



# FRUIT TREES

## in the city

**Nantes, France, september 7 and 8, 2023**

First international meeting of edible fruit landscapes  
in the city



## Main themes /messages of the meeting in Nantes

Reintroducing fruit trees into our cities is a cross-disciplinary undertaking which:

- has the potential to bring together many professionals and amateurs. The opening panel (panel 1) is devoted to :“ Professionals' views on the reintroduction of fruit trees in the city” with Michel Audouy (Valhor), Alexandra Bonnet (Ecole Nationale de paysage de Versailles), Laurent Chatelain (Chatelain nurseries), Marie Fiers (AFAUP), Raphaël Hervouët (CFP-MFR La Ferrière), Valérie Lepage (Nantes Terre Atlantique campus), Gil Melin (Municipality of Ris-Orangis ) and Romaric Perrocheau (Municipality of Nantes).
- has at least **four specific dimensions** that will be the main themes of our conference on Fruit Growers in the City:
  1. The reintroduction of fruit trees can be achieved through a **whole range of different possible fruit-growing activities**. *We will explore these in panel 2: “Some of the many possible ways for growing fruit trees (and shrubs and edible forest) in the city” with Jacques Beccaletto (specialist in fruit arboriculture), Christine Chasseguet and Pauline Frileux (Les Arbusticulteurs), François Moulin (specialist in fruit arboriculture), Thierry Regnier (specialist in fruit arboriculture), Jennifer Schultz (Jardins-forêts urbaines/ Urbane Waldgärten Potsdam, Germany). We will also be discussing the many fruit-growing projects in the two workshops led by Thierry Regnier, François Moulin and Pierre Lacroix (ARBRES). This is also a theme that you will be able to explore and discuss during the visits in the city of Nantes.*
  2. Beyond bringing fruit, **fruit trees have the potential to provide a wide range of ecological, social, economic and individual health and well-being services**. *We will be exploring these different services in the workshops: workshop presenting the results of the survey carried out by the Observatoire des paysages comestibles dans la Cité led by Catherine Chagnon (collective), the workshop on the biodiversity services provided by fruit trees led by Sabine Rauzier (Alès) and Solène Soulas (Arthropologia), the workshop on fruit trees and urban arboriculture led by Marie Fiers (AFAUP) and Stéphane Lehuédé (Nantes Terre Atlantique), the workshop on fruit trees and landscape architects led by Alix de Saint Venant (Château de Valmer) and the workshop on assessing the impact on social capital led by Juliette Colinas (Université de Montréal) - It's not enough to talk about the impact on social capital... It's even better to measure it!*
  3. **A fruit tree is a plant whose cultivation requires a minimum of specific technical knowledge. You have to respect the phases in the life of a fruit tree and give it attention and care throughout its (very long) life.** *We'll be discussing this in the visits and*

*workshops. These will be the two workshops on the specific management of fruit trees led by Jacques Beccaletto (a specialist in fruit arboriculture), the workshop on fruit tree work during the year led by Christine Coulomb (Jardin des Merlettes) and Bérengère Le Cocq (ARBRES), and the workshop on waiting between the decision and the first fruit led by Gwenaëlle Blaison (Nantes), the workshop on the role of pomological associations led by Henri Fourey (Les Croqueurs de pommes) and Werner Amgarten (Fructus), the workshop on the nurserymen's point of view led by Laurent Chatelain (Chatelain nurseries), Jean-Christophe Legendre (Astredhor) and Christian Chéreau (Nantes Terre Atlantique) and the forum on the Label Rouge Fruitier led by Arnaud Crosnier (Excellence Végétale and Crosnier nursery).*

4. Finally, the reintroduction of fruit trees in towns and cities is **an exceptional opportunity to create multiple long-term collaborations between citizens, associations and towns - and within towns between their different departments, and the different territorial authorities**. *We will be discussing this in panel 3, with Katherine Rosen (The Orchard Project, UK) and Annie N'Guyen from City Fruit (video conference from Seattle, USA, with simultaneous translation). Sébastien Goelzer (Vergers Urbains), Catheline Pieters and Nadia Tahon (Velt). And in the workshop: Case studies in co-creation in London and Paris led by Stéphanie Irvine (The Orchard Project) and Sébastien Goelzer (Vergers Urbains).*

These four themes appear to be specific to the reintroduction of fruit trees in our cities. Three of them call for strategic choices, and one (the specificity of fruit tree management) has a very strong influence on the timetable for creating edible fruit landscapes in the city. Taken together, these four specific dimensions have two practical consequences for the implementation of the reintroduction of fruit trees in the city:

1. While there are **many possible methodological approaches to the successful reintroduction of fruit trees in the city, there seem to be a certain number of essential questions to ask in order to organize the essential phases of all fruit trees projects as effectively as possible**. *We will be discussing these in panel 4: Organising the design, implementation and maintenance of edible fruit landscapes in the city: two examples of methodological itineraries with Jennifer Schultz (Jardins-forêts urbaines/ Urbane Waldgärten, Potsdam, Germany, with simultaneous translation) and Charlotte Mauquois, Pierre Lacroix, Bérengère Le Cocq and Catheline Pieters (ARBRES, Brussels), with Marie-Reine Fleisch (AgroParisTech). We will also be discussing the subject in a number of workshops, each presenting the itinerary of a particular city: fruit trees in Nantes, workshop led by Romaric Perrocheau (Nantes), fruit trees in Bordeaux, workshop led by Eve Demange (Bordeaux), the fruit tree programme in Lyon, workshop led by Pierre Foucard (Lyon), fruit trees in the city of Alès, workshop led by Sabine Rauzier (Alès), We will discuss the evaluation dimension in the evaluation and monitoring measures workshop led by Jennifer Schultz and Luca Dustewitz (Jardins-forêts urbaines/ Urbane Waldgärten ) and in the evaluation reference framework workshop led by Rémi Gillem (Vergers Urbains).*
2. To increase the chances of success in reintroducing fruit trees into the city, it may be essential to call on **experts and develop new competencies and skills**. This is an opportunity to develop new networks for passing on fruit-growing knowledge and know-how, and also to develop new knowledge and know-how through new centres of

excellence and new study and research initiatives. *We will be introducing the theme of the art of transmission in panel 4 with William Christie, harpsichordist, conductor and founder of Les Arts florissants, Jacques Beccaletto (fruit-growing specialist, former head gardener of the Potager du Roi), Alexis Perrocheau (DE landscape gardener), and others... How is the art of transmission practised between great masters and future great masters? We will be discussing the theme of transmission and training in the workshop on transmission and training led by Gaëlle Aggeri (CNFPT), Michel Schlosser (collective) and Régis Triollet (Réseau Hortipaysages), as well as in the workshop on the La Ferrière programme led by Franck Courtial and Hélène Rabreaud, teachers at the CFP-MFR La Ferrière & "Interview with a fruit grower" led by Alexandre Degardin and Arnaud Duplat, teachers at the École Du Breuil.*