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DEMOCRACY**

# Standing Up To State Capture: Innovative Methods to Investigate Fraud and Corruption in EU Funding For Agriculture

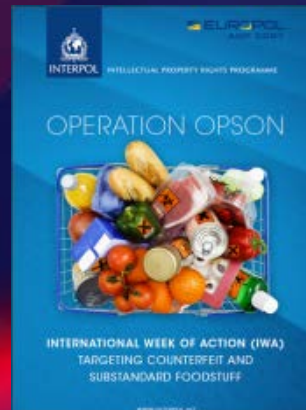
*Detecting and Investigating Fraud and  
Corruption in the EU Funding for Agriculture*

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head of Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection  
Sofia, september 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018



Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

# *International Police Cooperation to fight crime in the agri-food sector: the Opson network*





**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**



**Start of Opson**  
**Lyon, June 28th 2011**



**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**

Debriefing meeting OPSON VI  
Launch meeting OPSON VII  
2/3 October 2017 - Dublin, Ireland



**Opson VII**  
**Dublin , October 2017**



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- EPE quick reference card
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2017: 61 Countries

**EUROPOL** ABOUT EUROPOL ACTIVITIES & SERVICES CRIME AREAS & TRENDS PARTNERS & AGREEMENTS CAREER PROGRESS

HOME > NEWSROOM > EUR 230 MILLION WORTH OF FAKE FOOD AND BEVERAGES SEIZED IN GLOBAL OPSON OPERATION TARGETING FOOD FRAUD

## EUR 230 MILLION WORTH OF FAKE FOOD AND BEVERAGES SEIZED IN GLOBAL OPSON OPERATION TARGETING FOOD FRAUD

25 April 2017  
*Press Release*

Operation OPSON VI, the joint Europol-INTERPOL operation targeting counterfeit and substandard food and drink, as well as the organised crime networks behind this illicit trade, has resulted in the seizure of **9 800 tonnes**, over **26.4 million litres**, and **13 million units/items** worth an estimated EUR 230 million of potentially harmful food and beverages ranging from every day products such as alcohol, mineral water, seasoning cubes, seafood and olive oil, to luxury goods such as caviar.

This year, 61 countries (21 EU Member States) took part in operation OPSON VI, which was carried out for the sixth time in a row and saw an increase in participating countries (57 countries in 2016). Each participating country implemented a national operational phase between 1 December 2016 to 31 March 2017, involving police, customs, national food regulatory bodies and partners from the private sector. More than 50 000 checks were carried out at shops, markets, airports, seaports and industrial estates.



*Law August 19<sup>o</sup> 2016, n. 177*

*Art. 2 – Specialist sectors of  
Italian Police Forces*

Attributes exclusive to the Carabinieri Army the competence concerning:

- **Safety in health, hygiene and food sophistication**
- **Safety in forestry, environmental and agri-food matters**



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Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

COMMAND UNIT FOREST,  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGRI-FOOD  
CARABINIERI

## The Mission statement

<i>Environmental and Nature Conservation</i>	<i>Agri-food (Food security, Food defense and Food safety)</i>
<i>Forest Wealth Conservation</i>	<i>Protection of water resources</i>
<i>Animal welfare, and protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna</i>	<i>Fight against illegal disposal of waste, environmental pollution, illegal trade in protected species</i>





# ITALY NUMBERS

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
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**Total agricultural area**  
**16,7**  
**Million of hectares**

**12,7**  
**Million of hectares**  
*Utilised agricultural area*

**3,4 million**  
*Hectares of Forest*

**600.000**  
**hectares**  
*unutilised agricultural land*

**6,6 million hectares**  
**Arable fields**

**2,1 million Hectares**  
**Wood crops**

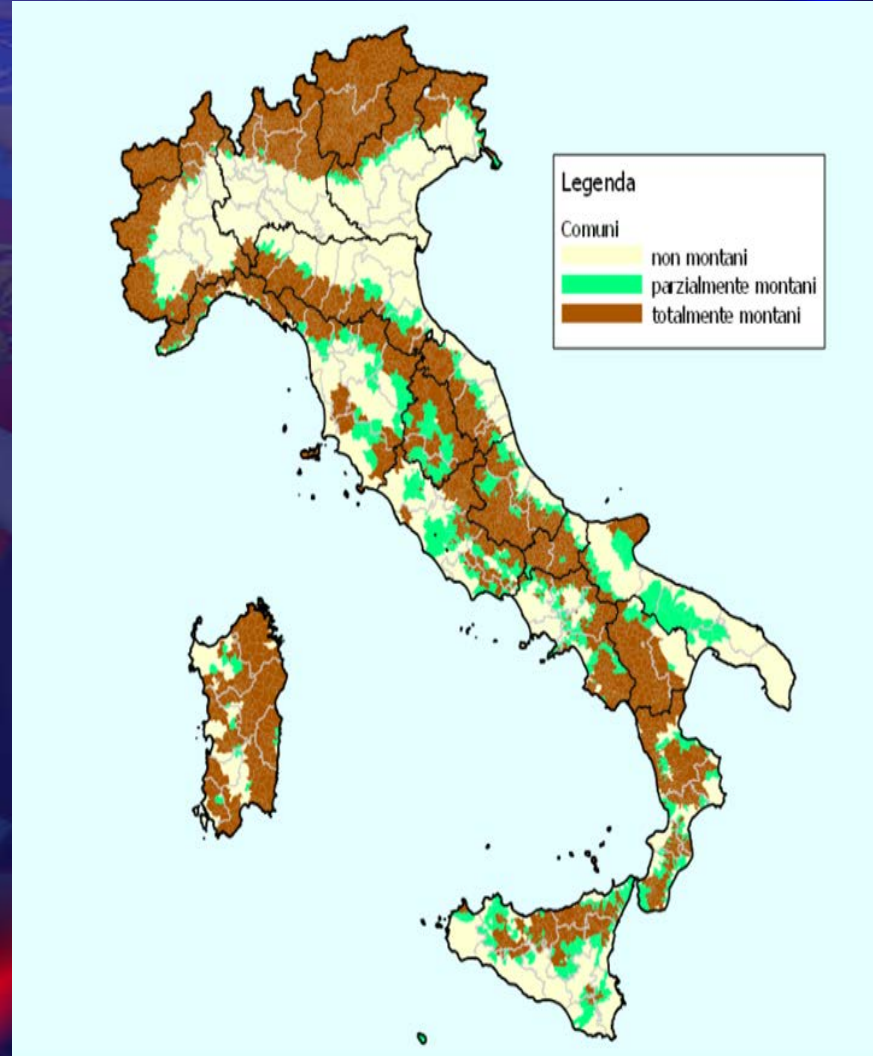
**4 million hectares**  
**permanent pastures and grassland**

