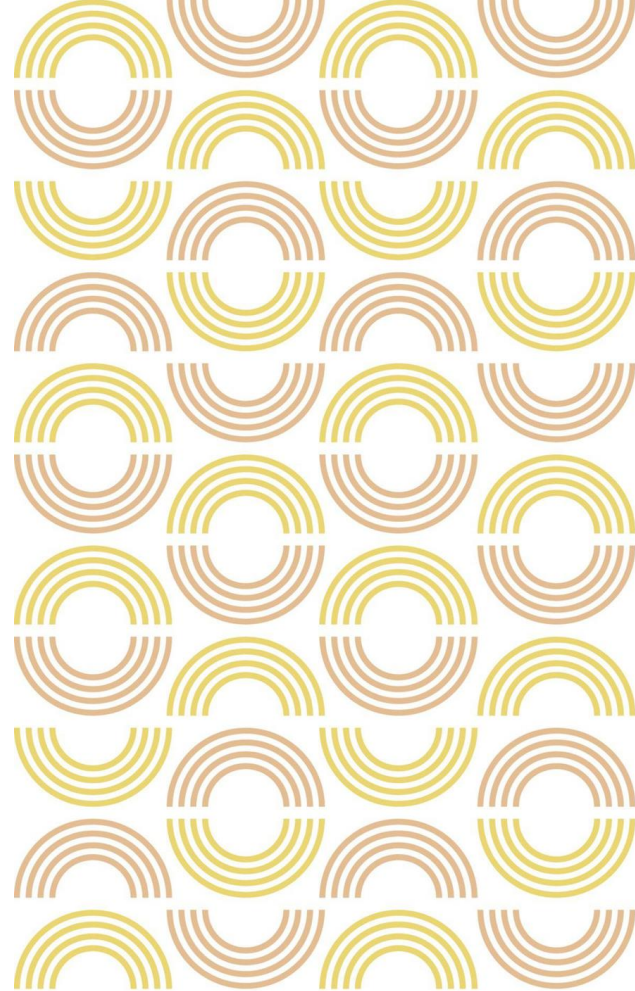




# Experience in sustainable agricultural education

Tetiana Fedoniuk

Polissia National University



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, under Grant Agreement No 101059839

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



## Topic(s) addressed:

SKILL TRAINING ECOSYSTEM PILLAR FOR  
FUTURE AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE

HORIZON-CL6-2025-03-GOVERNANCE-14:

Preparing farmers, their workforce and advisors to the future of agriculture by providing the relevant knowledge and skills at the right time and place.

## Other topics of interest:

Agroecological farming practices,  
Agricultural & Ecological digitalization,  
GIS in Agriculture, Organic Farming,  
Optional: FARM2FORK

