

WOMEN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

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In the same years when agricultural policies began to promote diversification of incomes and activities in agriculture, legislation on gender issues and equal opportunities were established in the EU so that, the role of women in agriculture has been affirmed. Scientific research have developed in different areas, investigating some issues such as the structural and dimensional analysis of women's businesses, the presence and role of women in multifunctional enterprises and the connection between women and social capital in agriculture.

The female role in agricultural activity has often been described as substantial but "invisible", because of its non-registration in statistics. More recently, numerous studies have been undertaken to establish the possible connections between the presence of active women in agriculture and the attention to environmental aspects in the company. The role of women in sustainable agriculture in fact, has been defined "key" in the United States and a "role of absolute importance" in Italy, for a better quality in agriculture, in particular the organic one.

These evidences reflect the birth of the environmentalist movement of eco-feminism, represented by the Indian scientist Vandana Shiva, one of the founders of the international movement "Diverse women for diversity"

Agriculture, therefore, seems to be the sector that is the most open to the female universe from a business point of view. Women in agriculture are constantly increasing and - far from the times when they were only employed as rice weeders - they run companies with increasing success. Today, in fact, women manage all the aspects of farms! From livestock breeding to crops, vineyards, wool, cheese making, meat, fruit, cereals, and vegetables production.

Women have brought a wider view of country life, and they have been able to combine it with other services, managing to merge old knowledge with innovation, so this could be the key for women's success in agriculture. An example of the feminine inventiveness in the agricultural field? The "agrinido". That is the nursery in a farm!

Women have made a real "Revolution" in agriculture life standards.

BEFORE AND AFTER



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