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**Agricultural machinery: safety and sustainability in the spotlight**

Operator safety in the use of agricultural machinery and the environmental safety of agricultural machines. This was a central theme, and fully consistent with an event like Agrilevante, of the second workshop on innovation in mechanics and system engineering applied to agro-food and forestry biosystems. It was promoted by the SAFE Department of the University of Foggia, by DISTAL of the University of Bologna, by the DISAAT of the University of Bari, and by FederUnacoma, in memory of Adriano Guarnieri, full professor of the University of Bologna, former director of the Agricultural Engineering Review, and of Gianluca Montel, researcher at the University of Foggia. This was not the only theme, since the workshop saw the participation, among others, of Martin Geyer, of the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy in Potsdam (Germany), who reported on the distribution and management of the air flow in a warehouse for storing apples, and Giancarlo Colelli, professor at the University of Foggia, who presented the project "SUS&LOW: non-destructive technologies for the sustainability of fruit and vegetables". Another very current topic is the experimental activity described by Valda Rondelli, a professor at the University of Bologna and head of the Agricultural Mechanics Laboratory of the Department of Agro-food Sciences and Technologies (DISTAL), a test station accredited by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for the performance and protection structures of agricultural and forestry tractors. *"*The machines on which we have particularly focused our attention - explained Rondelli - are tractors and sprayer machines. The safety of these machines is governed respectively by EU Reg. 167/2013 concerning the tractor homologation process and EC Directive 42/2006 also known as the Machinery Directive, completed by Directive 127/2009 relating to the brand new sprayers for the aspects of environmental sustainability". For the tractor, the greatest risk is overturning - added Rondelli - and to counteract this, a passive protection approach was implemented by installing a RollOver Protection Structure (ROPS), which reduces risks to a minimum for the operator in conditions of normal tractor operation. For sprayers, manufacturers have adopted solutions designed to minimize the drift effect".

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