

MAIN CHALLENGE/ OBJECTIVES

The production challenges affecting chestnut cultivation, particularly those related to climate change, water stress and fungal diseases, have led the farms involved in the Operational Group to collaborate with research institutions, advisors and trainers to adopt digital monitoring and decision-support tools.

MAIN RESULTS/ OUTCOMES

The main result is a DSS built on real field data: microclimatic stations, spore traps, soil sensors, analysis protocols, and models for irrigation, pruning, and plant protection management in chestnut orchards.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The collaboration process started from the operational needs of the chestnut farms involved: improving orchard management, reducing decisions based solely on experience, and enabling more timely interventions for water management, pruning, and plant protection. The lead partner, together with the farms participating in the project, provided land, staff, and direct knowledge of the chestnut orchards.

The technical and scientific partners supported the selection of technologies, the placement of monitoring stations, data collection, and the definition of decision-making models. The collaboration was organised into Work Packages: environmental monitoring, water management, pruning, fruit quality, and dissemination. To replicate the experience, it was useful to start from a concrete farmer need, select a limited number of measurable indicators, involve agronomists and data specialists, schedule joint field visits, and translate data into simple recommendations that could be applied directly on the farm.



GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Forino, Montoro e Montella, provincia di Avellino, Campania, Italia.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The DSSCAST Operational Group operates in the chestnut supply chain in Campania and involves farms, the Chestnut and Marrone District of Campania, as well as research, advisory, and training bodies.
Project link: <https://dsscast.com/>

