

# APTRAN

*Portuguese Association  
of Animal Traction*

*Portfolio Presentation*





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Animal Traction*

*Portfolio Presentation*

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- ***Introductory note***

## ***Dear members and friends of APTRAN***

When in 2012 we create APTRAN, we were very far to imagine that over these four years of work so many good things would happen, and so many new challenges arise ahead.

In truth, it was precisely from this collective process, shaped by the personal taste of each of the active elements of APTRAN, that we started to move forward, thinking and idealizing lines of activities to respond to the needs, but also the concerns around animal traction, not only of the funding members of APTRAN but also the new members that have joined together.

Today, the APTRAN develops regularly a series of formative and informative activities about animal traction, working continuously with national and international partners, promoting a modern and correct use of working animals, respecting their dignity and physical limits, leading to the creation of development models compatible with the ideas that were at the genesis of APTRAN.

I invite you to see this portfolio, where in a synthetic and very graphic way the team of APTRAN shows the work done by the various ongoing action lines.

*Greetings*

*João Brandão Rodrigues,*

*APTRAN Chairman of the Board*





# **APTRAN**

The Portuguese Association of Animal Traction is a non-governmental organization of educational, technical and scientific, with the main objective to investigate, preserve and make known the national heritage on animal traction in all its aspects and to promote, value disseminate new forms of use in a modern and current perspective, incorporating and adapting new knowledge.



An essential objective is also, the promotion of sustainable development models to promote cultural practices compatible with the preservation of agricultural biodiversity, soil conservation, as well as the inclusion of the concept of modern animal traction in a logical strategy for rural development.



# **APTRAN SOCIAL BOARD**

## **Board:**

*President:* João Brandão Rodrigues

*Vice-president:* Davide Antón Outeiro Castiñeira

*Financial Manager:* João Tiago Ferreira Nunes

## **General Meeting:**

*President:* Tomás de Aquino Freitas Rosa de Figueiredo

*Executive Secretary:* Carlos Francisco Gonçalves Aguiar

*Secretary:* Manuel Filipe Dias Antunes

## **Board Auditors:**

*President:* José Manuel Correia dos Santos Ferreira de Castro

*Secretary:* Manuel Ângelo Rosa Rodrigues

*Financial Manager:* João Carlos Medeiros Raimundo



# *Informations*

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## **Legal Data:**

**◆ VAT Number – 510453791**

**◆ RSI Number- 25104537915**

**◆ APTRAN Fundation - November 19, 2012**

**◆ Members in June 2017 – 101**



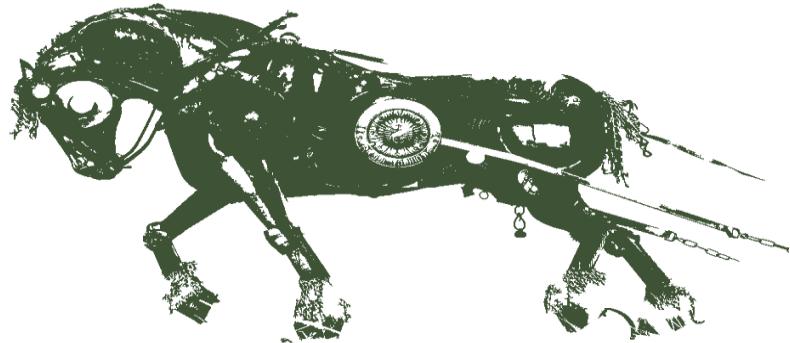


# *Action Lines*





*Carrying out formative and informative activities of a playful, academic and professional character around animal traction.*



*Promote, value and disseminate new ways of using animal traction, in a modern perspective, incorporating and adapting new knowledge, particularly in the modernization of harnesses and working tools.*



*Valuing native breeds with working ability,  
always safeguarding and respecting their  
animal welfare.*

*Preserve and disseminate the national heritage on animal traction.*





# *Activities*



## *Activities*

APTRAN is continuously developing activities in the area of animal traction, including scientific studies, courses, congresses, conferences, workshops and academic and professional training programmes, individually or in collaboration with national and international partners.