**30.000 hectares**  
**kitchen gardens**



# THE NATURAL THEATRE

Rural municipalities play an important role in protecting the land, combating the depopulation of rural and geographically disadvantaged areas and reducing the risk of *hydrogeological instability*;





### Infografica 1.2 prodotti DOP IGP STG Paesi UE

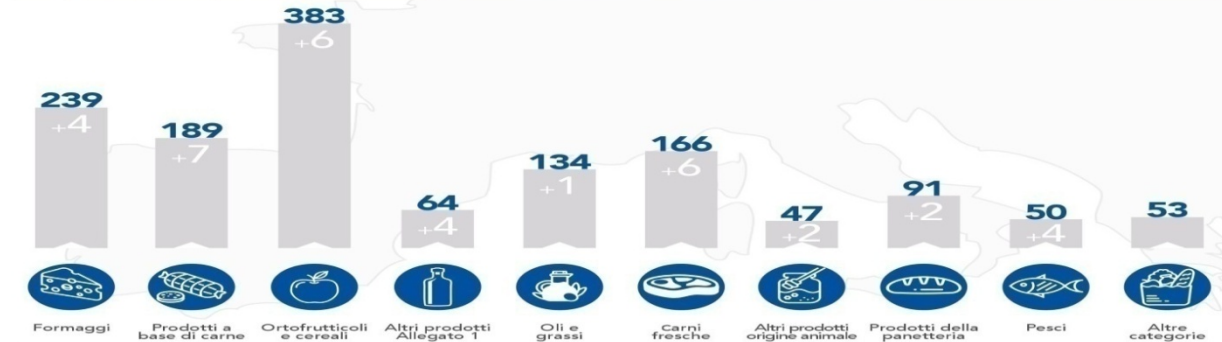


\* Oltre alle 523 denominazioni registrate a livello europeo, per le elaborazioni del comparto Wine italiano si considerano anche le 4 autorizzazioni a livello nazionale all'etichettatura transitoria (ai sensi dell'Art. 72 del Reg. 607/2009) e la cancellazione di una denominazione, per un totale di 526 denominazioni.

### Infografica 1.3 prodotti DOP IGP STG UE



### Infografica 1.4 DOP IGP STG comparto Food nei Paesi UE



Elaborazione Ismea-Qualivita 1; Fonte UE (dati al 31/12/2017)

# Geographical indications.



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**for Agri-Food Protection**



**Organic agriculture**



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**for Agri-Food Protection**



***Agri-environmental and agri-food  
protection.***

***“The common good”***

*Since January 1<sup>o</sup> 2017*



**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**

**COMMAND UNIT FOREST,  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGRIFOOD  
CARABINIERI**



*Command Carabinieri  
Environmental  
protection*

*Command Carabinieri  
Agri-food protection*

*Command Carabinieri  
forestry protection*

*Command Carabinieri  
Biodiversity protection  
and parks*





**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**



Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari,  
forestali e del turismo



ricerca avanzata

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[Home](#) > [Controlli](#) > [Comando Unità Forestali, Ambientali e Agroalimentari dei Carabinieri](#) > [Comando Carabinieri per la Tutela Agroalimentare](#)

ICQRF - Ispettorato  
centrale repressione frodi



Strutture di controllo delle  
produzioni regolamentate

Comando Unità Forestali,  
Ambientali e  
Agroalimentari dei  
Carabinieri



Comando Carabinieri per la  
Tutela Agroalimentare

## Comando Carabinieri per la Tutela Agroalimentare





**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**



**COMMANDER**

**Command Office**

**Administration**

**Logistic**

**Service**

**Operational Office**

**Section  
Central Operational**

**Section  
Risk analysis  
and databases**

**Carabinieri department  
for agri-food protection  
TORINO**

**Carabinieri department  
for agri-food protection  
PARMA**

**Carabinieri department  
for agri-food protection  
ROMA**

**Carabinieri department  
for agri-food protection  
SALERNO**

**Carabinieri department  
for agri-food protection  
MESSINA**



Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection



**5 SPECIAL  
DEPARTMENTS CC  
AGRI-FOOD  
PROTECION**



**Torino**

**Parma**

**Roma**

**Salerno**

**Messina**



**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
**Head Carabinieri Command Office**  
**for Agri-Food Protection**

## *The Command Carabinieri for Agri-Food protection*

**COLAF**

→ is included in the COLAF, Committee for the fight against fraud against the European Union, established at the Dept. of European Policies PCM art. 3 of the Presidential Decree of 14 May 2007, n. 91 and of the art. 54 of 24 December 2012, n. 234.

