ATHENS SELECTED TO HOST THE XX IPPC IN 2023

The Executive Committee of the IAPPS Governing Board has selected the bid of the Hellenic Society of Phytiatry (HSP) to host the XX IPPC in Athens, Greece. The congress is under the aegis of the Agricultural University of Athens and is going to take place at the Megaron Convention Center in Athens 10-15 June, 2023.

Greece, as a Mediterranean and South European country, covers a vast diversity of agricultural temperate, subtropical and even tropical crops with highly specialized researchers on plant protection sciences working in Universities, Research Centers and in the Private Sector. Thus, Greece is one of the few countries where scientists can meet a very broad diversity of crops and plant protection problems.

It is certain that participants of the XX IPPC Athens 2023, besides an excellent scientific program, will be thrilled by its long-standing history, the ancient and modern city of Athens, the birth place of democracy, the fantastic environment, and ultimately enjoy Greek tradition, special Mediterranean food and legendary hospitality. The organizers are looking forward to the successful organization and realization of the congress at all stages till the final day of the congress.

At the same time, we have the pleasure to announce that Professor Eleftherios (Eris) Tjamos, President of the Hellenic Society of Phytiatry, has been appointed to serve on the IAPPS Governing Board in his role as IPPC Host Country Representative. Prof. Tjamos has obtained his BSc and MSc in Agronomy with major in Plant Pathology, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece in 1967, and his PhD in Plant Pathology- Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London, U.K., in 1974. During his rich career, he has been Research Plant Pathologist, Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Kiphissia, Athens, Greece (1970-1987), Visiting Scientist, Host Pathogen Interactions, University of Lexington, Kentucky, USA (1981-1982), and
Visiting Professor, Biological Control of soil-borne pathogens, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, MD, USA (1993). At the Department of Plant Pathology, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece, he has been subsequently Assistant Professor (1987), Associate Professor (1991), Professor of Plant Pathology (1994-2010), and Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology (2010 to date). Within the same institution, he has served as the Director of the Section of Plant Protection and Environment (2003-2005), and Dean of the Faculty of Crop Science (2005-2009).

He has directly supervised 55 MSc and 7 PhD students. His research interests spawn from phytoalexins and induced resistance, to biological control of plant diseases, verticillium wilt with emphasis on olives, soil solarization and methyl bromide alternatives, and mycotoxicogenic fungi in grapes and wine. Eris has also substantially contributed to extension, by publishing several layman journal articles in extension plant protection journals to inform extension plant pathologists and farmers about various aspects related to the management of soilborne pathogens, while at the same time numerous leaflets were produced to promote soil solarization and soil fumigation to help farmers move out of the methyl bromide use.

Please join me in congratulating Eris and his team for the successful bid, and for his appointment as IAPPS Governing Board member.

Prof. E. A. “Short” Heinrichs
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NOMINATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION AWARD OF DISTINCTION (IPPAD)

The IPPAD is an award of recognition established by the IAPPS Governing Board to honor individuals, teams or organizations that have made unusual and innovative scientific contributions that promote plant protection and/or made meritorious and productive contributions to the organization, administration and/or management of plant protection programs or otherwise have served with distinction in advancing the cause of plant protection sciences.

The awards will be presented at an awards session at the XIX IPPC in Hyderabad, 10-14 November. Nominees shall be present at the IPPC to receive the award. The names of awardees, with proper laudatory language and a description of their contributions shall be included in the
Congress program and shall be presented to the Congress participants at the awards session. Individuals and teams presented with the IPPAD at the past six International Plant Protection Congresses are listed at: https://www.plantprotection.org/About/AwardsofDistinction.aspx

Nominations for the IPPAD are due July 1, 2019, and should be submitted to:

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GALL THRIPS – A SERIOUS AND DEVASTATING PEST OF TERMINALIA CHEBULA IN JAMMU REGION

Harad, *Terminalia chebula* Retz., considered to be the mother and king of medicines in Ayurveda, has astringent, purgative, antibacterial, antifungal and laxative activity. The country’s richest germplasm of harad including Raj Harad exists in Jammu and Kashmir, India. During extensive surveys, more than 90% of harad trees in the Jammu region displayed symptoms of leaf gall attacks. Gall formation was noticed in approximately 30 – 40% of harad leaves of each tree, on their underside. Leaves with very small sized galls at the beginning of July recorded little reduction in leaf area (3.08%), but leaves with large sized galls (picture on the left) by the end of October recorded up to 34.73% reduction in leaf area, significantly reducing the photosynthetic efficiency and the economic yield of harad. The large sized galls when dissected were found to be full of thrips (right picture). Adult thrips were identified by the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata as *Rhipiphorothrips cruentatus* and *Liothrips* spp. Besides infesting harad, *R. cruentatus* also attacks rose, almond, cashew, mango, and jamun. The problem of harad galls could be managed by pruning the infected branches, collecting and destroying the fallen infected leaves, treating the tree basins with neem cake at the rate of 1 kg/tree basin, or spraying a systemic insecticide like Dimethoate at the rate of 2ml / L of water.

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The First International Molecular Plant Protection Congress was held at Cukurova University, Adana, Turkey during the period 10-13 April, 2019. Around 300 scientists from 30 countries participated in this event. The congress program included 27 concurrent oral sessions which covered molecular aspects of different plant protection disciplines such as fungal, viral and bacterial diseases, insects, nematodes, and weeds. The congress program also included a posters session where 84 posters were exhibited.

Eight Arab scientists participated in this event, two from Lebanon, one from Syria, one from Tunisia, three from Algeria and one from Iraq. One positive feature of this congress is the high number of presentations made by graduate students, mostly from Turkey. A positive indicator reflecting the interest of young generation in solving agricultural problems using research tools.

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IAPPS Mission: to provide a global forum for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, integrating, and promoting plant protection concepts, technologies, and policies that are economically, environmentally, and socially acceptable.

It seeks to provide a global umbrella for the plant protection sciences to facilitate and promote the application of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the world’s crop and forest ecosystems.

Membership Information: IAPPS has four classes of membership (individual, affiliate, associate, and corporate) which are described in the IAPPS Web Site www.plantprotection.org.

The IAPPS Newsletter welcomes news, letters, and other items of interest from individuals and organizations. Address correspondence and information to:

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