



The Best of AGROFILM

The awards of the 40th International film festival AGROFILM will be distributed today, October 4th, 2024 at 10,00 AM at the premises of Multiplex Cinemas in Nitra. Filmmakers once again brought an original point of view to agriculture and we have enjoyed their film creations very much. This year, the resonating themes were those of soil and crop protection, but we have learned much also about the origins of food and the changes in approach by farmers towards production of some “top” groceries. During the festival week, 250 screenings took place at 11 locations across Slovakia. Audiences watched the films also online, 45 hours of documentary films altogether.

As many as six awards were granted by the international jury to the excellent German films produced by the public television ZDF. The Grand Agrofilm Award 2024 was received by a German document **Who owns the world: Crops**. Our survival depends on seeds and this film positions existential questions on this topic. How does the seed market work? Who profits from new species and who leads in the battle for crops? The answers can be disturbing and they can force us to consider the importance of crop protection.

The Czech director Marián Polák introduced a beautiful documentary **Montagu's harrier, The one that flies through the fields**, which maps the life, occurrence and protection of this rare bird of prey. This bird plays an irreplaceable role in the protection of cereal fields from rodents. It nests in fields, where it is agricultural machinery that paradoxically poses a danger, but there is a way to protect it. This Czech film was awarded the Award of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic.

Hungarian documentary **The four seasons of beekeeping, WINTER** introduced the work of a beekeeper in winter and the care for bees, which are quietly resting in snow-covered hives. These valuable insects survive also thanks to human hard work. The reward is sweet honey and pollinated flowers, which bring sustenance. The Directing Award was granted to Zsolt Poroszka Magyar, who is also the cameraman and script writer of this film.

A collection of German documentaries **planet e.: Enjoyment with an aftertaste - berries** brought a different point of view to consuming popular food like **berries** or **tomatoes**. Are they super healthy or simply super trendy? Do we know how many kilometres raspberries travelled to decorate our Christmas cake? To satisfy our year-round demand for tomatoes, for example, the valuable sources of water and nutrients in Peru are being drained. These films prompt us to approach consuming responsibly and force us to consider the origin of our food. Both films were awarded, they received The Award of the President of Agrofilm and Award of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, respectively.

The documentary maker Oliver Dickinson has decided to investigate the impact of animal husbandry on the environment. He spent two years visiting French cattle farmers, who are applying clever approaches to minimize their carbon footprint. His film **Shepherding Hope** was awarded the FAO Award.

Common Sense in the Woods is the title of a collection of 8 Slovak documentaries, which represent the importance of growing the seedlings and nurselings of forest trees and of wood as a renewable resource. They also focus on the importance of the forest in water circulation or the importance of game hunting. Anima production Ltd., in cooperation with Military Forests and Estates of the SR, SOE, promoted the useful work of foresters, conservationists, and hunters who have dedicated their life to the forest, for which they received the Award of the STVR for promotional film.

The Organizer NPPC thanks their long-term partners for cooperation, organization of film projections and

expert discussions, for promotion of agricultural topics, popularization of scientific findings and for steadily upholding the good name of farmers, foresters and food producers.

Who missed the opportunity to watch films during the work week can still visit the cinema on the weekend. Multiplex Mlyny Cinemas will show the best of the festival between 3,30PM and 5,30PM. On Saturday night starting at 9PM, the online screening of the films will continue through www.agrofilm.sk.

Television Dvojka STVR, as a media partner of the festival, will broadcast Farmer's Revue - Special, which will be entirely dedicated to the best films and the best filmmakers. You can watch the regular broadcast on Saturday, October 5th, 2024 at 3,35PM or the reruns on Sunday, October 6th, 2024 at 9,30AM and Monday, October 7th, 2024 at 5,30PM.

Awarded films of AGROFILM 2024

Film title	Cat. no.	Country	Award
Who owns the world: Crops	DE4	Germany	Grand Agrofilm Award
Montagu's harrier. The one that flies through the fields	CZ9	Czech Rep.	Award of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
planet e.: Enjoyment with an aftertaste - berries	DE7	Germany	Award of the President of Agrofilm
Who owns the world - Land	DE3	Czech Rep.	Award of the International Jury of Agrofilm
The four seasons of beekeeping, WINTER	HU1	Hungary	Directing Award
Shepherding Hope	FR1	France	FAO Award
The future of the coffee	CZ1	Czech Rep.	Award of the Mayor of the City of Nitra
Trees in my field	NL1	The Netherlands	Award of the President of the Nitra Self-governing Region
planet e.: Enjoyment with an aftertaste - tomatoes	DE5	Germany	Award of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
Technical gems - Breweries	CZ2	Czech Rep.	Award of the Rector of the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra
planet e.: Energy security with biogas? When waste becomes energy	DE8	Germany	Award of the Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen
planet e.: Mare Farms - Horse suffering for our meat	DE1	Germany	Award of Rector of the The University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice
The Opportunity For Change	SK45	Slovakia	Award of the Slovak Agriculture and Food Chamber for the Slovak Film
Common Sense in the Woods	SK 13 - 16	Slovakia	Award of the STVR for promotional film