APTRAN also promotes cooperative relations between individuals, national and international organizations with common interest, promoting the exchange of knowledge and experiences, as well as inform and sensitize the scientific community and public opinion, promoting its approach to the objectives of the Association.



# *Regular technical-scientific and informative activities*

- *Cross-border Meeting of animal Traction*
- *Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction*
- *Advanced Course of Sustainable Agroforestry Management*
- *Continuing Education Program in Animal Traction*
- *Agroforestry Calendar*
- *I Workshop of Introduction to Animal Traction*
- *Workshop on Good Practice in the Management of Coastal Zones*
- *Rural Days, Fafe 2017*

# *Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction*

The *Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction* intend to bring the two sides of the border between Portugal and Spain, through an eminently practical program around the animal traction in its various forms. One of the most important aspects of these events is the presence of local farmers who continue to develop their agricultural activity based on this technology, which are the key players in the formation of the participants. In addition to the agricultural activities with animals during these meetings, other moments of debate among local populations around current and relevant issues are also promoted, searching for joint strategies for community development.



*I Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction,  
4-5 May 2013*



*II Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction,  
19-20 May 2014*



*III Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction,  
27-28 June 2015*

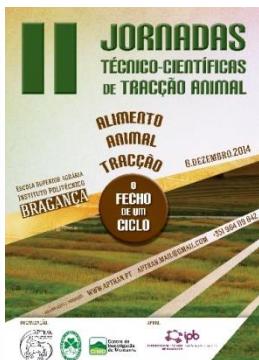


*IV Cross-border Meeting of Animal Traction  
24-26 June 2016*



# *Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction*

These journeys, held during the winter period and based on a theoretical component, intended to demonstrate and promote the use of animal traction as a complement / alternative to the conventional production models, but also present animal traction as an economical, modern, ecological and competitive way for the sustainable development of rural areas in the Trás-os-Montes region but also at national level. The program usually includes several presentations of technical and scientific character from diverse areas of knowledge, promoting reflection and discussion, always with animal traction as a central and unifying element.



**I Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction,  
7 December, 2013**



**II Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction,  
6 December 2014**



**III Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction,  
5 December, 2015**



**IV Technical-Scientific Journeys of Animal Traction,  
10 December, 2016**



# *Advanced Course of Sustainable Agroforestry Management*

This advanced course arises from the need to achieve wider training models in order prepare the participants to develop agricultural and forestry activities. It brings together a very diverse group of experts in different areas, which allows the creation a theoretical and practical training program of 50 hours over a full week of training (recognized by the Technical and Scientific Council of the Agrarian School of IPB, and assigned with 5 ECTS credits).

A growing ecological (but also economical) consciousness about the need of reducing the excessive industrialization and mechanization of vital sectors such as agriculture and forestry, along with an increased and renewed interest in energy and environmental issues has made this course fill all the vacancies in all its, bringing together people from various countries.



**I Advanced Course of Sustainable Agroforestry Management, 5-11 April 2015**



**II Advanced Course of Sustainable Agroforestry Management, 18-23 March 2016**



# **Continuing Education Program in Animal Traction**

APTRAN is responsible for the theoretical and practical training program for the students ESA-IPB, which for free can acquire knowledge in the areas of management and labor with draft animals. This program runs throughout the academic year and covers the various areas where animal traction has proved more effective.

After the good results obtained internally at ESA-IPB, the APTRAN will provide its extension to the whole community, to ensure that this knowledge and technology can reach more potential users.



## *Agroforestry Calendar*

APTRAN together with [ALDEIA](#) (Environmental NGO) are developing, over the next year (October 2016 - September 2017) a cycle of activities that follow the agricultural calendar, in its most varied aspects.

