*Press Release No. 22/23*

**Agro- mechanics exhibition: packed halls at Agrilevante**

***On yesterday's opening day, attendance figures indicate a total of 12,800 visitors, higher than on the first day of the previous edition. The programme of conferences and demonstrations of mechanical means, drones and robots for agriculture, which will be on display until Sunday afternoon, the last day of the exhibition, is in full swing.***

The Agrilevante exhibition, staged at the Bari Exhibition Centre and dedicated to machinery and technologies for Mediterranean agriculture, continues with success. Opened yesterday morning in the presence of political authorities, the event attracted a large audience from the early hours. Data on admissions indicate a total of 12,800 visitors on the first day of the exhibition, an increase of around 12% compared to the opening day in 2019, the year of the last edition before the suspension due to the pandemic. Foreign attendance is also up, marking 1,100 for an increase of 16% compared to 2019. The organisers anticipate very positive figures at the end of the day, in view of the turnout in the pavilions even today, and expect attendance to peak on Saturday and Sunday, when the exhibition closes its doors. The conference programme is very rich, with a meeting in the afternoon on "Agriculture in North Africa: characteristics, potential and technological needs", organised by FederUnacoma in cooperation with Internationalia/Africa e Affari, and the CIHEAM of Bari; and the meeting entitled "Water emergency in agriculture: how to intervene", organised by the Puglia Verde newspaper, with the participation of all the bodies that have a role in the management of water resources in the Puglia Region. In the open-air areas in front of the New Pavilion, practical demonstrations of drones and agricultural robots are underway, while in a specially-equipped area the Contoterzista Driver Trophy, promoted by Edagricole, a tractor driving skills competition attracting an enthusiastic audience is taking place.

**Bari, 6 October 2023**