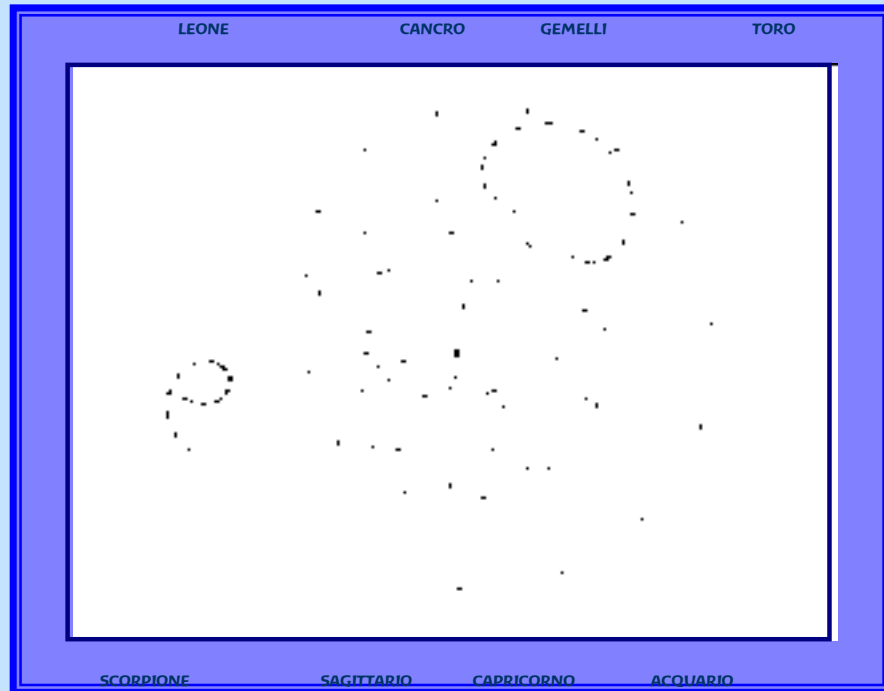


AGRICULTURAL ASTRONOMIC CALENDAR FOR 2013



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**MONTHLY CHARTS FOR
PLANTING AND OTHER
AGRICULTURAL TASKS USING THE
HOMEODYNAMIC METHOD**

*Created and distributed by
EUREKA*

*via Cavalcavia, 6 – Zompicchia di Codroipo (Ud)
Tel. 0432 905724 - segreteria@albios.it*

Contributors:

Enzo Nastati and Rosalba Barretta for their study of cosmic influences upon the plant kingdom.

Dario Anderle for his astronomical studies.

Frank Porta for the calculation of data.

Jesus Sansegundo for the verification of data.

Mark Moodie for English translation

Our thanks to all.

This calendar is also available in Italian, Greek and Spanish.

Eureka,
Istituto Internazionale di Ricerca per un'Alta Qualità della Vita
via Cavalcavia, 6 - 33033 Zompicchia di Codroipo (Ud)
Tel. 0432 905724
segreteria@albios.it

This calendar shows the rhythms and impulses to which plants respond only if tended by the homeodynamic method, as the homeodynamic preparations resonate primarily with the Zodiac. Whilst other methods of farming (conventional, organic, biodynamic) also relate to macrocosmic spheres, impulses and different rhythms, for best results we recommend using this schedule only if one adopts the homeodynamic method of cultivation.

Homeodynamic preparations for agriculture are available for the Arc of Life members who have attended a basic course or read our three basic books: "Introduction to the homeodynamic method", "Handbook of the homeodynamic cultivation method" and this Calendar. For more information, please contact headquarters.

Please do not to copy this work.

