# Spring of the strengt of the strengt

In this newsletter, we wish to highlight some of the many actions that have occurred during the Pesticide Action Week. We hope that these actions encourage and inspire you in your own journey towards a pesticide-free Europe!

The 13th annual edition of **Pesticide Action Week** has been celebrated between March 20th-30th by the participation of more than 40 organisations in 14 countries with more than 1000 events. 10 days of full action!

Every year, a wide range of events take place including open doors of farms or agricultural schools, exhibitions, workshops on pesticide-free gardening, seed-barter, conferences, organic markets, film screenings among many others.

Launched in 2006 by Générations Futures, PAN Europe member organisation in France, and ACAP - Citizens' Action for Alternative to Pesticides-a group of 170 organizations, Pesticide Action Week has been a powerful force for awareness-raising and action for a pesticide free Europe.



Italy has been the focus of **PAN Europe** to celebrate Pesticide Action Week. Encouraging towns to join <u>Pesticide Free Towns Network</u>, from North to South, PAN Europe was very active during this action week! <u>Read here >></u>



Accademia Delle Erbe Spontanee organised a guided tour on edible wild plants in the Botanical Garden of Ancona in Italy. Professor Fabio Taffetani is telling us how to allocate green areas to edible wild plants and how to benefit from the beauty and the utility of wild plants in urban areas.

# THE HIDDEN RISE OF UK PESTICIDE USE FACT CHECKING AN INDUSTRY CLAIM

Pro-pesticide groups will tell you that pesticide use is going down.

But in reality, UK citizens and the environment are more exposed to toxic pesticides than ever.

INCE 1990.

PESTICIDES HAVE BECOME MUCH MORE TOXIC Vodern neonicotinoids are 10.000 X more potent than DDT. 1 gram can kill 125 million honeybees





PAN UK launched its exposé on 'The Hidden Rise of UK Pesticide Use. Claims that pesticide use in the UK is reducing are often put forward by those in the pro-pesticide camp in order to argue that there is no need for stricter regulation. But does this claim really hold up under close scrutiny? Find ou<u>t here>></u>

VELT, Belgium- Pesticide-Free Gardening is Possible! In the framework of 2020PesticideFree campaign, Velt has focussed on private lawns this year. Find out more about VELT's actions>>

# Quercus- National Association for Nature Conservation,

Portugal: Spontaneous Herbs in Cities - A Collective Sketchbook Exhibition was organised in Torres Vedras, as well as an <u>Earth</u> <u>Tour</u> where participants learned all about the edible wild plants. Read the article with inspiring photos <u>here.</u>







ADALIA, Belgium, "Pesticide-Free Spring: .Since 10 years, Adalia has been organising a full <u>Pesticide-Free</u> <u>Spring</u> from 20 March to 20 June. The extended time period allows to promote many more activities in cooperation with local municipalities, associations, and citizens. Farm feasts, pesticide-free gardening, nature walks, and many more events celebrating a spring without pesticides! Find out more <u>here>></u>

Global 2000, Austria, gave lectures on pesticides in the framework of its initiative interactive "Environment Workshops" for school classes to raise awareness on the issue and empower children to be actors to protect the environment. Find out <u>more>></u>

### Génération

Futures, France, organised a fresco contest for primary and kindergarten classes under the theme "<u>Your</u> <u>Health on the Plate</u>". A short film contest was also launched for high school and college students. A big Bravo! to the producers of these short films. Watch<u>here>></u>. Find out more about different events took place across France (FR)>>



Nature et Progres, Belgium, has been running a successful campaign "<u>We believe in a Pesticide-Free</u> <u>Wallonia</u>" with many actions to save the bees in the region and to promote alternatives to pesticides. During March, a <u>symposium</u> on alternatives to pesticides in meadows was organised within this campaign bringing together politicians and practitioners.

# World Water Day: Pesticide Contamination of European Waters



How politicians are allowing our water to be contaminated with pesticides: 22 March is the UN World Water Day. On this third day of Pesticide Action Week, PAN Europe took the opportunity to highlight the widespread pesticide contamination of European waters and the urgent need for decision makers to take action and finally protect our water supplies and the environment. <u>Read more >></u>

# **Pesticide Action Week Continues!**





Fundacion Alborada, in collaboration with PAN Europe and Fundacion Vivo Sano, is organising an event focusing on the "Women Victims of Pesticides" on the 7th May in Madrid. <u>Find</u> <u>out here>></u> You can further read the testimonies of victims of pesticides on our campaign <u>page.</u>





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