**CNAC**

→ is included in the CNAC National Anti-Counterfeiting Council at the Ministry of Economic Development..

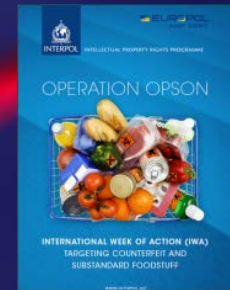
**PNI**

→ is included in the Integrated National Plan of the Ministry of Health Reg. (CE) n. 882/2004



mipaaf

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COLAF



CNAC





**Col. Amedeo De Franceschi**  
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**for Agri-Food Protection**



**The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is the set of rules to ensure Quality for citizens and fairness for farmers**



# The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
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A Partnership between  
Europe and Farmers

## 1962 European farm policy down the years

## 2012



### 1957

**THE TREATY OF ROME CREATES THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY** (a precursor of today's EU), between six western European countries. CAP is foreseen as a common policy, with the objectives to provide affordable food for EU citizens and a fair standard of living for farmers.



### 1962

**THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP) IS BORN!** The essence of the policy is good prices for farmers. With every passing year, farmers produce more food. The shops are full of food at affordable prices. The first objective – food security – has been met.



### 970s 1980s

**THE CAP FALLS VICTIM TO ITS OWN SUCCESS.** Farms are so productive that they are producing more food than is needed. The surpluses are stored and lead to 'food mountains'. Several measures are introduced to bring production level closer to what the market needs.



### 1992

**THE CAP SHIFTS FROM MARKET SUPPORT TO PRODUCER SUPPORT.** Price support is scaled down, and replaced with direct aid payments to farmers. They are encouraged to be more environmentally friendly. The reform coincides with the 1992 Rio Earth Summit which launches the principle of sustainable development.



### Mid 1990s

**THE CAP FOCUSES MORE ON FOOD QUALITY.** The policy introduces new measures to support farm investment, training, improved processing and marketing. Steps are taken to protect traditional and regional foods. The first European legislation on organic farming is being implemented.



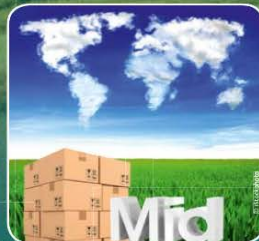
### 2000

**THE CAP CENTRES ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT.** The CAP puts more focus on the economic, social and cultural development of rural Europe. At the same time, the reforms started in the 1990s are continued to make farmers more market-oriented.



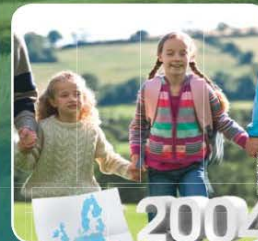
### 2003

**THE CAP SHIFTS FROM PRODUCT SUPPORT TO PRODUCER SUPPORT.** Farmers now receive an income support payment, on condition that they look after the farmland and fulfill environmental, animal welfare and food safety standards.



### Mid 2000s

**THE CAP OPENS TO THE WORLD.** The EU becomes the world's largest importer from developing countries, importing more than the US, Japan, Australia and Canada combined. Under the 'everything but arms' regime the EU has given free market access to all least developed countries. No other developed country gives such openness, commitment, and real market access to developing country farmers.



### 2004 2007

**THE EU FARMING POPULATION DOUBLES, FOLLOWING THE ENLARGEMENT.** Eighteen years after the fall of the Berlin wall, the European Union numbers 27 member states and over 500 million citizens. EU's agricultural and rural landscape changes as well.



### 2011

**A NEW CAP REFORM SEEKS TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL COMPETITIVENESS** of the agricultural sector, promote innovation, combat climate change and support employment and growth in rural areas.





# The history and the evolution of the fight against European Union frauds.

90' –

## The Mac Sharry reform

'set-aside'  
withdraw  
production,

payments  
land  
from

payments  
levels,

to limit stocking

measures  
retirement and afforestation

to encourage

Checks  
production methods compatible  
with the requirements of  
environmental protection





# CAP Today

## TWO PILLARS

### **EAFRD**

*(European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development)*

which co-finances the rural development programmes of the Member States

### **EAGF**

*(European Agricultural Guarantee Fund)*

which primarily finances direct payments to farmers and measures to regulate agricultural markets,



# Application for simple payment

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Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

Organismo Pagatore **A.G.E.A.**

Domanda trasmessa telematicamente

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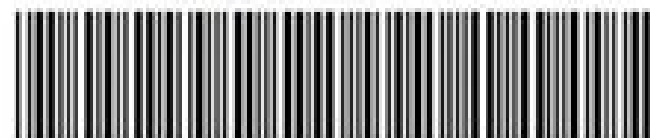
Codice      Sigl. Prov.      Prog. Ufficio

Codice operatore

DOMANDA UNICA DI PAGAMENTO

Reg. (CE) n. 73/2009

CAMPAGNA 2014



40800383669

Finalita' di presentazione della domanda all'Organismo Pagatore **A.G.E.A.**

- Domanda iniziale
- Domanda di modifica ai sensi degli artt. 14 e 25 del Reg. CE 1122/2009
- Domanda di revoca parziale ai sensi dell'art. 25 del Reg. CE 1122/2009
- Domanda di modifica ai sensi dell'art. 73 del Reg. CE 1122/2009
- Comunicazione ai sensi dell'art. 75 del Reg. CE 1122/2009 (cause di forza maggiore e circostanze eccezionali)
- Comunicazione ai sensi dell'art. 82 del Reg. CE 1122/2009 (cessione di aziende)

in sostituzione della domanda n.

relativa alla domanda n.

