



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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CONFERENCE

Forty-first Session

Rome, 22-29 June 2019

International Year of Rye (Draft Resolution)

Executive Summary

In response to the reduced cultivation and commercialization of rye products, the Government of Estonia proposed an International Year of Rye in 2025, to improve production efficiencies, research and development investments and food sector linkages. Rye has the ability to grow in environments where other cereals cannot. Rye is climate resilient and able to survive cool temperatures, semi-arid and high altitude zones and can be cultivated on a wide range of resource poor soils. Rye benefits from vast genetic diversity and its adaptive capacities to adverse environments can be used in cereal breeding programmes. Rye grains are rich in dietary fibre and carbohydrate. Grains also contain protein and other key nutrients that create specific market opportunities for rural family farmers.

The observance of an International Year of Rye by the international community would contribute to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition and to recommendation 10 of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN-2), in raising awareness of the need to diversify cereal based food systems and diets.

Extract from the Report of the 160th Council Session (3-7 December 2018):

19. The Council [CL 160/REP] endorsed:

- b) the proposal by the Government of Estonia, as endorsed by the 31st Regional Conference for Europe, to establish the observance by the UN System of an “International Year of Rye” in 2025.

Suggested action by the Conference

The Conference may wish to approve the draft resolution in Annex and to request the Director-General to transmit it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring the year 2025 as the International Year of Rye.

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Resolution .../2019
International Year of Rye

THE CONFERENCE,

Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the climate resilience of rye for cool temperate zones, semi-arid and high altitude zones, where other cereals cannot be grown, through the increased sustainable production and consumption of rye;

Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the tolerance of rye to marginal lands, sandy soils, poor soils with low fertility and for weed control, where other cereals cannot be grown, through the increased sustainable production and consumption of rye;

Considering the unique nutritional benefits of rye and the opportunity to consume rye products, made available through the promotion of sustainable production techniques for rye;

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution proclaiming the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025, and the need to implement sustainable food systems that promote healthy diets, which include a variety of foods;

Recalling recommendation 10 of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN-2) that establishes, *inter alia*, the promotion of crop diversification to diversify diets;

Noting consumer demand for baked products with the unique flavour of rye and the market for baked products with reduced gluten compared to wheat flour;

Recognizing the important contribution of rye to the cultivation of staple foods in climate adverse environments;

Recognizing the importance of rye as a good rotational crop because of its ability to compete effectively with weeds in poor soils and to be used as a pioneer crop to improve the fertility of wasteland;

Noting the importance of sustainable farming and production practices to the livelihoods of millions of rural farm families and small family farmers around the world;

Cognizant of the historical contribution of rye to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of family farmers and its significant role for pasture, hay and as cover and green manure crop;

Concerned about the current need to invigorate market recognition of the benefits of rye and to promote efficient value chains;

Recognizing the vast genetic diversity of rye and its adaptive capacities to a range of production environments and potential as a genetic source for wheat improvement programmes, being a constituent of triticale, a synthesised crop;

Recognizing the need to empower women through education to assure the quality of family diets;

Recognizing that the observance of an International Year of Rye by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness of the nutritional and health benefits of rye

consumption and its suitability for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions, while directing policy attention to improving value chain efficiencies;

Stressing that costs for implementation of the Year and FAO involvement will be covered by extra-budgetary resources to be identified;

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring 2025 as the International Year of Rye.

(Adopted on ... June 2019)