

## POLYCARPOS POLYCARPOU

### CHIEF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH OFFICER



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#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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- Higher Technical Institute, Cyprus, Mechanical Engineering (3 years: 1976-1979).
- **Diplom Ingenieur (MSc.) Mechanical Engineering, University of Hanover, Germany (5 years: 1983-1988).**
- International Course on Research and Development in Technology and Irrigation of Protected Crops. Volcany Center, Israel. (2 months: 1999).
- International Course on Protected Cultivation, IAC, Wageningen.(2 months: 2000).
- **PhD, Institute of Horticultural and Agricultural Engineering, University of Hanover Germany (2000-2004).**
- **MSc, in Public Management, (2 years), (MIM, 2004).**

#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Climate control in greenhouses, testing of new cover materials, application of new technology in climate control and hydroponics.
- Drying of agricultural products (aromatic plants, fruits and vegetables). Application of renewable energies in agriculture (solar energy and biomass, Energy Plants for Biodiesel and Bioethanol production, Biogas from plants, microalgae).
- Application of shallow geothermal energy in greenhouses.
- Water Management and water saving technology.
- Composting of Biomass.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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##### Participation in European Research Projects

- **SPECTRAFOIL (FP5):** Development of greenhouse foils and additives to optimize plant growth and disease inhibition through control of photomorphogenesis – DG Research (2002-2004).
- **WASAMED** (FP5 INCO-MED), a thematic network project funded by the European Commission (EC), aiming at establishing a platform for effective Mediterranean communication and debate on water saving in agriculture.
- **MELIA** (FP6 INCO-MED): a coordinated action (CA) aimed at establishing a strategic dialogue between research centers, governments, regulators, users and providers, in the field of Integrated Water Resources Management.
- **AGROCHEPACK** (MED Project) (2010-2013): Establishment of a network

in Cyprus for the recycling of agricultural pesticide plastic packaging.

- **Geothermal Heating of greenhouses (Life+), (2010-2013):** Use of shallow geothermal energy for heating of greenhouses with parallel saving water for irrigation.
- **MEDALGAE (ENPI-MED Program) (2011-2014):** Use of microalgae for biodiesel production in the Mediterranean. (Coordinator)

#### Publications (selected)

- Polycarpou, P., 2003. A climate management system for the control of fungal diseases in PE-greenhouses in Cyprus. Technical Bulletin 213. Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia.
- Polycarpou, P., 2003. An Improved Climate Control System for PE Greenhouses. Proceedings: Greenhouse Crop Production in the Mediterranean Region. FAO, Fifth Coordinating Meeting, 10-14 November 2003. Nicosia, Cyprus.
- Polycarpou, P., 2004. Optimization of Nocturnal Climate Management in PE-Greenhouses in Cyprus. Institut für Technik in Gartenbau und Landwirtschaft, Universität Hannover, Gartenbautechnische Informationen, Heft 61.
- Polycarpou P., D. Neokleous, Dora Chimonidou, I. Papadopoulos, 2005. A closed system for soil less culture adapted to the Cyprus conditions. Proceedings of the ICID Conference 7-11 December 2004, Cairo, Egypt. Options Meditterraneenes, Series B, No 53 p.237-241.
- Polycarpou, P., 2005. Optimisation of Nocturnal Climate Management in PE-Greenhouses in Cyprus. Proceedings of the International Conference on Sustainable Greenhouse Systems, GREENSYS2004, Volume 2, September 12-16, 2004, Leuven, Belgium. Acta Horticulturae 691.
- Polycarpou, P., 2005. The Producers Organizations as carriers of Agricultural Development. Miscellaneous Reports 15. Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia. 11p. (in Greek).
- Polycarpou, P., 2006. Utilization of Biomass for Energy Production by Direct Burning in Cyprus. Technical Bulletin 227. Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia.
- Polycarpou, P., 2008. Study of the Suitability of an Enhanced Atmospheric Water Generator in Producing Water for Agricultural Use. Technical Bulletin, Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia, submitted.
- Polycarpou, P., 2008. The effect of cooking time on bioethanol yield from potatoes. Technical Bulletin, Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia, submitted.
- Polycarpou, P., 2009. Bioethanol production from *Aspergillus niger*. Elsevier, Renewable Energy, Volume 34, Issue 12, p.p. 2525-2527
- Polycarpou, P., 2012. Ethanol production from *Ferula communis*. Elsevier, Biomass and Bioenergy, Volume 36, p.p. 289-292.