

Press release

ANSES at the 2020 Paris International Agricultural Show: protecting the health of plants and ecosystems

For this 2020 edition of the Paris International Agricultural Show, ANSES is offering an insider's view of the health of plants and ecosystems. Faced with current and emerging threats related to trade globalisation and the climate emergency, ANSES is mobilising its scientific expertise to preserve biodiversity, agriculture and our health.

To mark the United Nations International Year of Plant Health, ANSES has chosen to highlight its work in this field at the 2020 edition of the Paris International Agricultural Show. Through its research laboratories and scientific experts, the Agency is constantly working to address today's major challenges: preventing the emergence of diseases and pests that are harmful to crops and natural areas, combating invasive plants, reducing the impact of pesticide use, and protecting humans and the environment better.

From 22 February to 1 March 2020, the Agency's scientists will be presenting their missions and work on these major plant health issues. The programme includes scientific workshops, as well as thematic activities and exhibitions.

Diseases and pests: a journey of discovery

The Agency invites you to come and observe some of the key diseases, pests and invasive plants threatening ecosystems and our health. Visitors will be able to learn about the problems posed by the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacterium threatening olive trees, the pine nematode, huanglongbing disease affecting citrus fruits, the red palm weevil, processionary caterpillars, the invasive plants ragweed and giant hogweed, etc.

Activities on the health risks associated with plants

ANSES will offer visitors the chance to join scientists in an investigation of allergy cases detected in a town's inhabitants, and to work together to find natural solutions to combat invasive plants such as ragweed.

The scientists will also challenge you to distinguish between edible and toxic plants. Can you tell the difference? A handy reminder sheet will be given away to help you avoid confusion in your everyday activities.

And lastly, ANSES will be inviting visitors of all ages to come and listen to a story on the concept of biocontrol, or how to protect plants using natural mechanisms.

Press breakfast on Monday 24 February 2020 at 9.30 am
Presentation of ANSES's latest news on plant health issues
Registration mandatory: presse@anses.fr or +33 (0)1 49 77 27 80

ANSES at the Paris International Agricultural Show
from 22 February to 1 March 2020
Parc des Expositions, Hall 4, Aisle B, Stand 114

Porte de Versailles, Paris 15th arrondissement
Metro line 12, Tram T3, Bus line 80, Porte de Versailles station

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