

## **Dear Sir or Madam:**

The European Research Centre of Small Agricultural Holdings at the University of Agriculture in Krakow is organising its 5th International Scientific Conference. This year's topic is "Alternative Sources of Income for Small Agricultural Holdings in the European Union".

The topic of alternative sources of income in agriculture, specifically in small agricultural holdings undertaken this year, is very much current and uniquely important on the entire area of the European Union, and also in other countries of Europe and the world. Small agricultural holdings which have been once again taken notice of and appreciated in the new Common Agricultural Policy which will be implemented in the years 2014-2020, are facing various problems. We would like to discuss at least a part of this during our conference this year. They are in the area of interest of Ministries of Agriculture, sector institutions, agricultural administration, universities of agriculture as well as a wide spectrum of agricultural related institutions and the very important agriculture and farmer organisations.

The area of the topic, which we plan to discuss during the Conference sessions is very extensive and covers both the diagnostic side as well as analyses, studies and a projection for the future.

We propose that the following issues be taken up during the Conference:

- the development of agricultural and non-agricultural entrepreneurship,
- sources of income for the rural and agricultural population,
- EU agricultural policy and the domestic policies of supporting small agricultural holdings,
- institutional forms of supporting entrepreneurship,
- agricultural and rural unemployment,
- entrepreneurship among the rural youth
- agricultural education and consultancy as well as rural consultancy in problem solving the problems
  - of unemployment and supporting entrepreneurship,
- the transfer of knowledge and innovation into agricultural practices.

The list of problems that we will take up at the conference is open. We hope that these will be significant issues in the development of alternative sources of income in your countries and regions and also topics being in your academic or professional fields of interest. The conference will be held in Polish and English.

We will gladly and quickly publish selected papers (upon fulfilment of the editorial requirements) in our quarterly entitled: "Problems of Small Agricultural Holdings".

The previously published quarterly journals are available here: [WWW.pdgr.ur.krakow.pl](http://WWW.pdgr.ur.krakow.pl)

If you are interested in participating in our conference, kindly:

- 1) send your conference attendance form by 30 April,
- 2) send the title of your presentation and an abstract - up to one page of text by 30 April.

The organisers will cover the costs of participating in the conference, conference materials, the cost of accommodation in Krakow, meals and well as field visits for those persons who prepare presentations to be delivered during the conference. The organisers do not cover travel expenses to Krakow.