The aim is to make known and value all those agricultural and forestry activities that are still part of the daily life of the Portuguese Northeast region and that represent an important aspect in the family economy and the region.

This interaction with local populations and participants from other regions will mainly encourage the preservation of production models compatible with the rational use of existing resources, as well as the preservation of agrobiodiversity.





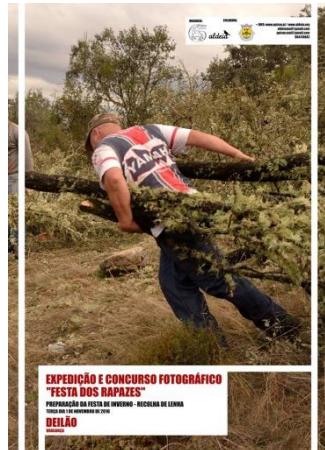
## *Traditional Grape Harvest*

As a first initiative of this cycle of activities, the traditional grape harvest was held on October 8 in Gimonde - Bragança, where it was possible to learn with the local inhabitants of Gimonde all the knowledge associated with this process, but also to transmit the techniques associated with Modern animal traction - transport on the back and on vehicles of the grapes - as well as other techniques inseparable from the harvest, such as the manufacture of traditional baskets, so important in the process of collecting the grapes.

## *Festa dos Rapazes*

The region of Trás-os-Montes is still very rich in traditions of pagan origin, perpetuated to this day in many of the villages of the Northeast. The boys' festivities are a clear example of this tradition and usually take place in the period between 24 December and 6 January.

In order to participate actively in this initiative promoted by the inhabitants of Deilão, ALDEIA and APTRAN promoted a Photographic Expedition, in which this important moment of the cycle of winter festivities was recorded, not only on November 1<sup>st</sup> – when boys go to the forest and collect wood, but also in the Main day of the party, on December 26.





## Chestnuts and Mushrooms

Autumn is also the season of wild mushrooms, gastronomic, ecological and economic treasure of Trás-os-Montes.

Continuing with the "Autumn Days", ALDEIA and APTRAN carried out the Mushroom and Chestnut harvesting, where it was intended to coexist and learn from Vilarinho's inhabitants all the knowledge associated with this process, but also to transmit good practices around the harvesting of wild mushrooms, as well as the techniques associated with modern animal traction - transport on the back and in vehicles of the sacks of chestnuts.

## Cereal Mill

Wheat is a crop grown in most of the region's production systems, making a significant contribution to the economy of farms. Cereal crops have always been associated with extensive livestock production, especially sheep farming and cattle farming. The oldest local varieties are Barbela and Serôdio. The Barbela wheat, a variety of soft wheat still grown today, is a long-cycle variety, sown in the fall and harvested in the summer.

For many years cereals have come to be used as a bargaining chip, as a form of peasant income payment or direct exchange between farmers. From the cultivation of wheat they result in countless foods indispensable to the human diet. In Portugal the tradition of cereal cultivation remains, with wheat and corn being the most cultivated cereals.

The flour is the result of the milling of cereals, an essential product for the making of bread which has always been a basic commodity and the main basis for the sustenance of the communities.

Therefore ALDEIA and APTRAN realized the Winter Days: Cereal Mill, where it was intended to coexist and learn with the local inhabitants of Vilarinho (Bragança) all the knowledge associated with this process, as well as the techniques associated with modern animal traction - transportation in the back of cereal and flour sacks .



## Charcoal

Coal has been following the path of societies since the earliest times, being a major energy product in many processes. The use of charcoal, a result of the combustion of wood, has made possible many advantages for social life such as heating houses, making food and making tools.

APTRAN and the ALDEIA association realized the Winter Days: *A Carvoaria*, where it was intended to coexist and learn with the local inhabitants of Aveleda all the knowledge associated with this process, as well as the techniques associated with modern animal traction - transportation on the back and In vehicles of coal sacks.