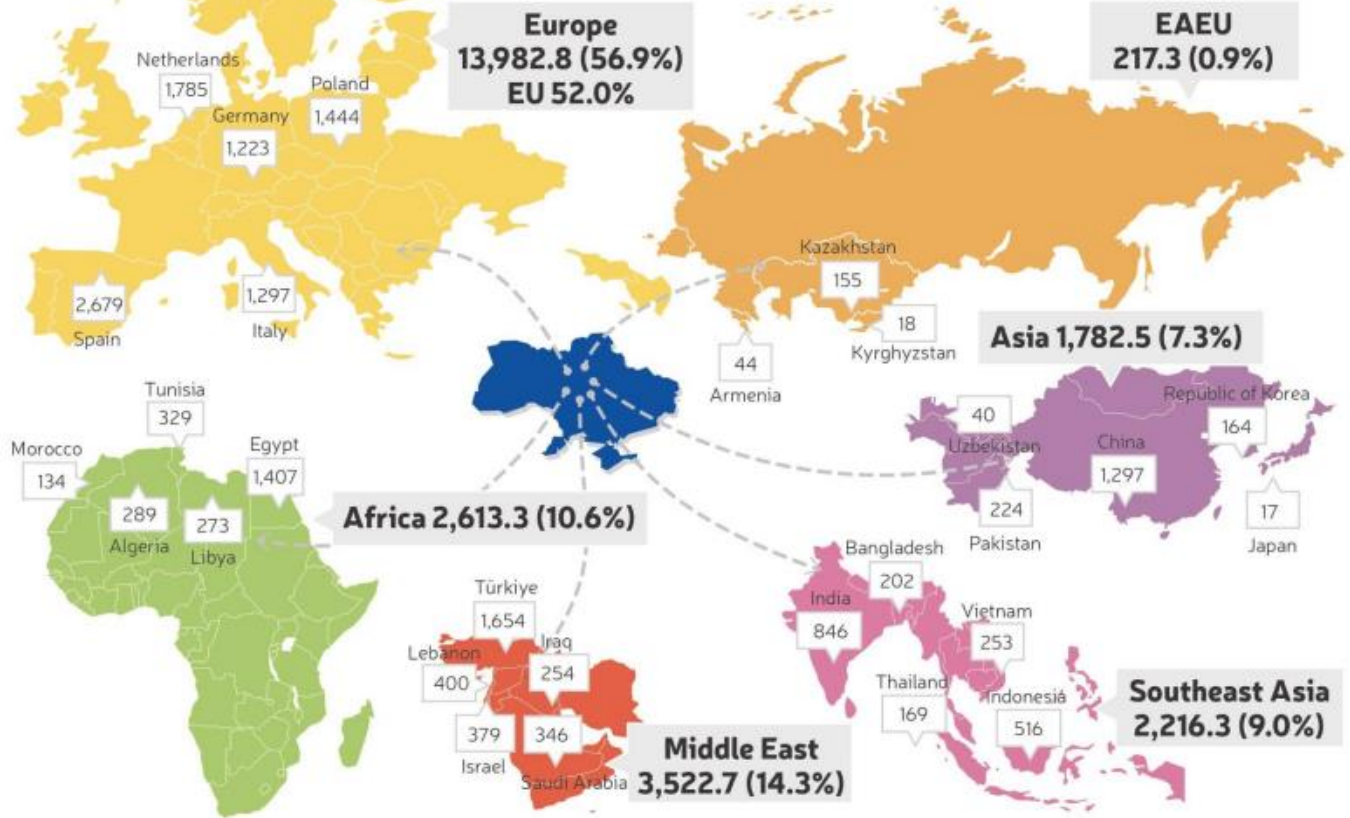
HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-CIRCBIO-14:

Reconstructing areas affected by  
conflicts: the role of the bio-based  
solutions





# Major importers of Ukrainian products 2024, mln USD



## Project idea

**Background:** Farmers, their workforce and advisors face the challenges of climate change, market and political instability, technological progress and other shocks but do not have sufficient access to adaptive, structured and practically orientated knowledge and skills at the right time and place for an accelerated transition to sustainable agricultural production.

**The project aim** to enhance the capacity of farmers, their workforce, and agricultural advisers to adapt to modern challenges in agriculture by developing and implementing adaptive, flexible, structured, and practically orientated lifelong learning systems. Particular attention is paid to strengthening the interaction between participants in the AKIS, introducing innovative digital tools and learning methods. STEP4FAR will contribute to the transition to sustainable agricultural production as the basis for sustainable food supply chains in Europe.

**The consortium STEP4FAR is open** to organizations that have experience with sustainable agriculture and education. Organizations with proven experience in developing and implementing educational programmes for farmers, their workforce, and advisors are the focus.

Institutions engaged in sustainable agriculture, climate change adaptation, and the application of new technologies. Participants should have experience creating and maintaining interactions among farmers, advisors, scientists, and policymakers.



