



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2026 | Information on AREFLH activities and on the fruit & vegetable sector

NEWS FROM AREFLH



General Assembly
16-17 March 2026

The AREFLH General Assembly will be held on 16 March (afternoon) and 17 March 2026, in Almeria, Andalusia (Spain).

The event can also be followed **online**.

Two topics will be addressed during the **public conference on 17 March**:

- **The future of sectoral aid in the next CAP.** Debate between AREFLH and members of the European institutions (European Parliament and European Commission)
- **Artificial intelligence and digitalisation: when technology meets the field**

View the programme and register by [following this link](#).



Interpera 2026
Save the date!

INTERPERA, the international pear congress, will be held on June 25 and 26, 2026, in Ferrara, Italy. Co-organized by **CSO Italy** and **AREFLH**, the event will take place at Ferrara Expo, in the Emilia-Romagna region, an area that has historically been at the heart of pear production, accounting for **around 60% of the country's planted area and production**.

Further information about the congress will be provided shortly. www.interpera.org

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



A new president for the French Peaches and Apricots APO

After 15 seasons as president of [the French Peaches and Apricots APO](#), Bruno DARNAUD has retired.

To take over his position, the organisation's management committee has elected Alexi BOIS, a 37-year-old producer of peaches, apricots, and kiwis in the South of France. Alexi embodies a **new generation of fruit growers who is taking the reins of a dynamic and ambitious industry.**

Among other things, the new president wishes to continue **developing partnerships with French retailers**, working collaboratively and trustingly to contribute to the economic stability of farms.

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RESEARCH & INNOVATION



How should Waste4Soil communicate? Share your views

The Waste4Soil project is inviting you to give your opinion on the best way the project could share project updates, results, and progress with a wider community.

[Read more](#)



LivingSoiLL Moves Forward Experimental Sites Selected and Soil Sampling Underway

The LivingSoiLL project has entered a decisive stage in its mission **to foster soil health** and sustainability in permanent cropping systems. Following the definition of experimental sites, the consortium has successfully selected and **characterized a set of experimental sites across its five Living Labs**, marking the beginning of a comprehensive phase of baseline soil sampling and analysis.

[Read the article](#)

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NEWS FROM EUROPE



Succession and retirement: smoothing the path between generations

Simpler farm transfers and early retirement support help farmers pass on their farms more smoothly. The EU Strategy for Generational Renewal in Agriculture brings these approaches together to support fairer transitions across Europe.

[Read the article from the EU Commission](#)



Have your say on methodologies for certifying carbon farming

The European Commission asks for the opinion of stakeholders on "methodologies for certifying carbon farming". The methodologies set out quality criteria for relevant carbon farming activities in accordance with Articles 4 to 7 and Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2024/3012. The initiative is open until 19th February.

[Read more](#)



EU and India conclude landmark Free Trade Agreement

On 27 January the European Commission announced in a press release that "the EU and India concluded negotiations today for a historic, ambitious and commercially significant free trade agreement (FTA), the largest such deal ever concluded by either side. It will **strengthen economic and political ties** between the world's second and fourth largest economies, at a time of rising geopolitical tensions and global economic challenges, highlighting their joint commitment to **economic openness and rules-based trade.**"

[Read the press release](#) (translations on top left corner of the page)



Be part of a "just transition in the agri-food system" thematic group

The EU CAP Network's thematic group on "just transition in the agri-food system" will examine the role of the CAP in promoting a fair and inclusive transition towards a more sustainable agri-food system.

You can participate. The thematic group offers you the opportunity to be part of a committed group of experts and relevant stakeholders.

You can express your interest in the group before 19 February.

[Find out more](#)

AGENDA



Upcoming events of the F&V sector in Europe

21 February to 1 March: [French International Agricultural Show](#), Paris

16-17 March: AREFLH General Assembly in Almeria, Spain. [Take part in the free conference on site and online!](#)

21-23 April: [Macfrut](#) in Rimini, Italy

28 -29 April: [Medfel](#), Perpignan

25-26 June: [Interpera](#), international pear congress, in Ferrara, Italy

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