## QUADRO A - DATI IDENTIFICATIVI DELL'AZIENDA

### SEZ. I - DATI IDENTIFICATIVI DELL'AZIENDA

RICHIEDENTE

CUAA (CODICE FISCALE)

PARTITA IVA

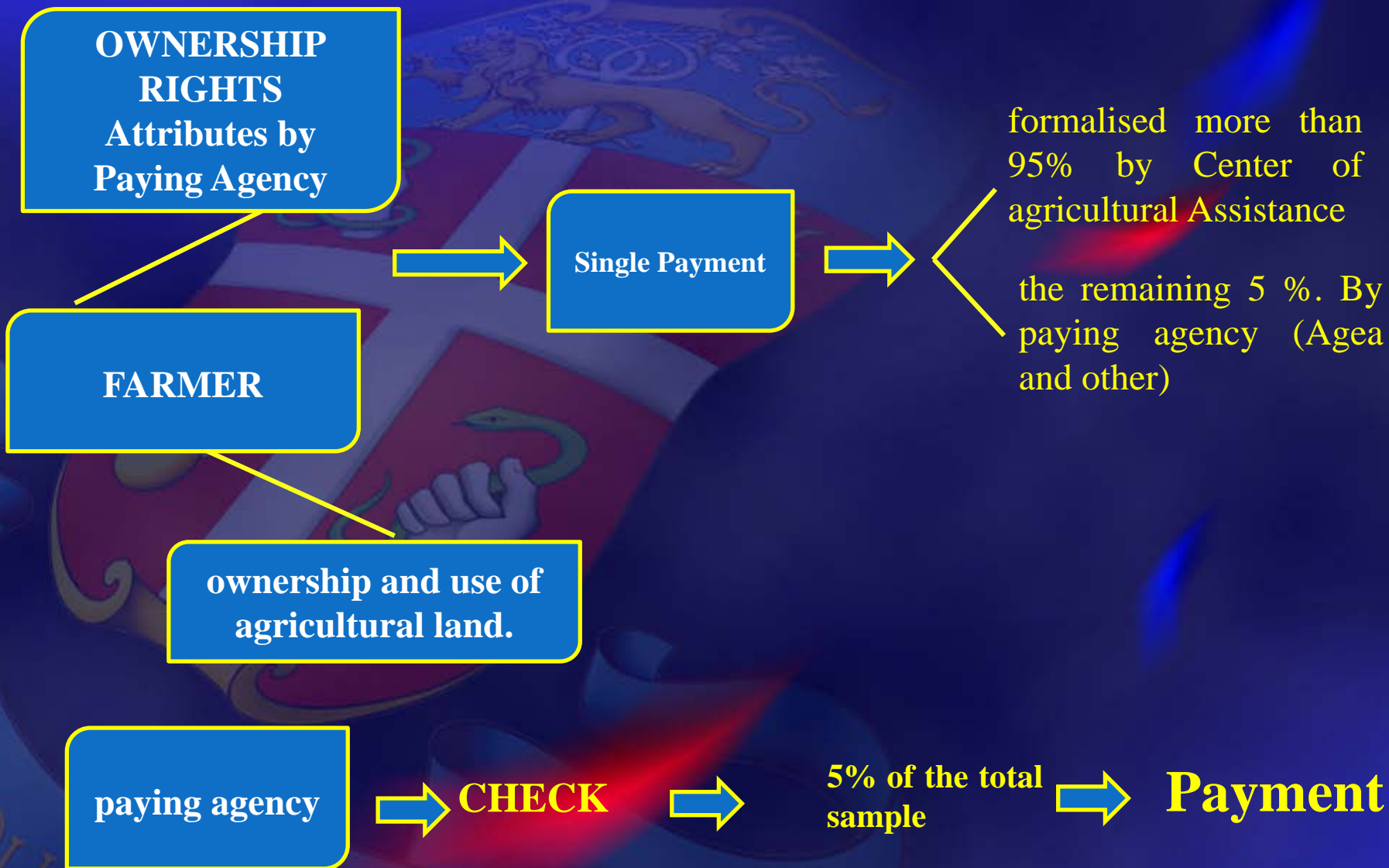
Barre se ditta individuale





# BASIC PAYMENT SCHEME

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**Funds  
UE**

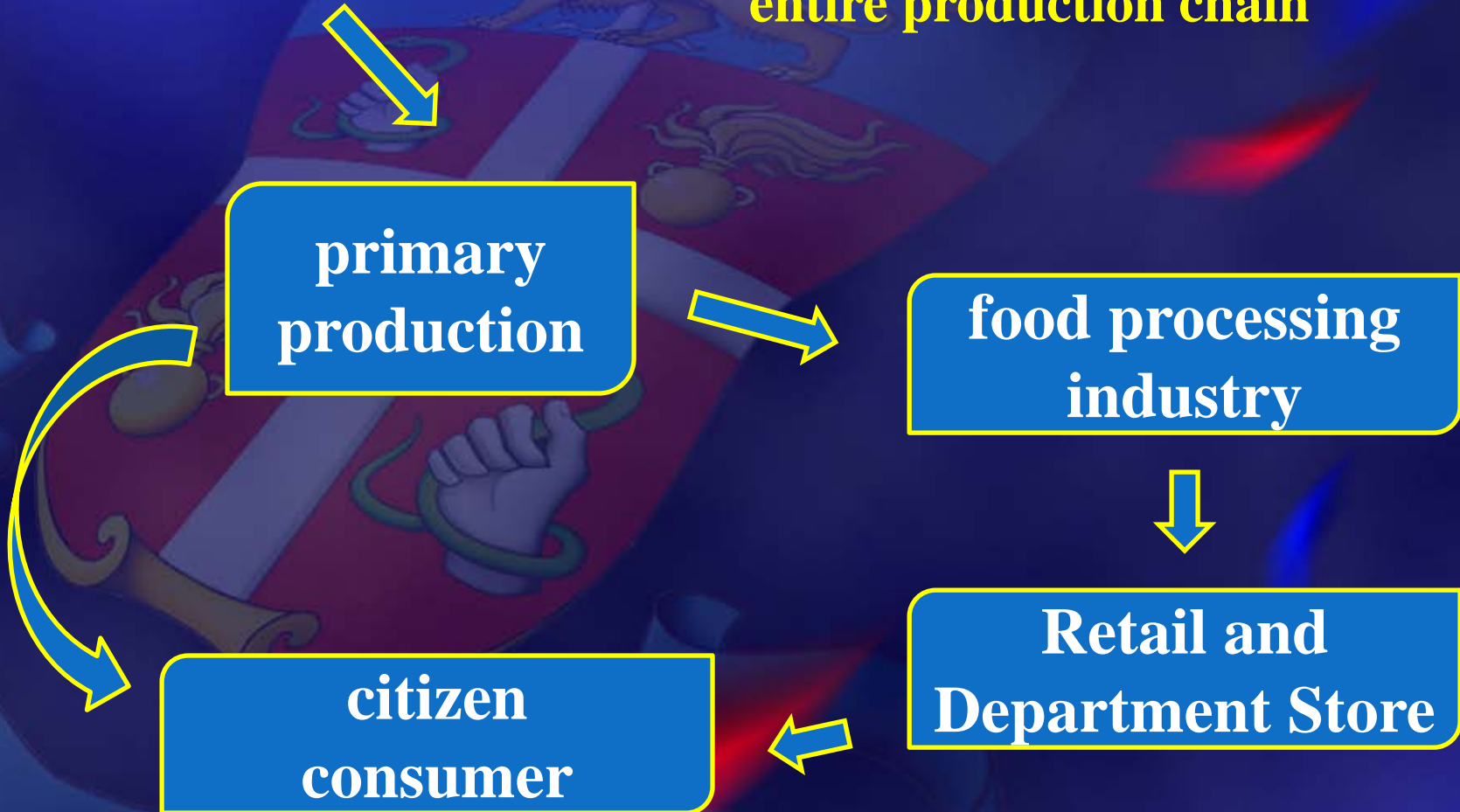
**Integrated control approach along the  
entire production chain**

**primary  
production**

**food processing  
industry**

**citizen  
consumer**