# Our research expeditions



Crater from an exploded Shahed drone



Crater from a high-explosive tank shell, Ø3 m



Crater from a Uragan rocket, Ø8 m



Crater from an Iskander missile, Ø12 m



Crater from a Smerch rocket, Ø8 m

## POLISSIA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, UKRAINE

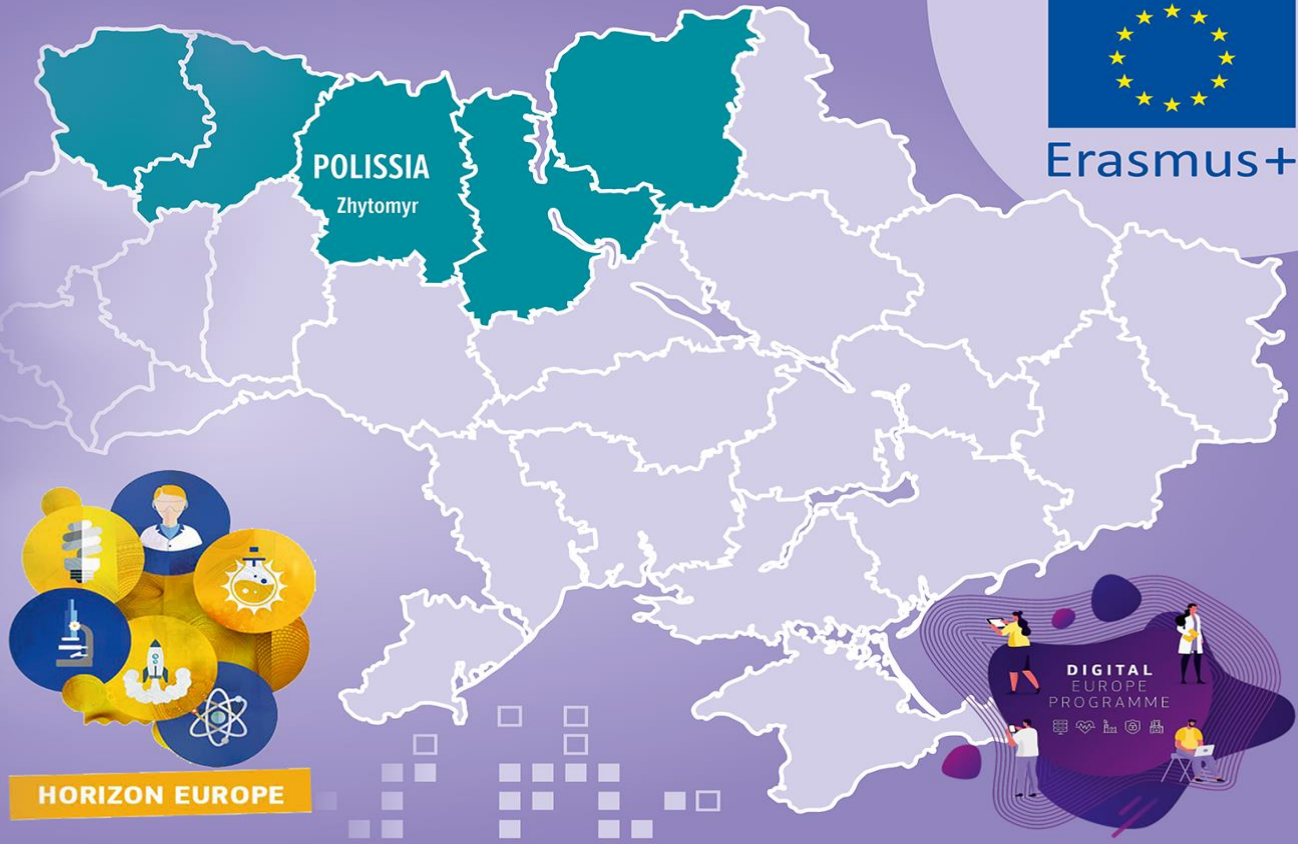
### OUR PRIORITIES:

Agricultural policy, food security, rural territories development.

Innovative research in the field of ecology, bio-economics, natural resources, agriculture and environment.

Integrated management and mutual reinforcement (interaction) of digital and green transformations, in particular within the framework of the Green Course.

Digital transformation of small and medium-sized enterprises, public sector institutions and organizations, and communities through the introduction of space and geoinformation technologies, automation, digitalization, and robotics.



