



Agrofilm 2020 resisted the pandemic and awarded filmmakers

This year's international film festival Agrofilm 2020 succeeded only thanks to the enthusiasm, perseverance, courage and the ability of the organizers to react fast and improvise. And that during a time of many restrictions and rapid changes related to the fight against the coronavirus.

During the five festival days, films were projected primarily online; altogether 60 hours of high quality documentary films. The organizers express their gratitude towards all authors – submitters of the films, who quickly reflected on the changes and readily agreed to online projection of their films.

Despite the state of emergency and while maintaining all safety measures, films were projected also on “silver screen” – at the Synagogue in Brezno, at the premises of Technical University in Zvolen, at Malý Berlín in Trnava, at NPPC in Bratislava, in the multiplex Mlyny Cinemas in Nitra. People desiring to experience culture and films were able to, in a disciplined manner, wearing a mask and maintaining social distance, take advantage of the festival's programme.

Of the 94 submitted films, 35 documentaries have been selected for consideration by the international jury of experts who awarded 15 films. This year, the authors of the awarded films will not collect their awards in Nitra on Friday 9th October 2020 due to the cancellation of the closing ceremony by the organizers.

AWARDED FILMS

The winner of the **Grand Agrofilm Award** was won by German film **Anthropocene: The Age of Man – Earth**, which represents agriculture as the foundation of our need and ability to feed ourselves. For thousands of years, we have been optimising plant production while our intensive methods of agriculture deplete nutrition contained in soil and lead to erosion. With increasing global population, these issues are ever more pressing.

Dutch – Belgian film **Ceres** is a poetic documentary, which follows four children living with their family at a secluded farm in the southwest of the Netherlands, where they have been since young age learning from their ancestors – farmers. All children dream about one day taking over the farm after their parents. The film was awarded the **Agrofilm Jury Award**.

Is fully automated growing of vegetables in several layers and under artificial light the future of agriculture? This question is posed by an awarded German film from the series Planet e. **When Food Gets Scarce - Hightech - Farming for the Future**. The film has received **the Award of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra**.

Osiris FAO Award was given this year to an interesting Czech documentary **In the shadow of a cocoa tree**, which brings attention to all fundamental but also little known circumstances of cocoa growing in Western Africa, such as low purchase prices, poverty of the growers, child labour, human trafficking, and destruction of rainforests.

The jury's attention was arrested by the informative but also entertaining Slovak documentary produced by RTVS **Puko, the ground squirrel, and his family**. While it is primarily for the child audience, the light and

playful style of filmmaking but especially the topic of human activities' impact on the life of ground squirrels will interest anyone. The authors of the film Braňo Molnár and Táňa Tadolánková received the **Award of the Rector of the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra**.

Up-to-date information about the festival is available on the website www.agrofilm.sk.

You can learn a lot of interesting things about this year's Agrofilm also in the 40-minute special of the show Farmer's Revue. You can watch it on Dvojka RTVS on Saturday 10th October 2020 at 1:20 PM or in the rerun on Sunday 11th October 2020 at 8:35 AM.

Thank you for your loyalty and support.

The list of Award –Winning Films Agrofilm 2020

	Cat. No.	Title	Country	Award proposals
1	DE 4	Anthropocene - The Age of Man - Earth	Germany	Grand Agrofilm Award
2	DE 8	Planet e.: When Food Gets Scarce - Hightech - Farming for the Future	Germany	Award of the Rector of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
3	CZ 13	Let soil live	Czechia	Award of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
4	CZ 1	The Czechs are excellent mushroom pickers	Czechia	Directing Award
5	DE 6	Anthropocene – The Age of Man – Water	Czechia	Award of the President of Agrofilm
6	NL 2/BE	Ceres	Netherlands/Belgium	Agrofilm Jury Award
7	CZ 14	Potato expedition	Czechia	Award of the President of the Nitra Self-governing Region
8	SK 3	Puko, the ground squirrel, and his family	Slovakia	Award of the Rector of the Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra
9	DE 7	Planet e.: the Eco-Rebels of the Himalayas	Germany	Award of the Mayor of the City of Nitra
10	DE 1	Sudden Death Syndrome of Soybean – The Life Cycle of Fusarium virguliforme	Germany	Award of the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and Trade Companies of the Slovak Republic
11	CZ 8	In the shadow of a cocoa tree	Czechia	Osiris FAO Award
12	HU 1	Quartet – Native Fruit Varieties	Hungary	Award of the Slovak Agriculture and Food Chamber
13	IR 4	Water and Soil	Iran	Award of the Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen
14	SK 14	By bike to the lookout and farm in the village of Bystričany - Televíkend 30/2019	Slovakia	Award of the RTVS for promotional film
15	SK 33	Let the Forests sing eternally	Slovakia	Special Award of the President of Agrofilm for an exceptional contribution to responsibility towards Planet Earth