



Post-Conference Field Trip
Thursday 19 March

**Agroforestry and climate change in a Mediterranean setting at the
Restinclières Farm**

Departure from Tramway station *Occitanie* at 08:45
Return at Tramway station *Occitanie* at 16:00

- The Restinclières farm is managed as an agroforestry site since 1995. Trees and crops are monitored since then. The Restinclières plots are the most mature agroforestry plots under uninterrupted study in Europe, and allow assessing the behavior of Agroforestry systems on the long term, including the impact of climate change.

The "Domaine de Restinclières" is the oldest and most documented agroforestry experiment in Europe. Agroforestry systems in Restinclières include silvoarable systems (more than 10 different tree species intercropped with winter cereals, canola, peas...) and vineyard agroforestry, managed by private farmers working in close cooperation with researchers. Since 1995, a continuous monitoring of 45 hectares of agroforestry systems has produced a large number of key results, including an astonishing estimate of the Land Equivalent Ratio of silvo-arable agroforestry systems (1.3 to 1.6). This key result means that a 100 ha agroforestry farm produces as much as a traditional farm of 130 to 160 hectares in which the trees and crops are grown separately. This result was crucial to attract interest, and led to the current modification of the European Common Agriculture Policy towards agroforestry. Currently, several aspects of ecosystem services of agroforestry are under scrutiny at Restinclières, including C sequestration, water quality protection, enhanced biodiversity (bats, earthworms, carabs, mites...). It's there that the agroforestry revolution in Europe started. Come and visit us! Restinclières is also a famous site for biodiversity as it hosts the only endemic vertebrate of France (a fish). The farm was purchased by the Hérault council (local territorial authority) in 1992, and the Restinclières castle now hosts a center for education on the environment. The Restinclières farm welcomes more than 120 000 visitors a year.

For more details, visit the website at <http://www.agrooof.net/PIRAT>

Host: Christian Dupraz, INRA