Erasmus+



HORIZON EUROPE





# Pilot project on training women farmers on progressive principles of crop production under the sponsorship of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



## Center for Dual Education

- Partner farms

## Center for Digital Technologies and Systems Modeling

- Computer Engineering and Telecommunications Laboratory

## Center for Agriculture, Environment and Bioeconomy

- Experimental field
- Botanical garden
- Measuring laboratory for soil quality, agricultural products, agrochemicals
- Organic production center «Polissia Organic»

## Education technologies



- Formal agrarian education bachelors, masters, PhD
- Informal agrarian education: summer schools for farmers
- Lifelong upskilling: farmers, advisors

- Development & improvement of agricultural practices: farmers, advisors
- Decision support for agrarian policy makers: advisors, politics
- Food security: farmers, advisors, politics



## Science & Innovation

- Organic production consulting: transition processes for organic farming
- Rural development strategies creation: regional administrations
- Farmers consulting: farmers, advisors

## Consulting



- Soil & plant health detection, agricultural products quality observation
- Animal farming: farmers & scientist
- Crop production: farmers & scientist



## Farming

- GIS technologies in agriculture & rural development
- IT technologies in agriculture
- Drones in farming: farmers, communities

## Digital technologies



- Outreach in green & digital technologies: farmers, scholars
- Outreach for rural terrestrial communities
- Young blood involvement in agrarian sphere: students, scholars



## Outreach

## POLISSIA Digital Innovation Hub

- State Space Agency of Ukraine
- National Space Management and Testing Center
- Robotics and Maker Center Robot.ON
- ITM Industry Group

## Center of Space and Geoinformation Technologies

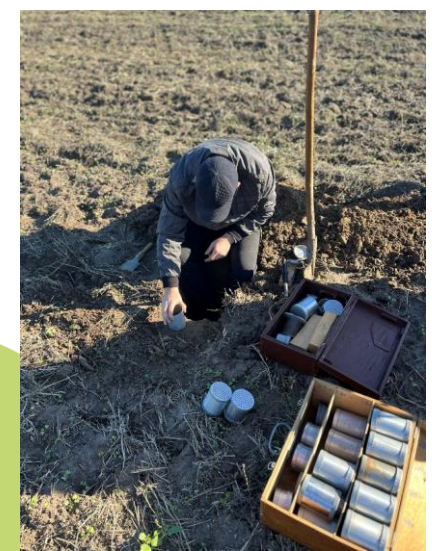
- Remote sensing information receiving station
- Software and technical complex for geospatial data management

## Center for Automation, Digitalization and Robotics

- Drone and navigation equipment complex



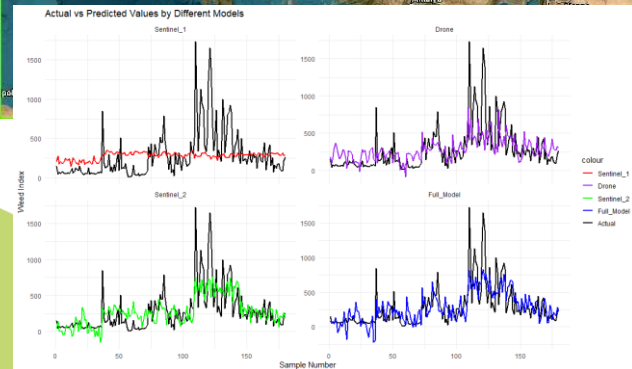
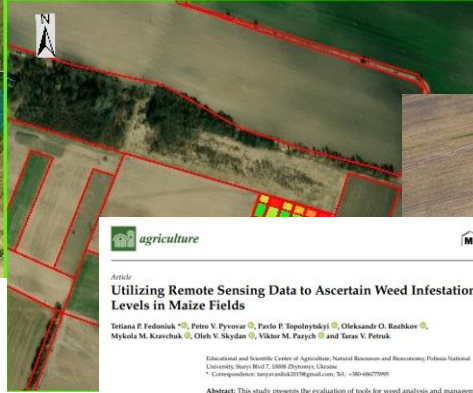
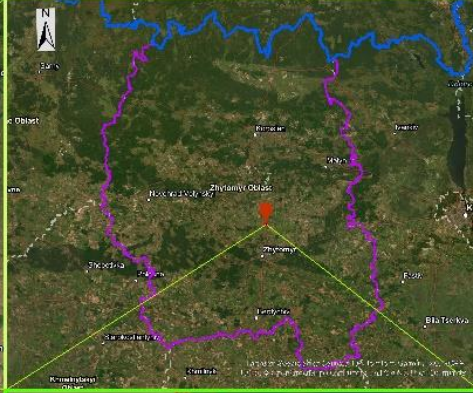
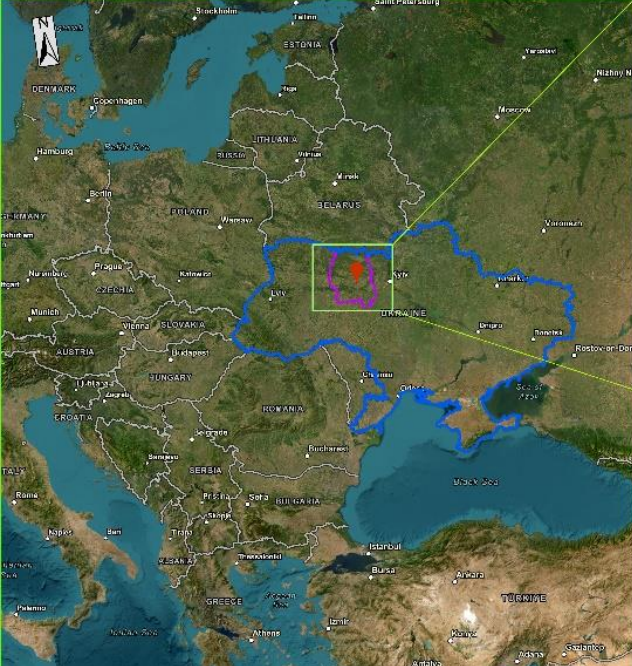
# Our regular field trips



