



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

N.AG.RE.F.

The NAGREF is the national body responsible for agricultural research and technology in Greece, functioning as a Legal Entity of the wider private sector sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture.

NAGREF with its 300 research scientists spread in its Research Institutes and Stations throughout Greece is also in charge of research for technological improvement and development in agricultural, forest, and fish production; it is also involved in subjects related to veterinary, management of marine resources, soil science, land reclamation, processing and preservation of agricultural products, as well as agricultural economy and sociology. (<http://www.ethiage.gr/>)

SOIL SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF ATHENS (SSIA)

SSIA was established in 1915 as independent legal entity and integrated into NAGREF in 1989. SSIA employs a specialized scientific staff of significant research capacity with modern laboratory and field infrastructure. New scientific knowledge and technical innovations are directed towards creating a dynamic and competitive agriculture, which is protective of the environment and capable of providing excellent and inexpensive nutrition for the people.

The SSIA research team have great experience in coordinating of and participating in EU projects (INCO-DEV, LIFE, FP5, FP6, Bilateral co-operations) and has involved in projects related to soil surveying, reclamation of saline and alkaline soils, soil remediation, soil and water bodies protection, composting and use of composted materials in agriculture as well as soil analysis for fertilizing recommendations.

Its research divisions are: Pedology, soil fertility and plant nutrition, soil physics-chemistry-biology, pollution of soil, plants and irrigation water, GIS. The activities of the Institute cover several areas of studying and managing natural resources such as: soil erosion, conservation and protection, soil map of Greece, digital soil mapping, national program of crop fertilization, soil pollution with heavy metals, bioremediation-reclamation of degraded land, nitrate pollution, use of sewage sludge in agriculture, climate change, sustainable agriculture, properties/modification/activation of silicate minerals and silicate minerals in agriculture.

Due to the participation of SSIA in many European and national research projects as well as in studies ordered by private and public sectors, the scientists of SSIA have great experience in project management, experimentation design, soil sampling, results evaluations and demonstration activities. Moreover, the accreditation according to ISO 17025 of the chemical laboratories of SSIA ensures accurate and precise analytical results. SSIA is well equipped and capable to carry out studies regarding soil, plant, crops, organic/composted materials and water parameters.