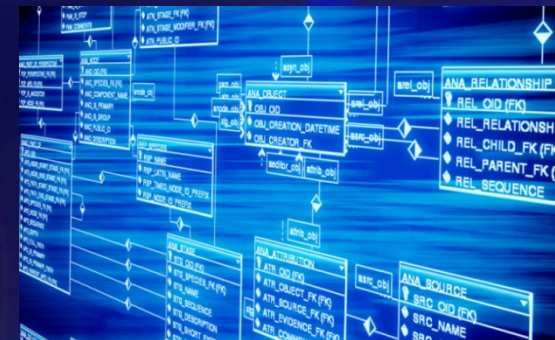
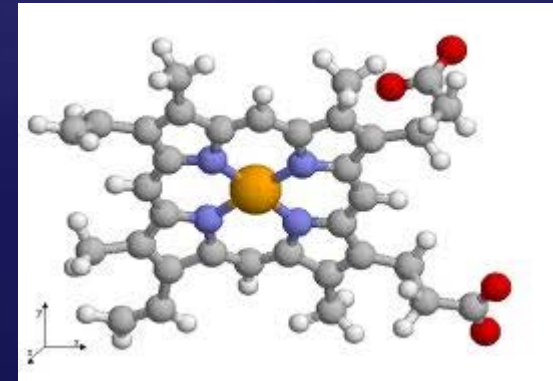
**Retail and  
Department Store**





# Investigative Tools

- Document  
traceability
- Scientific  
traceability
- Database
- Inspection
- Cooperation





# National Agricultural Information System

SIAN

Sistema Informativo Agricolo Nazionale

## > Servizi

Le aree contenute nella sezione consentono l'utilizzo di funzioni, sia di gestione che di consultazione, secondo il proprio profilo utente.

