



SHAKE UP START UPS

Project:

Encouraging the cultivation of medicinal plants by ecological principles in the area of Gorski Kotar

Country:

Croatia

When:

04.2003 - April 2004

Description:

Project leader:

Local development agency PINS

Project partners:

Elementary school Skrad, Elementary school "dr. Branimir Marković", Ravna Gora, HZPSS (Croatian Agricultural Extension Institute) Delnice, Poljoprivredna zadruga Lovinac (Agricultural cooperative), Termoproces d.o.o. Brod Moravice (private company)

Improvement of economic situation, development and growth of entrepreneurship by developing model of cultivation of medical plants and educating school children and young people in Gorski kotar.

Specific objectives:

- to create a collection for conservation of seeds in order to encourage local residents to switch to the ecological agricultural production,
- to improve / provide knowledge and skills about organic and ecological production and cultivation of medical plants, government incentives as well as opportunities for joint appearance on the sales market to inhabitants of Gorski kotar,
- to educate school children about methods of cultivation and possibilities of using medical herbs through school cooperatives.

Purpose:

The purpose of the project was to educate youths how to become entrepreneurs through whole process of production and selling.

Purpose was also showing possibility of environmentally friendly cultivation of medical plants to residents of Gorski kotar. The cultivation was carried out on abandoned and uncultivated agricultural land, preventing the degradation of the landscape and promoting the preservation of biodiversity.

Results:

In the spring of 2003 eight different kinds of herbs were planted on a test plot of 100 m² in a school garden at Elementary School Skrad. School children helped with planting and were educated about importance of preserving natural resources and biodiversity and about cultivation of medical herbs. Knowledge and gained experience were transferred not only to children but also to interested individuals and family farmers. Besides planting, children also took part in picking, drying and packing plants and herbal teas. Brochure about cultivation of medical plants in Gorski kotar, drying process and ways of making finished product was created in the final phase. Tea products was later on placed on local market.

More:

www.pins-skrad.hr

