CNR IBIMET INSTITUTE OF BIOMETEOROLOGY

The Institute of Biometeorology was born in the late 70's in Florence: it's aim was to carry out research in the field of applied meteorology, focusing on agriculture and the environment. In these forty years of activity, participating until the early 80s in international programs such as those related to climate change in the European Union, this institution has followed a path marked by the identification of major issues of our time, often anticipating emergencies and acquiring skills in the technical tools needed to perform the appropriate analysis. The Institute has studied and researched applications of numerical models to crops and ecosystems, applications of meteorology to forecasting systems such as those that reduce pesticide use, water and fertilizer, application of methods such as remote sensing by satellite and geographical information systems, ecophysiological and biochemical analysis of the quality of food, and turning to the study of the functioning of greenhouse gases in agroecosystems.











XIMENIANO OBSERVATORY

The Jesuit Leonardo Ximenes was born in Trapani in 1716: in 1731 after taking his vows, he was sent to Florence, where he cultivated his scientific studies, specializing in physics, hydraulic and road transport engineering, geography and astronomy. In 1756, on the top floor of the convent of St. John in Florence, he founded the observatory that bears his name. The observatory was entrusted from 1773 to the Piarists, who still own it, and who directed the laboratory of meteorological (surveys of weather began officially in 1813 thanks to Gaetano del Ricco, seismic (started in the second half of the nineteenth century, thanks to Filippo Cecchi, and his successor, Guido Alfani), and also mathematical and cartographic studies. The latter, however, gradually lost their importance, while meteorological and seismological surveys are still carried out.

Of great interest is the library of books on meteorology, the ancient instruments and the data series that starts from the first day of '800.

OSSERVATORIO XIMENIANO ONLUS

Today the Observatory Ximeniano is an independent scientific institution that cooperates with many scientific organizations.

From 1st March 2004 the centre has changed its legal status, becoming a Foundation (Foundation Ximenian Observatory of Florence - NPO) whose president is the Provincial Piarist Father (of the province of Florence), are part of the Foundation Board of Directors, the Scientific Council. Currently, the scientific director of the Centre has been entrusted to Emilio Borchi. Currently the Centre's main field of study concerns research and development of new instruments and sensors for meteorological measurements. In particular, a pioneer in scientific research aimed at monitoring and measurement of UV radiation into its component UVA, UVB and UVC.

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IN THE HEART OF FLORENCE