## > Utilità

Strumenti di supporto per la consultazione e la navigazione del sito, per l'accesso alle aree di download e ad altri strumenti di comunicazione

NUMERO VERDE  
**800 - 365024**



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Il Portale [www.\(OP\).sian.it](http://www.(OP).sian.it) e' lo strumento attraverso il quale viene attuato il processo di " telematizzazione " nella gestione dei servizi realizzati dal Sistema Informativo Agricolo Nazionale, Arbea, Arpea, Appag e Bolzano.

Offre un punto unitario di accesso chiaro e veloce alle informazioni e ai servizi resi disponibili in rete dalla Pubblica Amministrazione Centrale, dagli Enti Territoriali collegati agli Organismi Pagatori.

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- [Arpea](#)
- [Appag](#)
- [Bolzano-Bozen](#)
- [Agea](#)
- [Arcea](#)







## Aerial photo mapping

Riepiloghi Servizi Utente: PGUERRA

Fascicolo aziendale - Consistenza terreni  
DDMMRA66803A131D - D'ADAMO MARIO

Situazione all:  31 Cerca Tutti i comuni Tutti gli stadi Tutti i documenti Tutte le segnalazioni

Oper.	Comune	Belfiore	Foglio	Part.	Sub.	Sup.Cat.	Sup.Graf.	Conduz.	C.P.	Inizio cond.	Fine cond.	Sup.Util. (Ha.Aa.Ca)	Sup (Ha)
	ALBANO DI LUCANIA	A131	19	00048		06.44.05	06.39.37	AFFITTO		01/10/2001	30/09/2016	05.90.00	0

GISVIEW - versione 1.8 - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.siaa.it/gisview/view.do?posid=00710ce4543109e0d745a3ab...&id=00048&id=00048

File Modifica Visualizza Profili Strumenti ?

GISVIEW - versione 1.8

**Tematologie**

- Dischi
- Invaschi catastali
- Silipegnole Catastrali (Aggiornamenti)
- Zona Protezione Speciale (Aggiornamenti)
- Zona Vulnerabilità Nitrati (Aggiornamenti)
- Contatti
- Fogli
- Strade aziendali
- Particelle aziende
- Particelle aziende
- Aziende

**D'ADAMO MARIO**  
Cod. Cassa: DDMMRA66803A131D  
Sup. Totale: 166,78,49 (Ha.Aa.Ca)

1:0 km

X: 2509522 Y: 4494765  
Modifica zoom Spacchia

ALBANO DI LUCANIA (PZ) [076 003]

Esporta Di  
Vista map

Agea

Aggiornamenti

Internet 100%



# OPERATION "LARGE MESH"



**misleading declarations regarding valid legal document attesting the right to use the agricultural land.**



**State-owned land without legal use; land owned private unsuspecting or land which had been the object of a preventive confiscation order**





10 million €

*Funding obtained fraudulently.*

for which recovery actions will be initiated



Criminal association that included in the SIAN data falsely attesting the occupancy of land land in reality headed to unsuspecting or compliant subjects or ...





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Head Carabinieri Command Office  
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*... owned land:*

*State*



*Church*



*Football Fields*



*Airports*



# Heidi Operation

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

## ***BACKGROUND :***

**Application for payment of aid,  
Rural development program:  
, mountain pasture activities**

## ***Prosecutor***

**Criminal association dedicated to the fraud (in damage to  
the EU);**

**AGGRAVATED FRAUD, up to hundreds of other suspects  
(companies, technicians)**

## ***Damage:***

**illicit payments to over 10 million euro**

***Responsible for investigations: Several public prosecutor's office***



# Heidi Operation

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi  
Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

## ***Activities:***

**Hundreds of documentary acquisitions in municipal  
offices, CAA, paying agencies, other offices..**

**wiretapping**

**Hundreds of inspections and interrogations**



# Heidi Operation

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Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

