenorganic.org.uk/research

Venue:

From the A45 South east of Coventry, turn off the roundabout signposted to Wolston and Ryton Organic Gardens is 1/4 mile on the right.

Ryton Organic Gardens
Wolston Lane
Nr Coventry
CV8 3LG



“FARMERS AS
BREEDERS:
LEARNING FROM
THE CUBAN EXPERIENCE”



Organic Seed Systems and Participatory Plant Breeding

10 am - 4.00 pm

Tuesday

20th February 2007

at

HDRA, Ryton Organic
Gardens

Organic Seed Systems and Participatory Plant Breeding

Programme

- 10.00 **Arrival, tea and coffee**
- 10.15 **Welcome. Dr Margi Lennartsson, HDRA**
- 10.20 **Overview of participatory plant breeding in the European context.**
Helena Sanchez-Girandez, Heritage Seed Library, HDRA
- 10.30 **Organic cereals and participatory approaches.** *Professor Martin Wolfe, Elm Farm Research Centre*
- 11.00 **Participatory vegetable variety trials: successes and challenges.** *Phil Sumption HDRA*
- 11.30 **Questions**
- 11.45 **Farmers breeding crops: Experiences in plant breeding under petroleum-scarce conditions in Cuba.** *Dr Humberto Labrada, Instituto Nacional de Ciencias*
- 12.45 **Questions**
- 13.15 **Lunch**
- 14.15 **Discussion:** "What can we learn from the Cuban experience and what priority issues need to be addressed in order to encourage farmer participatory plant breeding and organic crop development?"
- 15.00 **Wrap-up, tea and coffee**
- 15.30 **Tour of Heritage Seed Library (optional)**

This workshop aims to address the key issues of participatory approaches to organic seed production, which may be further advanced in Cuba than they are in the UK. It will provide an overview of current activities in the UK and of the successes of Cuba, and then lead into discussion on what we can learn and what priority issues may be taken forward. The workshop is aimed at commercial producers, researchers working on organic and biodynamic systems, plant breeding and participatory approaches, and other interest groups in the UK.

HDRA is dedicated to researching and promoting organic farming, gardening and food. Its International Programme has been working in Cuba since 1996, and currently runs a project with Dr Ríos Labrada on farmer innovation for drought resistance in the east of the country, funded by the Department for International Development.

Dr Humberto Ríos Labrada is a lecturer in plant breeding and experimental design with a focus on small farmer livelihoods. He is also involved in participatory development research with small-scale farmer groups in Venezuela, Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras, Colombia, Ghana and the Netherlands, and is a member of the Latin American Initiative for Building Capacity in Rural Innovation, and member of the Mesoamerican Participatory Plant Breeding Network. Outside his busy work schedule, Dr Ríos Labrada leads a band with vocals and percussion, and co-writes the songs – often agriculturally related.



Organic Seed Systems and Participatory Plant Breeding

It is essential to book in advance, as numbers are limited. Please fill in the following slip and return, with payment to the address overleaf. Cost is £15 including **Organic Buffet Lunch**.

Alternatively, contact Anton Rosenfeld on:

Tel: 024 7630 8200 Fax 024 7663 9229

E-mail: arosenfeld@hdra.org.uk

Cost is £15 (inc VAT and lunch)

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Number of people wishing to attend

Number of meat buffets required

Number of vegetarian buffets required

Total Amount £

Method of Payment

Cheque (made payable to **HDRA**)

Debit Card

We do not accept American Express

Credit Card

Exp. date

Security code (Last 3 digits on back of card)

Credit Card #

Signature

HDRA is a Registered Charity, No. 298104. Vat No: 406955536

Detach here and return with payment to address overleaf