

Kinneret Academic College newsletter #3

Spring time is here, so lets share with you our adventures from winter activities we had:

Research projects of the students:

1. Students from En hanaziv farm monitor every 2 weeks special traps for the Red palm weevil beetle. It is a problematic pest of dates in our region that can kill the trees if treatment isn't done properly. We see one beetle in the photo.
2. Cooperation research with Luxemburg industries company. Application of herbicides with different adjuvants.
3. Iris flower research with mycoriza. The students monitor every 2-3 days the flowers that emerge. data collected is flower date and height of flower.
4. Green onion research with mycoriza. The students harvested the onion and measured length and weight of onions.

1. Monitoring Red palm weevil



2. weed control - herbicide adjuvants



3. Monitoring Iris flower



4. Harvesting and measuring green onion





5. Onion research



6. Carrot research



5. Onion research with mycoriza. The students harvested the onion in the different plots. The onion was sorted to 3 different sizes and weighed.

6. Carrot research with mycoriza. The students and the farmer are sampling carrots from each plot and measuring the length and caliber of the carrots.

Lectures in class

In class, we started new topics and students started to present their projects in the entrepreneurship course and lecture about their farms (my farm assignment), agriculture meteorology, fertilizers and more.

1. Students presenting their project



1. In the entrepreneurship course students make their ideas and dreams come true. Tools to develop their ideas, analyse the market demand, loan and money flow and more. Students prepare presentation of their project, lecture in class and at the end of year they have a ready business plan of their dream.

2. Aquaculture lecture - 75% of the fish ponds in Israel are located in spring valley, south from Kinneret college. Some students are trainees in these farms (Maoz haim, Nir david, Shluhot). The lecture provides knowledge and exercise fish varieties, health and nutrition, water treatments and more.

2. Lecture in class about aquaculture - fishery



3. Students lecture about their farms



3. My farm presentation - students prepare presentations about their farm. Ask their farmer questions about the village/kibbutz, data about the crops, yeild, methods and more. An amazing opportunity for the students to hear and learn knowledge on a vast variety of crops and methods from their own friends.



1. Group leaders at break



2. Students having lunch



1. Our beloved group leaders (from left to right): Olivier, Grace, Amani, Roshan and Narendra. Taking a 5 min break in college.
2. During the big break, our students enjoy the cafetiere in the college.

Practical classes at Zemach R&D farm

In this specific class we planted cucurbits and made cuttings of deciduous trees, olives and herbs.

1. preparing the plot



2. putting plastic and planting



1. Students preparing the field for planting watermelon and pumpkin. Two beds were made. Students added more driplines to the plot.
2. After putting the driplines, we covered the beds with plastic. The temperatures during this period of time are too cold for cucurbits, so we covered the soil with plastic to increase the temperature of the roots. After the plastic we planted the plants. 1 meter spacing. After planting we covered with another plastic (low tunnel)

3. Students doing plant propagation



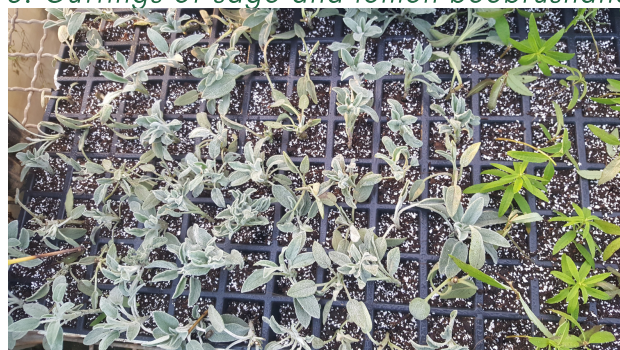
3. February month is an excellent time to do plant propagation of deciduous trees and olives. The students propagated by cutting a variety of plants: Olives (2 varieties), fig, pomegranate, grapes, mulberry and herbs like sage, rosemary and lemon balm. Learned about different medias for growth and used rooting hormone for the propagation.



4. Cuttings of olives and figs



5. Cuttings of sage and lemon balm



Tour

In February we had a tour in spring valley area.

1. Greenhouses - cucumber (left) and tomato



1. Greenhouses - We visited different types of greenhouses. Cucumbers are grown in high tunnels (3 meters) and the tomatoes in greenhouses (6 m). The students checked the media growth, the trailing and the growth methods. Also pest and disease were overviewed.

2. Aquaculture - Shluhot fish ponds



2. Shluhot fishery. The students got a tour and explanation from Thomas, manager of the growth production and feeding at the farm. Learnt the difference between small (intensive) and big pool, the fish varieties grown, feeding methods, machinery and dealing with the market situation.

3. Watermelon field



3. The students visited a field of watermelon, same like they prepared and planted at their plot in Zemach farm. Learnt about grafted watermelon, seedless watermelon and the importance of polinator variety in the process.



4. Students at Messilot nursery



5. Visiting carrot packing house



4. We visited a nursery at kibbutz Messilot. The nursery provides a huge variety of plants for the private sector: flowers, trees, seeds, home gardening accessories and equipment.

5. At kibbutz Shluhot we had a tour in the carrot packing house. This specific packing house specialize in producing packed and pilled, ready to eat small carrots



Radio program

At college we have a radio station that airs programs to the surrounding area.

The radio hosted the director of the program, Mr Oren david and 3 of our group leaders: Roshan, Grace and Amani. The guests described the agricultural program in college, the daily life of the students in Israel and how this special program effects the students' lives.



*Link to the radio program that was aired:

<https://www.mixcloud.com/mcmushi/cross-border-agriculture-program-in-kinneret-college/>

Photos from the farms

En hanzaiv dairy farm



During tour in greenhouse



Snow pea in Carmel farm



See you in our next newsletter...