ASTRONOMICAL AGRICULTURAL CALENDAR BASED UPON THE ETHERIC CYCLE OF THE EARTH AND ITS RESONANCE WITH THE UNBOUND LIFE OF THE ZODIAC AND BEYOND

PART ONE

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF THE CALENDAR

1) CHANGES

1.1 ZOE AND BIOS

Anyone who has followed our work through the years will know of our efforts to ‘live in the present’ and not to lapse into comfortable habits either of life or of thought. Such people will not be surprised that we have modified our Astronomical Agricultural Calendar once again, in step with the changing cosmic influences upon the Earth.

The understanding that we have of Life - one that considers Life to be a divine gift that ‘incarnates’ into and guides the natural kingdoms - demands courage and conceptual flexibility in order to become practical and fruitful.

The ancient Greeks used two names to embrace the concept of *life*: *Zoe* indicated spiritual Life that descends as a continuously renewed divine gift, whilst *Bios* indicates manifest life that suffers birth, develops, and then perishes.

1.2 THE PAROUSIA OF CHRIST

The anthroposophically oriented spiritual science, brought to humanity by the Austrian philosopher and scientist Dr Rudolf Steiner, inspires and underpins our own efforts. Dr Steiner told us that there would be a “*complete manifestation of the Christ in the etheric plane*” in September 1999 and that at this time the Earth’s etheric body would be profoundly changed.

The expression ‘*complete manifestation of the Christ in the etheric plane*’, means that assistance for the spiritual evolution of humanity is secured by Christ in the plane of Life, or what we call the *etheric plane*. This is a modern expression for the event expressed in the Gospels as the *Parousia*, or “coming in the clouds” (Mark 13, 24-27)¹.

After the Earthly manifestation in the physical body of Jesus, the Christ now acts from the more encompassing plane of Life.

These basic ideas help us understand why, particularly in our time, the forces of the anti-Christ are active as never before. Through wars, devastation and pollution of living Nature, the first atomic bomb, the greenhouse effect, genetically modified

¹ But in those days after that affliction, the sun shall darken, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers that [are] in the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then shall he send his angels and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth unto the uttermost part of the heaven.

organisms and in many other ways, His work is being blocked. At the same time, human culture is riddled with materialistic ideas that are diverting human minds from these facts.

It was not only Rudolf Steiner that anticipated these events. Great painters divined this vision. A fine example is *The Resurrection* by Gruenewald in Isenheim (France) where the Risen One appears with a luminous sphere in the background and a foreground of what can only be the Earth with its transformed etheric body.

