1st BOOST project National Seminar

Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy

On December 21st, 2022 the farm project partner AGRICOLT BRANDONI with the collaboration and organization of UNIVPM (Prof. Adele Finco and Dr. Deborah Bentivoglio), held a Seminar entitled "*New technologies for agriculture*" in Ancona, Italy.

For the purpose of this event, Italian students of the Department of Agricultural Food and Environmental Sciences (D3A) have been invited to participate.

The objectives of the seminar were to present the BOOST project and to introduce the students to the framework of Precision Agriculture.
In particular, Graziano Brandoni, owner and manager of the farm AGRICOLT, shared his expertise and knowledge about digital technologies applied to agriculture. Indeed, the company is at the forefront of agronomic techniques, favoring the innovative use of materials, technologies and methods (i.e use of satellite support for the guidance of tractors, drip irrigation, hard sowing of straw cereals, and innovative information supports for the daily management of the agricultural activities). It is worth noting that students were deeply interested into the topic, they shared their opinions as well as doubts about the application of digital technologies in the agricultural field. Some of them recognized the importance of innovation in this sector, but they expressed few perplexities about the current knowledge and spread of these systems. For these reasons, at the end of the event, students were asked to complete a questionnaire aimed to assess their training needs and gaps in competencies/skills related to precision agriculture technologies. The questionnaire also examines their entrepreneurial mindset and a set of potential predictors of these two constructs (WP1 - T1.1 “Identification of students’ training needs”).
The analysis of the questionnaire data will provide detailed insights into the opinions from the perspective of university students in the field of precision agriculture. Results will be communicated by the BOOST consortium.