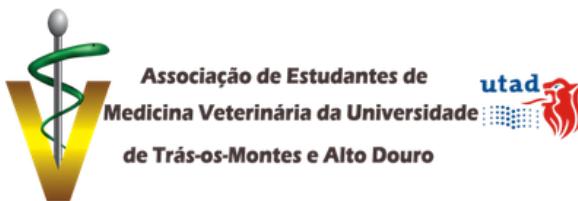
# I Workshop of Introduction to Animal Traction

UNED | UNIVERSIDADE NACIONAL DE EDUCAÇÃO A DISTÂNCIA  
UTAD | UNIVERSIDADE DE TRÁS OS MONTES E ALTO DOURO



APTRAN - the Portuguese Association of Animal Traction and AEMV-UTAD joined in the organization of the 1st Workshop of Introduction to Animal Traction, where it was intended to equip the participants with the appropriate knowledge and tools to enable them to recognize in animal traction a modern, less impact and economically viable, competitive and sustainable, as a complement or alternatively to the conventional models normally used.

This collaboration also allowed these NGOs to continue their lines of action in the scientific field, but also to provide academic and vocational training, enabling the trainees to have close contact with working equines (horses and donkeys), providing them with important knowledge for the exercise of their future professions.



# *Workshop on Good Practices in the Management of Coastal Zones - Part I - ESA, IPB*

The Agrarian School of the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, the Association ALDEIA, APTRAN, ACRPIP and the Union of Parishes of Aveleda and Rio de Onor joined in the organization of this workshop of good practices in the management of riverside areas.

The management and conservation of this complex habitat is especially important because doing so contributes directly to the conservation of soil and terrestrial ecosystems and to the preservation of the biodiversity of aquatic ecosystems.

Taking as an example the riverside area of the Fervença River but also the Ribeira of Aveleda, this practical workshop, divided into two parts, intended that participants learn about good practices to be taken into account in the management and conservation of riverine areas.



INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO  
DE BRAGANÇA      Escola Superior Agrária



## *Workshop on Good Practices in the Management of Coastal Zones - Part II - Aveleda*



# Rural Days, Fafe 2017

There is now a moment when rural space and its dynamism are at the center of the discourse of development agents and policy makers, pointing it as a privileged environment and opportunities for the implementation of new projects, particularly by relatively young generations , Not only of local origin but also of urban origin, educated and with dynamic interventions.

Development is now governed by economic as well as environmental and social principles, where a balance is sought between the economic growth of the regions, the improvement of the quality of life of the populations, but also the creation and implementation of integrated and sustainable territory.

Thus, APTRAN - the Portuguese Association of Animal Traction and the association ALDEIA joined in the organization of these Rural Days Fafe 2017, where it was intended during two days to dynamize a set of activities that emphasize the knowledge still present in the rural area, as a tool to All these processes, in a process that integrates and respects local culture and traditions, that values and enhances endogenous resources, for the benefit of this and of future generations.



28 de maio, 2017

PALHA  
Centro de Etnotecnologia e  
Design do Golês - Fafe



# *Sporadic technical-scientific and informative activities*

■ ***Animal traction in the XXI Century: Economic impact, ecological and social***

■ ***The Garden of contestation***

■ ***Montains 2016***

■ ***Participation in promotional events***

■ ***Day of forest management with animal traction***

■ ***FECTU Annual Meeting***

# *Animal traction in the XXI Century: Economic impact, ecological and social*

Held between Lisbon and Sintra, this symposium and workshop intended to address the importance and potential of animal traction in the management of the urban environment in areas such as the collection of solid waste, cleaning and maintenance of public areas – parks and gardens. It included a panel of national and international speakers, with the latter to assail a vision of what is best made in Europe in terms of urban use of animal traction.



## A horta da contestação

contra a nova "lei das sementes"



IBHO - Sessão de esclarecimento aos agricultores locais sobre a nova lei das sementes.