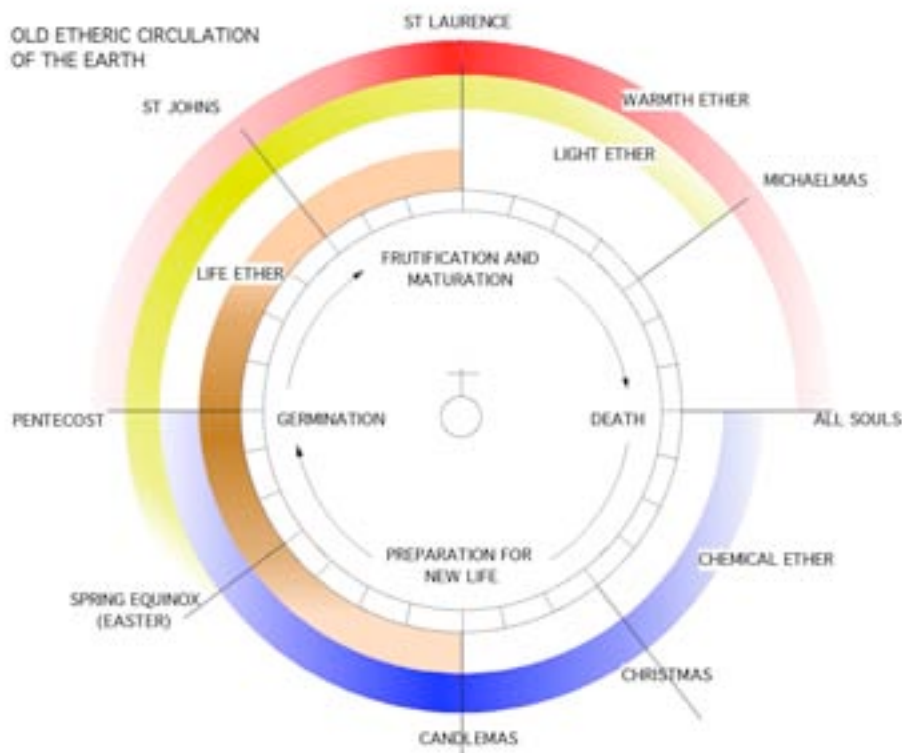


1.3 THE FLOW OF THE OLD ETHERIC BODY OF THE EARTH

The etheric plane is composed of four etheric forces that have the following properties:²

- Warmth Ether: the force that allows Life to manifest and renew itself. It is particularly active in the head of humans and in the roots of plants.
- Light Ether: this force governs growth and size is particularly active in the thyroid of humans and in the leaves of plants.
- Chemical or Sound Ether: the force that separates and orders, maintaining the relationship between parts. It can broadly be defined as the chemist or alchemist of Nature, presiding over cellular divisions, metabolic processes and the lymphatic circulation. In humans, it is particularly active in our metabolism and in the flowers of plants.
- Life Ether: the vital force that manages the life of each cell and integrates this life with the life of each organ and of the whole organism. It is inherited and relates to our general constitution and health. It lies latent within the seed. In humans it acts mainly in the reproductive system.

After this briefest summary, we can sketch how the “old” etheric body of the Earth flows through the seasons of the year.



The sequence in the “old” etheric body of the Earth

² For details, see our booklet: ‘A Spiritual Scientific Glossary’.

As can be seen from the schema above, from Candlemas (2nd February) the life ether becomes active in the northern hemisphere for the six months until St. Laurence (10th August). At Easter the light ether is active up to Michaelmas (29th September). At Pentecost the warmth ether becomes active lasting until All Souls Day (2nd November) when the chemical ether is activated, lasting through to Pentecost.

These ethers have definite correspondences with the four elements of Aristotelian philosophy. There is a correspondence between the earth element and the life ether, the water element and the chemical ether, the air element and the light ether, and the fire element with the warmth ether.

If we want to see these correspondences in living phenomena, observe that at Candlemas the Queen bee begins to lay eggs, and animals rouse themselves from hibernation in phase with the reactivation of the life ether (earth element). This is the ether that harmonizes life between single parts and the whole organism. The life that had been withdrawn into the roots joins with the already active chemical ether (water element) initiating the rise of sap in the plant. During this period two etheric forces are active in nature.

At Easter, with the activation of the light ether (air element) that governs growth and the show of colors, there will be three etheric forces present in the earth which, together, initiate flowering (chemistry, life and light will collaborate). At Pentecost the chemical ether (water element) that maintains an orderly connection between the parts, withdraws and the warmth ether (fire element) which is the ether that enables the manifestation of all the living forms and their ability to renew themselves, makes its entrance. In this period three etheric forces are still active within the earth (life, light and warmth).