## *Delegated Task*

supervision measures. **PERSONAL: ARREST and house arrest.**

supervision measures. **REAL: SEIZURE OF PROPERTY FOR EQUIVALENT**

inspections **AT FARMS, PROFESSIONALS, CONSULTANTS, AGEA, CAA**



# Heidi Operation

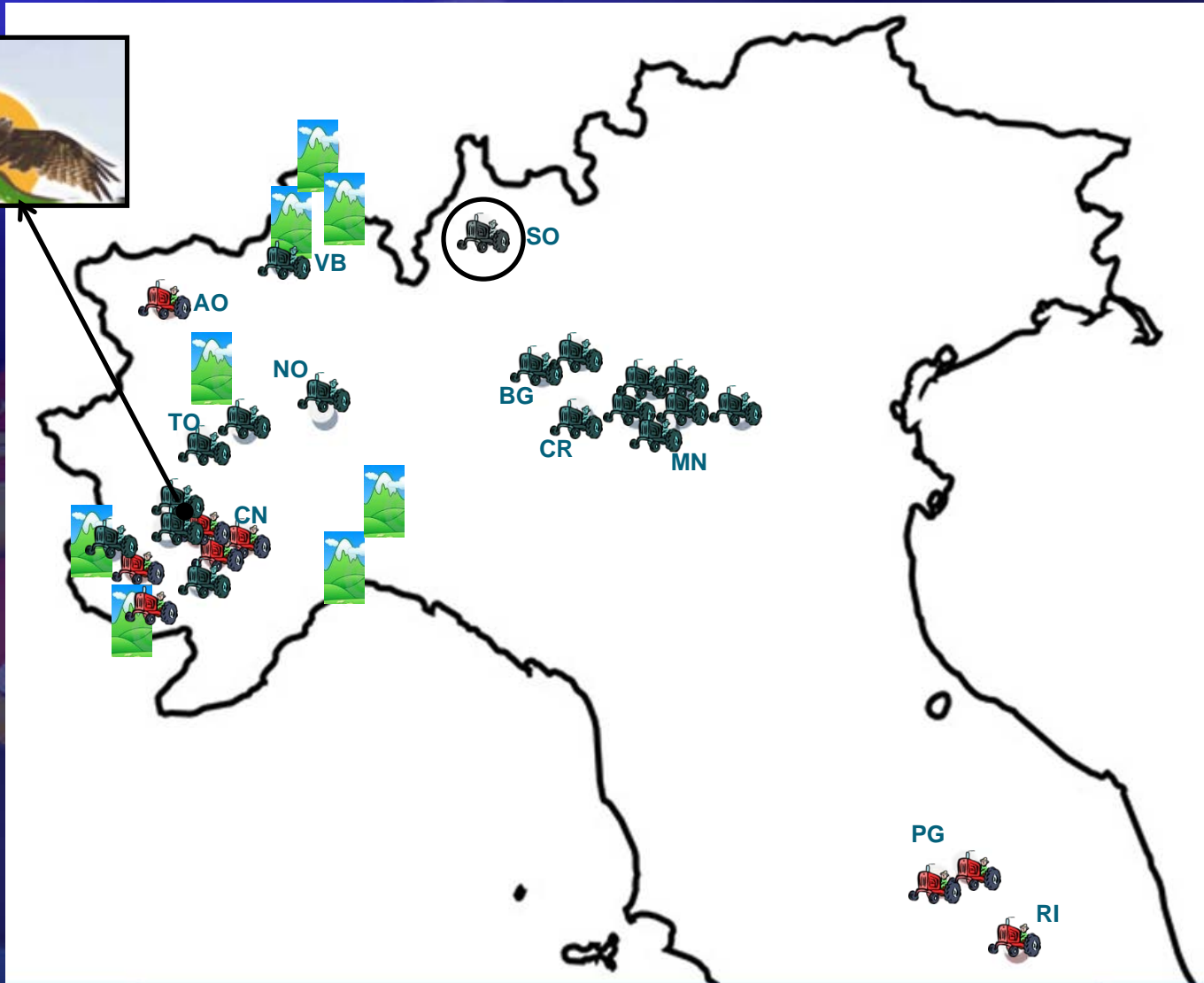
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Head Carabinieri Command Office  
for Agri-Food Protection

**Subject activity: checks regarding correct destination and use of Community funds to the rangelands**





# Heidi Operation



Pasture investigated



Farmers Family Red



Farmers Family White





820

es

COMUNE DI MARMORA (PROV. DI CUNEO) - 9 LUG. 2013

MOD. N. 7 (Art. 42 Reg. Pol. Vet.)

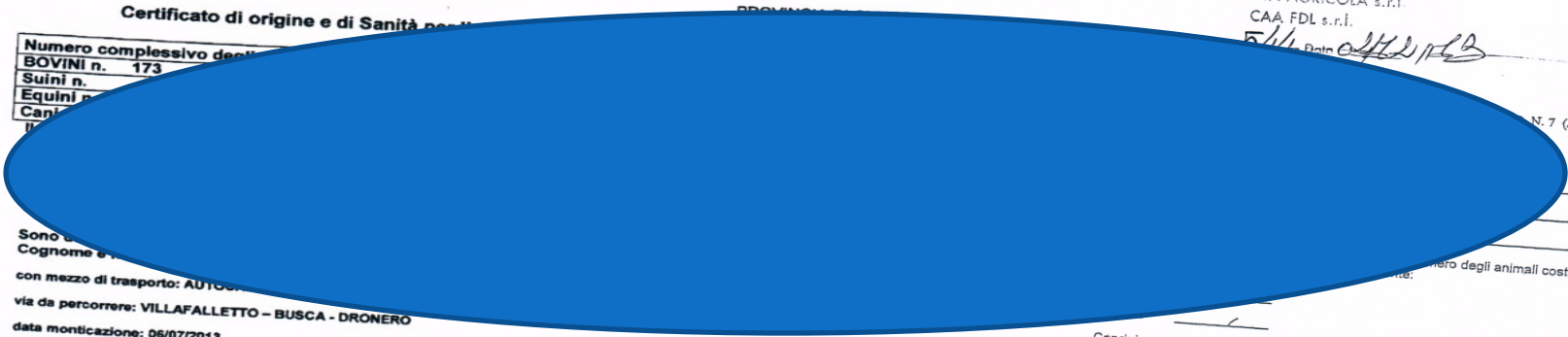
COMUNE DI SAVIGLIANO

REGIONE PIEMONTE EX ASL 17/1

MANTOVA AGRICOLA s.r.l. CAA FDL s.r.l.

Certificato di origine e di Sanità

Numero complessivo degli animali: BOVINI n. 173, Suini n., Equini n., Cani n.



Sono di cognome e con mezzo di trasporto: AUTOCAR

via da percorrere: VILLAFALLETTO - BUSCA - DRONERO data monticazione: 06/07/2013 ora di arrivo prevista: 12:00

luogo di scarico: PONTE MARMORA osservazioni:

movimenti tra alpeggi (Indicare la data di spostamento +/- 7 giorni, come dichiarata dall'allevatore): 119CN05P - 119CN04P - 119CN12P - 119CN14P - 119CN15P - Cresta del Mait - Settembre 2013.