5º feira, 16-05-2013 - Antiga Escola Primária de Duas Igrejas  
Miranda do Douro

Organizaçõe:  
**aldeia**



Colabora:



## The Garden of Contestation

When the controversial *Seed Law* was announced by the European Union, which provided outlawing the cultivation and trading of unregistered seeds, threatening food genetic diversity and the survival of traditional varieties, APTRAN and ALDEIA organized a debriefing session and a protest against the law, together with the population of Duas Igrejas - Miranda do Douro.

Many farmers from Duas Igrejas and other villages attended to our call and joined us in this action, clearly expressing their dissatisfaction with this law!

# *Montains 2016*



*I International Conference on Research for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions is a scientific event for sharing and discussion of methods, tools, results, applications, trends and challenges in research in mountain systems, integrated in the Montains 2016.*

APTRAN along with FECTU, promoted a Symposium: *The XXI century mountains: sustainable management of mountainous areas based on Animal traction*, which integrated the general program of this important International meeting.



## *Participation in promotional events*



In order to disseminate the objectives and work, APTRAN attend on regular basis fairs, meetings, demonstrations, debates, etc..

Examples:

🐎 *Fair Terra Sā (Oporto, 2014),*

🐎 *Pferdestark – largest European meeting of Animal Traction (Germany, 2015),*

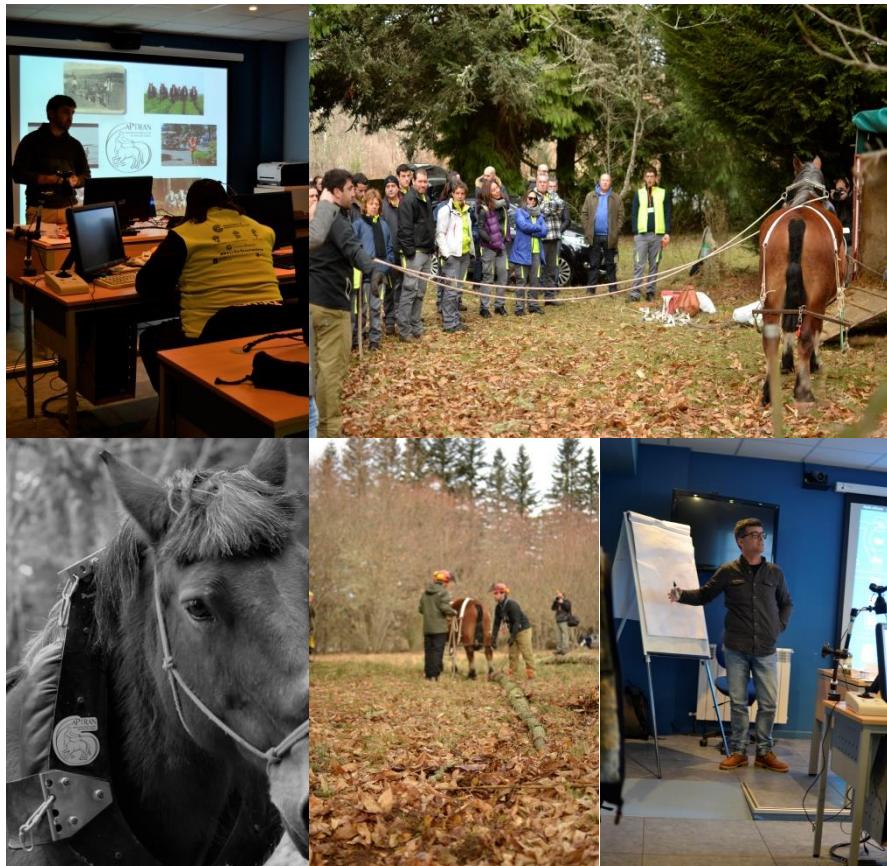
🐎 *Coffee of Science and the Science Fair (Bragança, 2016), both promoted by Centro de Ciência Viva de Bragança.*

🐎 *Trait Comt'Est 2016*

# *Day of forest management with animal traction*

At the invitation of **Obradoiro de Emprego Bioleboreiro** in Bande, Galicia, Spain on 9 February 2017, APTRAN showed the potential of animal traction in forest management.