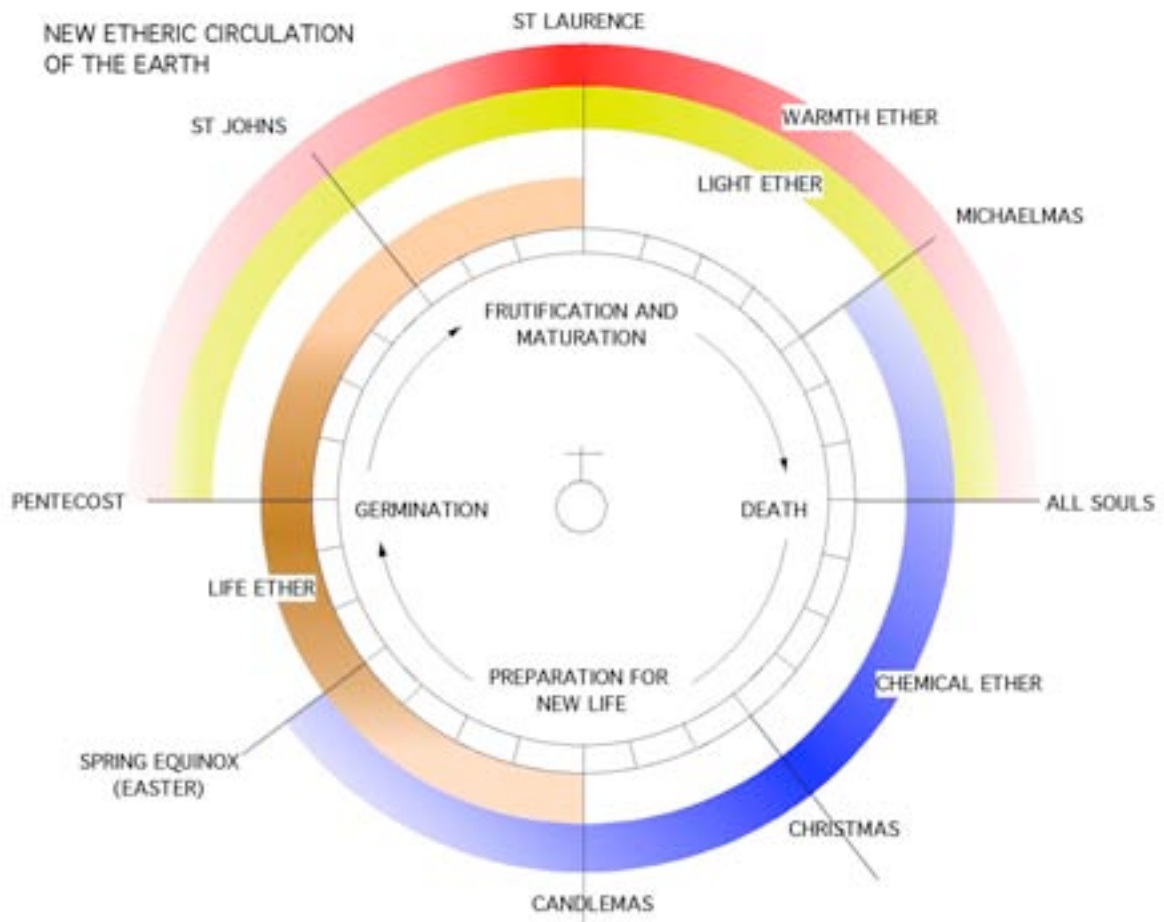
This brings us to the time of St. Laurence and the withdrawal of the life ether (earth element) with the consequent devitalization of plants that accompanies the maturation process. Two etheric forces remain active in the earth; warmth and light.

At Michaelmas, the light ether withdraws leaving only the warmth ether active. This ether completes the processes of maturation and formation of new seeds until All Souls, after which only the Chemical ether (water element) is active. At this stage we are at winter's door, life is largely withdrawn, nature is devitalized. We are in the period of maximum rainfall and mortality. The Earth endures the necessary withdrawal of vital processes in preparation for their consequent resurrection, with the resurgence of the life ether at Candlemas. In this period only the chemical ether is active.

This cycle is manifested in the plants. Plants have adapted through time to this cyclical process and their vital processes follow the etheric cycle through the seasons.

1.4 THE NEW ETHERIC CIRCULATION

The sequence of activation of the ethers that we have just described is modified by the action of the Christ Being in the etheric plane. The cycle of the new etheric body of the Earth is represented in the figure below.



