ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURE – OPPORTUNITIES, CONSTRAINTS AND RESEARCH NEEDS

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Abstract:
Agriculture as a primary industry relies on energy use to a great extent. With the depletion of fossil resources, increased energy prices will have a dramatic effect on the competitiveness of agricultural production systems and energy efficiency will have a great impact on the comparative cost advantages of agricultural production systems. Within a Coordination and Support Action funded by the 7th research framework of the EU (www.agree.aua.gr) a consortium from seven European countries identified opportunities, constraints and research needs concerning energy efficiency in agriculture.

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