Several agents associated with forest management were also present, fostering discussion, sharing of knowledge and learning around this subject.



# ***FECTU Annual Meeting – Bragança 2017***



Since 2013, APTRAN has been a partner of FECTU, which brings together all of APTRAN's European counterparts.

As a result of this affiliation and the joint work carried out by APTRAN and FECTU, the annual FECTU meeting was held on 17, 18 and 19 March in Bragança. Excellent opportunity to learn and live with users of animal traction in several European countries, but also share with all the work that APTRAN has been developing for animal traction in Portugal.

# *Cooperation agreements and membership in international organizations*



# *Affiliation and collaboration with national and international entities*

☛ *Cooperation agreement with the Agriculture School of IPB*

☛ *Cooperation protocol with EPAMAC*

☛ *Agreement of Academic, Scientific and Cultural Collaboration signed between ANTA-La Esteva (ES), ESTAVIDA (ES) and CFPPA Montmorillon (FR)*

☛ *Collaborations with NGOs and other entities*

☛ *Filiation in FECTU - Fédération Européenne du Cheval de Trait pour la promotion de son Utilisation*

## ***Cooperation agreement whit Agriculture School of IPB (ESA – IPB)***

The close relationship between APTRAN and ESA-IPB, but also with the CIMO – Mountain Research Centre, led to the conclusion of a cooperation agreement between the APTRAN and ESA, with lines of action in the scientific field but also on an academic and professional training level, allowing studies and trials, the constant presence of draft animals in ESA facilities, the creation of interdisciplinary among schools belonging to the IPB and the creation of continuous training program for students, among others.



## *Cooperation Protocol with EPAMAC*

In a dynamic strategy similar to that created with ESA-IPB, the APTRAN also signed a protocol with the Vocational School of Agriculture and Rural Development in Marco de Canaveses (EPAMAC), in order to promote animal traction with the school community of this institution.



ESCOLA  
**EPAMAC**  
MARCO

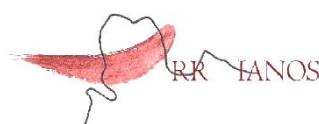
# ***Agreement of Collaboration Academic, Scientific and Cultural***

This collaboration agreement signed between the ANTA-La Esteva (ES), ESTAVIDA (ES) and CFPPA Montmorillon (FR) enables the development of joint activities around the animal traction, grouping entities from three countries, enhancing knowledge around this area as well as the exchange of experiences.



## *Collaborations with NGOs and other entities*

After the work over the years, the APTRAN has developed various partnerships with NGOs and other entities.



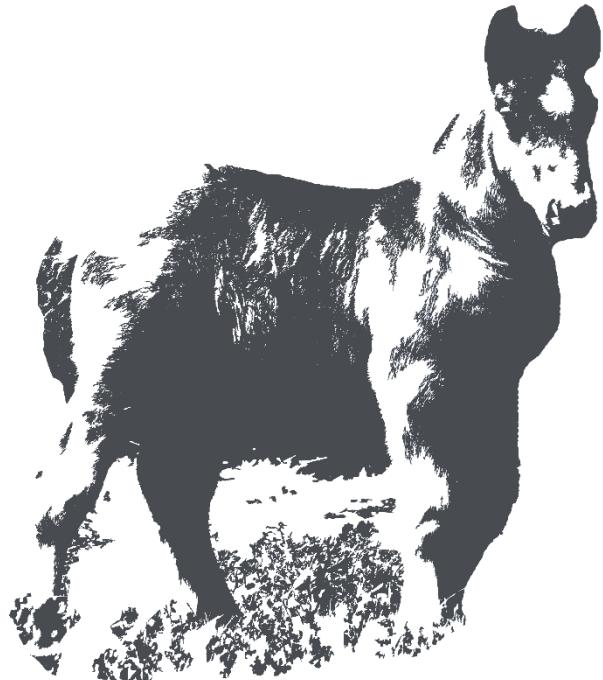
# ***Filiation inFECTU - Fédération Européenne du Cheval de Trait pour la promotion de son Utilisation***