The sequence in the “new” etheric body of the Earth

The most obvious changes are that the light ether has ‘moved forward’ from the spring equinox to Pentecost (the same time as the entrance of the warmth ether) and the chemical ether has ‘retreated’ to Michaelmas from All Souls Day. This will cause profound changes in the living realms.

The ‘higher’ light and warmth ethers will collaborate, while the ‘lower’ life and chemical ethers will work separately for the most part. The part of Nature that follows the Christ impulse will connect mainly to the light and warmth ethers, i.e. to the least material aspects. The ability to ‘to feed oneself from the Cosmos’ has already been achieved by, for instance, Theresa di Neumann (1962), Santo Klaus von der Fluel (1487) and Martha Robin (1981), persons who lived for decades “nourished” only from the Eucharist. This ability will become more widespread. A similar effect will be seen also in the other kingdoms of nature, especially in plants which now find the soil and environment have little vitality and so nourishment for them is very difficult.

The new diagram shows that after Candlemas two ethers are operating in the Earth, from Easter only one, from Pentecost three, after St. Laurence two different ethers, three from Michaelmas until All Souls, and then just one for the 3 months until Candlemas.

This will bring about a deep transformation in the seasons and in how much nature will “oscillate” between etheric poverty (a single ether) and greater vitality (three ethers) without the stabilizing passage through a period of two ethers. Moreover, the period of maximum manifestation will be around St. Laurence (instead of St. John) and the minimum manifestation is between Christmas and Candlemas.

In spring, after Easter, the light ether will not yet be active and that will involve a delay or lack of balance in flowering. Autumn will be warm and humid but above all we will have a dry spring and summer. The lack of ‘intermediate’ seasons will bring about strong shocks in the transition between the seasons.

Of all the natural kingdoms the plants will bear the brunt of this modification because they have only an incarnated physical and etheric body.

A consequence of this will be the increasing problems with flowering, and the autumnal maturation will be accompanied by fungal problems. In the changeover from the old etheric body - organized in harmony with the old etheric sequence - to the new, plants will also have to endure the process of defoliation so that they can produce new leaves, daughters of the new etheric cycle.

It will become clear that plants that are more attuned to the cosmos, such as those cultivated with the biodynamic method and, more so, those grown within the homeodynamic system, will be the first to show these symptoms. It also means that they will be the first to respond to the new energetic system and, therefore, to develop new qualities, resistance, and productive abilities. Plants cultivated in conventional ways and those with chemical residues, will have greater difficulty connecting with the new forces. Up to the switch they may show fewer symptoms and will appear more vigorous. At the moment of change they will seem well but their inner weakness means that many will not recuperate and adapt, and they will die.

In future years, we will be able to indicate further changes in the etheric body of the Earth, changes that will bring increased quality of the etheric forces. Light will become more pure, and Life will be purer in order to create new qualities and produce different effects from the current ethers. Nature will adapt to these new qualities and will put them into effect rapidly after the turbulent phase of stress brought on by the changes.

In the period from Michaelmas to Easter, with the manifestation of the Chemical ether and its relationship to the Water element, the purification of the Earth happens in accordance with Water’s characteristic ability to expel and purify. This purification will prepare and adapt conditions for the activation of the life ether at Candlemas. This, in its turn, will purify and vivify so that light and warmth (which become active from Pentecost) can act like spiritual gifts.

1.5 CHANGES IN THE COSMOS

Because of the supersensible events bound to the eclipse of the Sun on August 11th 1999 - that is the journey of the Christ from the Earth towards the Sun through the ‘door’ of the Moon - the Moon has entered a phase of deep purification which will profoundly alter its effect upon Nature.

There are several things to consider together: remember that the Moon is aligned with the 'Water' element and, therefore, to the alchemical ether. Moreover, bring to mind that since New Year's Day 1998-99, the Sun has 'crossed' the Galactic Equator (the imaginary line with which the band of the Milky Way divides the heavens in half - see the second part of this present work). Therefore, from the summer solstice of 2000, with the background of the cusp of Taurus-Gemini, the Sun 'views' the solar system and the Earth in tune with the rotational motion of the planets (counter-clockwise motion). This event happens every 25,920 years!

