

Exhibition during the fifth edition of

European Sustainable Development Week

the title of the exhibition:

Traditional varieties of fruit trees in the preservation of biodiversity in the landscape of the Lower Vistula Valley

Organizers: Regional Directorate for Environmental Protection in Bydgoszcz, Landscape Parks Complex on the Lower Vistula

term: May 30, 2019, from 11:00 to 14:00

place: Mennonite Cottage, Chrystkowo 21, Świecie Commune. Field visit of participants in the orchard in Chrystkowo with traditional varieties of fruit trees.

thematic scope of the exhibition: Outline of the history of fruit growing over the Lower Vistula, the natural significance of traditional home orchards, restoring traditional methods of fruit processing. In situ protection of old varieties of fruit trees. A collection of old varieties of fruit trees in Chrystkowo, current state, importance and its prospects.

Orchards in the Lower Vistula Valley appeared already in the early medieval period, as confirmed by historical documents. In the period before World War II on the section of Lower Vistula from Bydgoszcz to Nowe grew more than 2,000 home gardens. Appearance of new varieties of fruit trees in crops caused the loss of over 70% of old orchards and preserving them in a residual state.

The presence of old orchards increases the biodiversity of the area and affects the maintenance of biological balance by shaping the microclimate favorable for the creation of diverse habitats for fauna. Old orchards are of economic importance and protect the soil from wind and water erosion.

In addition, the presence of old orchards from the late nineteenth century became the basis for the development of traditional methods of fruit processing in the Lower Vistula Valley area.

Landscape Parks Complex on the Lower Vistula and the Friends of the Lower Vistula Society undertake activities aimed at preserving and restoring both fruit-growing and fruit processing traditions of this region through, among others reconstruction of dryers and fruit stores and reactivating the tradition of frying plum jam. In 1998, these institutions began in Chrystkowo in the area of 1 ha (currently in the area of over 2.5 ha) creating a collection aimed at preserving selected old varieties of fruit trees which currently contains over 70 varieties of apple trees and another 80 varieties are brought out at a nursery in Kosowo. The nursery also functions at the Didactic and Museum Center in Chrystkowo where grows around 4,000 young trees. From nursery planting material is transferred to interested institutions and farmers.

All interested persons should report their participation via e-mail or telephone until May 27, 2019 until 14:00:

- e-mail: sekretariat.bydgoszcz@rdos.gov.pl
- tel. 52 50 65 666