# Our regular field trips



# Digital technologies in agriculture



**agriculture** **MDPI**

Article  
**Utilizing Remote Sensing Data to Ascertain Weed Infestation Levels in Maize Fields**

Tetiana P. Fedotniak <sup>1,2</sup>, Petro V. Pyryva <sup>1</sup>, Pavlo F. Topolynskiy <sup>1</sup>, Oleksandr O. Roshko <sup>1</sup>, Mykhailo M. Kovalchuk <sup>1</sup>, Oleh V. Sklyan <sup>1</sup>, Viktor M. Prayda <sup>1</sup> and Taras V. Petruk <sup>1</sup>

1 Educational and Scientific Center of Agriculture, National Research and Innovation Professor National University of Life and Food Sciences, 10008 Zhytomyr, Ukraine  
2 Correspondence: tetap@nlu.edu.ua

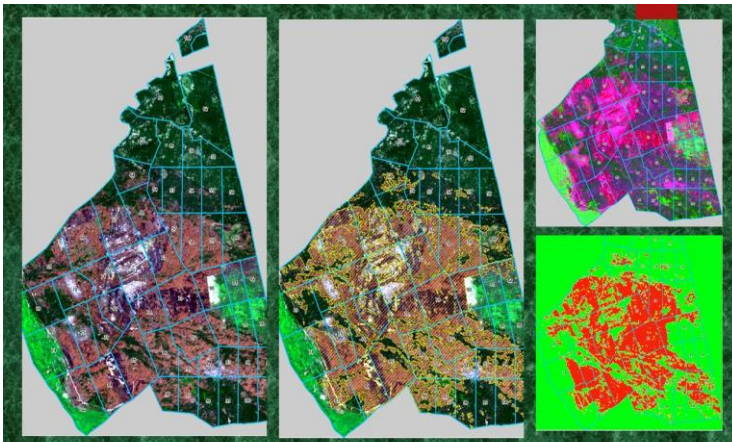
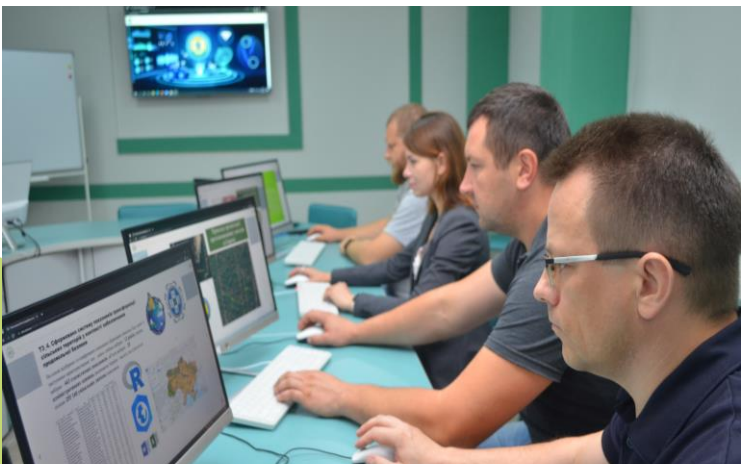
**Abstract:** This study presents the evaluation of tools for weed analysis and management to support agroecological practice in organic farming, emphasizing agricultural digitalization and remote sensing. The main aim was to provide techniques for monitoring and predicting weed spread using multispectral satellite and drone data, without the use of chemical inputs. Key findings indicate that VI and VII channels of Sentinel-1 and RE, RI, R4 and R6 channels of Sentinel-2 are not different regarding tillage, herbicide use, or sowing density. However, RE and NR channels of drone detected significant variations and proved effectiveness for weediness monitoring. The NR channel is sensitive to agroecological factors such as cultivation type, making it valuable for field monitoring. Correlation and regression analyses revealed that RE, RI, R4 channels of Sentinel-2, and RE and NR drone channels are the most reliable for predicting weed levels. Conversely, Sentinel-1 showed limited predictive utility. Random effect models confirmed that Sentinel-2 and drone channels can accurately account for site characteristics and timing of weed proliferation. Taken together, these tools provide effective organic weed monitoring systems, enabling rapid identification of problem areas and adjustments in agronomic practices.

