Press release no.15/2017

**Agrilevante 2017: Taking off in great style**

*The fifth edition of the exposition dedicated to mechanization and technologies in the primary sector opened with an outstanding participation of the public and a full schedule of conferences and meetings. The leading issues dealt with were environmental risks, safety in work and olive cultivation.*

The first day of the Agrilevante international exhibition of machinery and technologies for agriculture and groundskeeping, organized by FederUnacoma and the Levante trade fair agency with the cooperation of the Puglia Region, came to a positive close. Great crowds of visitors made up the cornerstone of this opening day of the fifth edition of the event now confirmed as a point of reference for everyone in the business of agriculture throughout the Mediterranean area, the Middle East and North and Sub-saharan Africa.

In a scenographic setting and stands provided with special furnishings 300 manufacturers are exhibiting their finest technologies. Highlighted on the schedule of appoints are a conference on technologies for countering environmental risks and a meeting for dealing with regulations and practices on safety in forestry work.

Reducing the impact on the environment was also the leitmotiv of other meetings held this first day focused on areas of Italian research on super-intensive olive cultivations and the role of bioenergy for transition to the *low carbon* economy, dealt with in the *Up Running* Project, and the *Management of Non-Agricultural Greenery With the Use of a Biological Method*.

Salvatore Camposeo, specializing in tree cultivations at the University of Bari Department of Science, Agro Environment and Land (DISAAT), affirmed, “First economic cultivations, later on agronomics, then contractors and the greenhouse sector: this is the course of organization to be followed for olive cultivations for the intention of planting super-intensive olive groves for the goal of greater income without making mistakes,” at the workshop, *Super-Intensive Olive Cultivations, Italian Areas of Research* organized by Nova Agriculture.

Among other important appointments was a conference organized by ITABIA, the Italian Biomass Association, on the role of bioenergy to bring to the fore strategies for handling energy generation and climate change. Massimo Monteleone from the University of Foggia Department SAFE, reported, “The Puglia Region is about to update the Energy and Environment Plan, PEAR. In this connection the regional president Michele Emiliano with take part in the Bonn COP23 climate change conference to present the region’s planning steps for the decarbonization procedure. Running at the end of 2017 will be the National Climate and Energy Plan for reaching the objectives set in the Paris Accord to be followed by consultations on the SEN (National Energy Strategy) document.”

Another workshop on protecting the environment from pollution, the Biohabitat Foundation and the EuD Engineering Technical Studio set up *Management of Non-Agricultural Greenery With the Use of a Biological Method*.

A key agronomist on the Biohabitat project, Claudia Pavoni, said, “The need for biological certification according to Reg. CE 834/2007, also applies to public green areas, parks and public gardens, sports ground and so forth.” She went on to say, “A bio certified stand of pine trees on the banks of the sea could be a strong draw for tourish.”

Other meetings of special interest looked into the innovation of products in a session promoted by the construction industries and a press conference for the presentation of a new range of Same tractors under the title, *Fendt Establishes a New Compression Record*, plus a New Holland meeting of their dealers.

**Bari, October 12, 2017**