APTRAN is since 2013 partner of FECTU, Federation that groups all the European counterparts of APTRAN. Result of this affiliation, the APTRAN promoted together with FECTU a symposium on animal traction in the Mountains 2016 event.

Portugal will receive in 2017 the General Assembly of FECTU, with APTRAN being the host association.



# *Ongoing projects*



# *Ongoing Projects*

## *Application to POCTEP*

APTRAN, along with:

☞ ESA-IPB,

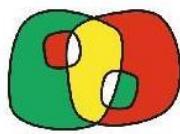
☞ ASZAL,

☞ Forestis

☞ University of Salamanca,

*submitted an application to the program INTERREG España – Portugal (2014 – 2020), with the project:*

***BIOTRAN - The Animal Traction in Ecosystems and Biodiversity Management Enhancement***(in evaluation).



PROGRAMA  
COOPERACIÓN TRANSFRONTERIZA  
ESPAÑA – PORTUGAL  
COOPERAÇÃO TRANSFRONTEIRIÇA

2014 – 2020

# **BIOTRAN**

**BIOTRAN** is focused on the rehabilitation of areas of native forest with use of animal traction. The project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of profitable operation in remote areas with high natural value, but also elucidate about the residual impact of the animal work in the various stages of production intervention in the forest, establishing itself as a viable alternative to mechanical intervention, that heavily penalize the ecological integrity of these spaces, and also gauging the economic and social impact of working with draft animals.

It is intended to obtain indicators and concise productivity parameters that support an investment in valuing forest management and indigenous breeds with fitness to work by creating models that enhance the endogenous resources, contributing to the preservation of agricultural biodiversity, reducing emissions carbon, encouraging self-reliance and reducing the consumption of non-renewable resources, with special application in areas with protection status.



# *Training Program of Human Resources in the Arts and Traditional Crafts Related to Animal Traction*

The project *Training Program of Human Resources in the Arts and Traditional Crafts Related to Animal Traction* is one of the new lines of work APTRAN with entry into operation scheduled for September 2016.

This project was one of the winners of the contest of ideas promoted by the Laboratories of Public Participation - an initiative by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education for the discussion of ways to promote knowledge in the various regions of the country, in collaboration with the IPB and the National *Ciência Viva* Agency.



# *Press*



# Press

�� “Fundada a Associação Portuguesa de Tração Animal” in Mensageiro de Bragança

馬 “Agricultores prometem luta contra lei europeia das sementes” in jornal Público

馬 “Manifestação em Miranda do Douro contra nova lei das sementes” in RTP

馬 “II Encontro Transfronteiriço de Tracção Animal”, in Rádio Galega (minuto 40'50”)

馬 “Los expertos buscan el uso de equinos en el trabajo cotidiano” in La Región

馬 “Tracção animal para reducir a depência dos combustíveis” in Jornal Nordeste

馬 “Entrevista no Programa Sociedade Civil sobre a APTRAN”, in RTP 2 (minuto 80)

- “*Los beneficios de los burros en las labores agrícolas*”, in *La Opinión de Zamora*
- “*Conselho Científico – Entrevista a João B. Rodrigues, Presidente da APTRAN*”, in Rádio Universidade de Coimbra
- “*Entrevista a Aser Álvarez e Plácido Romero, autores do documental 'Traballo animal'*”, in Televisión de Galicia
- “*Agricultores reunidos para conhecer técnicas tradicionais de Vimioso*” in SIC
- “*Tração animal não passou de moda e há quem faça cursos para aprender*” in Mensageiro de Bragança

