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agriCULTURAL landscapes

30 years of landscape
architecture education
in Nitra

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

ECLAS NITRA 2025

06--11-09-2025



SUA
Slovak University
of Agriculture
in Nitra



SUA · FHLE
Faculty of Horticulture
and Landscape
Engineering

1995
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2025

**LANDSCAPE
IN FOCUS**

ECLAS
EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
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agriCULTURAL landscapes

30 years of landscape
architecture education
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ECLAS CONFERENCE NITRA
06--11-09-2025

Managing Editor

ATTILA TÓTH, Assoc. Prof. Dr.
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

Design and Production Editor, Cover Design

MIROSLAV ČIBIK, Dr.
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

Visual Concept Authors

ATTILA TÓTH, SOŇA BELLÉROVÁ, MIROSLAV ČIBIK and BRANISLAV KRÁLIK
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

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ALEXANDRU MEXI, SAMANEH NICKAYIN, HENRIK SCHULTZ,
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Keynote Speakers

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Rediscovering Agriculture by Landscape Architecture

ANJA BRÜLL

Transformation of agriCULTURE for climate-resilient landscapes:

Challenges and opportunities in the Three-Countries Park

ALENA SALAŠOVÁ

Rural Landscape Restoration versus Innovation:

Inspiring approaches to the planning and restoration of agricultural

landscapes in the past, present, and future

LIONEL FANSHAWE

Delivering Multi-Functional Outcomes from Rural Landscapes:

Lessons from Hampshire Farming Test and Trials project for the

UK Environmental Land Management Agenda

Reviewers

ATTILA TÓTH, Assoc. Prof. Dr.
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

INGRID SARLÖV-HERLIN, Prof.
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ALEXANDRU MEXI, Assoc. Prof. Dr.
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Politecnico di Torino, Italy

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Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain

KATARÍNA SLOBODNÍKOVÁ
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

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ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY

CONFERENCE TRACK 1:
THEMATIC TRACK
OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

Agricultural landscapes are central to food production and support the economy at all levels from local to global. Well-planned and structured foodscapes are crucial for the resilience of food systems, and for food security and safety. Agricultural landscapes provide jobs for farmers and related industries, and many people depend on farming for their livelihoods. Agriculture is a key driver of rural development and rural economies. In many regions, agricultural landscapes can also generate income from agritourism and other recreational activities in the landscape.

At the same time, agricultural landscapes are important biotopes for many animal species. Many agricultural landscapes are part of the NATURA 2000 network. Depending on farming practices, agriculture can either enhance or threaten biodiversity. More sustainable and

environmentally friendly management practices, such as organic farming or agroforestry can sustain or enhance biodiversity.

In this thematic track, we are looking for contributions on diverse economic and ecological aspects of agricultural landscapes, including co-relations between these two aspects. How can agricultural landscapes be economically productive and at the same time environmentally and economically sustainable? How can landscape architects and planners contribute to more sustainable and resilient agricultural landscapes? What existing good practices can serve as inspiring role models? Your contribution may tackle one of these questions or elaborate on related issues.

MANUELA RONCI, Dr.
Politecnico di Torino, Italy

URBAN FOODSCAPES. INTEGRATING AGRICULTURE, BIODIVERSITY AND COMMUNITIES IN THE CITY

The paper explores the role of strategic planning and landscape design in the construction of urban agricultural spaces that act as multifunctional ecosystems, capable of contributing to biodiversity enhancement and food security, as well as providing social benefits. Starting from the survey of green infrastructure and biodiversity plans in Amsterdam, Paris and Lisbon, the research investigates how such strategic visions are promoted by the integration of agricultural practices within urban open space.

Amsterdam's approach to environmental issues is based on the enhancement of the urban green infrastructure, promoting its development wherever possible to cope with the progressive densification of the urban fabric, the loss of biodiversity and the effects of climate change. Amongst the multiple declinations of 'urban nature' provided by the Green Infrastructure Vision 2050, urban agriculture practices emerge as a tool capable of increasing the liveability of the city, providing social, educational and environmental benefits. In this sense, the allotment gardens, vegetable gardens and orchard at Park Frankendael demonstrate how historical parks can accommodate contemporary urban agricultural uses, becoming catalysts for a diverse public while improving the functionality of ecosystems.

The Paris Biodiversity Plan has, among its objectives, the development of urban agricultural practices, recognised as a tool to promote environmental education, encourage civic participation, build social bonds and strengthen urban biodiversity. In this sense, the city supports an urban agriculture increasingly based on efficient, sustainable and resilient agricultural systems, relying on ecological management methods. This attitude can be found in

the orchard of the Parc Martin Luther King, a park built on a disused railway platform. The orchard hosts regional plant varieties and ensures genetic diversity by combining plants in a way that attracts pollinating animals and auxiliary insects, thus avoiding the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides.

In the Lisbon Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, horticultural plots are considered useful ecotopes for housing urban fauna and enhancing the ecological structure of the city, as well as having educational value. Parque Urbano da Quinta da Granja was the first agricultural park promoted by the municipality and transformed an environmentally degraded, peripheral site into a multifunctional public open space. In addition to redeveloping a problematic site, the intervention offered more recreational opportunities to a densely populated neighbourhood, recalling the area's agricultural tradition and strengthening one of the city's ecological corridors.

The cities selected as case study share the recognition of urban agriculture as a central component to sustain biodiversity, enhance ecosystem services, improve quality of life and engage users in sustainable practices, strengthening their environmental awareness and sense of community. However, the varied overview provided by different historical/cultural contexts, planning approaches, and design outcomes offers the possibility to compare distinct attitudes and practices. Based on these perspectives, the research aims to provide insights for landscape architects, urban planners and policy makers into the potential of including urban agricultural practices in city regeneration strategies.