Caprini n. / Suini n. / Equini n. / Cani n.

Totale capi n. 175 + 2 cani

Il sottoscritto dichiara di essere: gli animali, l'allevatore, il proprietario.



Data vaccinazione, Profili vaccinale, Nome commerciale vaccino: BUDICIS FOR TARKOR LIVG



Il Sindaco, la mandria non effettuino contemporaneamente la demonticazione, dovrà indicarsi il numero di parienza di ogni singolo gruppo, deve essere consegnato al Servizio Veterinario della sede di demonticazione ed all'organismo delegato dell'anagrafe bovina.





**Injured parties.**  
**Payment agencies**  
**European Union**  
**Mountain dairy farmers**  
**PUBLIC OWNERSHIP**

The background is a detailed painting of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a large, light-colored cow with a dark collar is grazing on a patch of dry, yellowish-brown grass. A smaller, similar-colored calf is standing nearby. The middle ground shows rolling hills and valleys with sparse vegetation. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains with rocky peaks under a hazy, blue sky. The overall style is that of a classical landscape painting.

# When there is no pasture Why finance the pasture?

Landscape

Biodiversity

Food security

Animal welfare

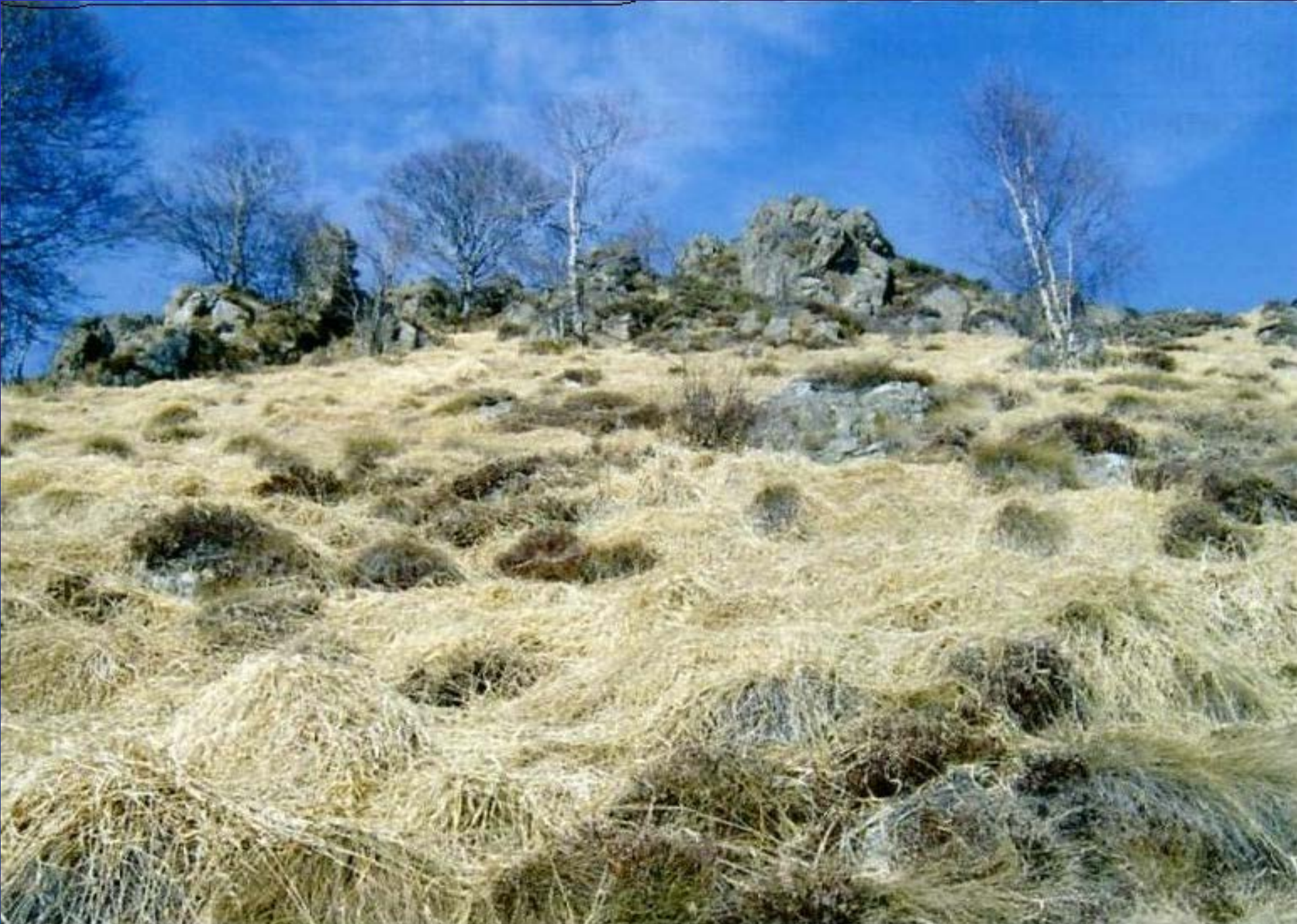
“Carbon seized”

mountain economy

...hydrogeological- Prevent Forest  
Fire/Avalanches

provided that the pasture is managed in a rational way

...



Just one final consideration..

*CAP play a significant role in fostering and maintaining prosperity in rural areas, but at the same time, we must guarantee its regular and legal application.*

*This is the task of*



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**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**