With the Mercury transit in front of the Sun, which happened on May 7th 2003, the process of transformation of this planet was also begun. Mercury is linked to the 'Fire' element and, therefore, to the warmth ether.

With the inferior conjunction of Venus on the 6th of June 2004 the transformation of Venus began. Venus is tied to the 'Air' element and, therefore, to the light ether.

And finally, nine months after, that is between the 6th and 8th March 2005, the transformation of the Sun itself began, and, given its connection the 'Earth' element and thus with the life ether, the transformation of all living creatures.

The calendar that was issued from 2000 until 2004 gave guidance from the first transformation in 1999. Given the latest solar event it has been necessary to adapt the Calendar once more.

2) THE ETHERIC CALENDAR

As should be apparent from this introduction, we are trying to develop new awareness in our agricultural endeavours emerging from a deepened relationship with the spiritual world.

2.1 RHYTHMS

Spiritual science shows us that humans can be considered as being composed of four interacting parts: the physical body, the etheric body, the astral body, and the 'I' or ego. The physical body is the oldest part, made of compressed and condensed light. The etheric body is the living part of our organization which presides over all the vital processes. The astral body (or soul) is the home of feelings - aversions and desires, sympathies and antipathies - and is related to the planetary sphere. The Ego is the spiritual principle proper, and enables self-consciousness and, therefore, the possibility of freedom.

From the indications given from Rudolf Steiner, it emerges that the rhythms of these four parts are different and these cycles or rhythms are summarized in the table below.

PART	DURATION IN DAYS	CYCLE	MANIFEST KINGDOMS OF NATURE			
			Minerals	PLANTS PLANT ants	Animals	Humans
EGO	1	Connected to the light of day. Each day in a life, the same human 'I' re-emerges.				
ASTRAL BODY	7	Connected to the planets, to the stars; it is visible, for example, for the inflammations that have a cycle of seven days.				
ETHERIC BODY	28	Connected to the Moon. The visible aspect of the Moon as it turns around the Earth is exactly 27.8 days while the sidereal Moon has a cycle of 27.2 days and the Synodic Moon 29.5 days.				
PHYSICAL BODY	280	Connected to the time of gestation in which a physical human body is formed. This corresponds to 40 weeks which is a cycle of purification.	Minerals	PLANTS PLANT ants	Animals	Humans

If we now calculate an etheric period over the course of the year (whose rhythm, as we have seen, is connected to the number 28), we will discover that it is of 13 days (365: 28 = 13 days) with an 'extra' day that, as we will see, corresponds to the festival of the Madonna of the Candles (Candlemas – 2nd February). The purpose of the present exercise is to deepen our familiarity with these cycles with the aim of forging a new outlook upon agricultural practice.

In the course of the year there are, therefore, 28 cycles of 13 days (or Nights) and, therefore, inasmuch as 28 is the number corresponding to the rhythm of the etheric body, 28 13-day etheric cycles. Therefore, we can assert that this is the inner rhythm of the etheric body of the Earth.

In all the indications that follow we will call it the "Night" and not the "Day" because this recurring etheric cycle anniversary is reflected also in the course a day from the 15th hour (3 pm) to the same time on the following day, thus encompassing the whole "Night". Moreover, the Night will always be indicated by the date of the previous day. As an example, the events of the night between the 5th and the 6th are both referred to as the 5th.

3) ETHERIC BREATHING OF THE EARTH

Since the fundamental phenomenon of life is rhythm, it is clear that the etheric body of the plant must also "clothe itself" in rhythmical processes - vitality that rises from Mother Earth and that comes down from Father Sky. Although it all originates from the Cosmos, here on the Earth it is polarized between the incarnated earthly life (Bios)