**Keywords:** agroecological farming; digitalization; drone; herbicide; organic agriculture; sentinel; weediness

**1. Introduction**  
Effective weed management is an important component of sustainable agricultural development in modern organic farming [1]. Organic production requires strong reduction or complete avoidance of the use of chemical herbicides, which stimulates the development of alternative, environmentally safe methods of weed control [2–5]. The use of remote sensing (RS) data in precision agriculture is an important tool in modern agronomic management. Using RS technologies and geospatial data processing, it becomes possible to conduct accurate monitoring of the state of crops. Such analysis of images from Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 satellites and data from drones opens new opportunities for monitoring



Actual (black) and simulated (colour) WI ratio



Векторний шар лісу, ураженого пожежею (14,21 га), Заліське лісництво.



POLIDIH aims to digitally transform small and medium-sized businesses, the public sector, and communities in the northern regions of Ukraine using innovative technologies. It develops infrastructure, skills, and ecosystems to support social development



UKRAINE





Cluster 6 Brokerage Event  
Warsaw, 27 May 2025



# Involvement in ongoing projects in the area



ID: 101084084  
[AGROSUS](#) AGROecological strategies for SUSTainable weed management in key European crops



ID: 101134874  
[ACT4CAP27](#) Advancing Capacity and analytical Tools for supporting Common Agricultural Policies post 2027



ID: 101179755  
[ReGrow](#) Rebuilding Growth in Agriculture in Post-Conflict Ukraine & Transitioning Georgia



ID: 101178414  
[SUSTED](#) Education for sustainable development: synergy of competences for the recovery of Ukraine

ID: 101127011  
[EGARTU](#) The Experience of the EU in Green Agriculture for the Recovery and Transformation of Ukraine in the Post-War Period

ID 101082258  
[EACEA](#) European case of inclusive rural development policy: the roadmap for Ukraine

ID: 101082325  
[EUCP](#) EU Cohesion Policy

**DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME**

Advanced Digital Skills



ID:101191240  
[POLIDIH](#) Polissia Digital Innovation Hub

Ministry of Science and Education of Ukraine / HORIZON 2020

Geoinformation support of organic agriculture transition processes

## Contact details

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Cluster 6 | Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

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E-mail: [tanyavasiluk2015@gmail.com](mailto:tanyavasiluk2015@gmail.com) HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-07: Boosting agrobiodiversity for food security and sustainable competitiveness  
Google Docs HORIZON-CL6-2026-03-GOVERNANCE-10: Embracing innovative agriculture by peer-to-peer learning via on farm-demonstrations and cost-benefit analysis - Google Docs

