

IAPPS NEWSLETTER

Number X

October, 2011

FIRST JOINT WORKSHOP OF TWO WORKING GROUPS OF THE EUROPEAN WEED RESEARCH SOCIETY (EWRS)

The first joint workshop of two Working Groups of the European Weed Research Society (EWRS): “Weed Management in Arid and Semi-arid Climate” and “Weed Management Systems in Vegetables”, will be held in Huesca (Spain) from 4-8 September 2011.

The aim of the workshop is to create a forum where people involved in research in weed management in vegetables and in arid and semi-arid agro-ecosystems weed control can come together and exchange results, experiences, and information, and establish new contacts and networks.

The Workshop will take place at the Escuela Politécnica Superior de Huesca (EPS), located 7 km from the center of Huesca in North-Eastern Spain, 75 km from Zaragoza. Up to date there are 51 pre-registered persons from more than 20 countries, which will present nearly 50 lectures and posters. Main topics during the workshops will be specific weed problems in the arid and semi-arid regions both in dryland and in irrigated land; invasive weeds; chemical and non-chemical weed management; weed biology of specific weeds; weed control in minor crops and in horticultural crops in arid and semi-arid climate; herbicide resistance; effect of irrigation on weeds, etc.

The 3rd Circular will be posted on the EWRS webpage and sent to participants on July 8th and new abstracts can be submitted until July 15th that is also the deadline for payment of the registration fees (<http://www.ewrs.org>).

Huesca is an ancient town of 50.000 inhabitants with very interesting architecture, especially from its Romanesque period. It is one of the three capitals of the Aragón region and is located next to the Pyrenees Mountains, which defines the landscape of the Hoya valley of Huesca, an important agricultural region which includes dryland and irrigated crops. On Wednesday 7th September afternoon an extensive vegetable area will be visited during a field excursion. We kindly encourage you to participate in this meeting, which will surely be very interesting.

The organizing committee includes Carlos Zaragoza, Joaquín Aibar, Alicia Cirujeda, S. Fernández-Cavada, Euro Pannacci and Baruch Rubin

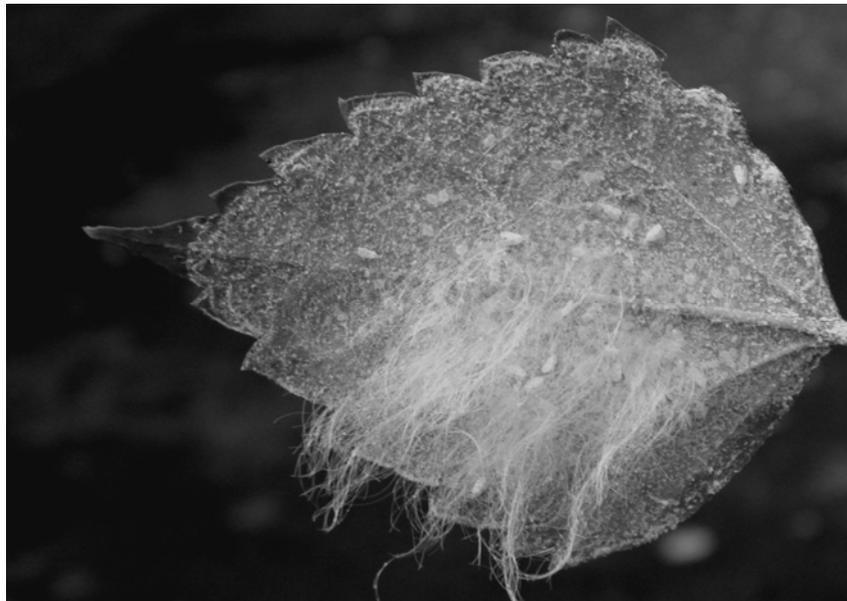
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THE GIANT WHITEFLY AND ITS NATURAL ENEMIES

The giant whitefly, *Aleurodicus dugesii* is a neotropical species originally described in 1896 from the specimens collected in Mexico. In the U.S. A., it was first noted in Texas in 1991, California in 1992, Florida in 1996 and Hawaii in 2002. In 2008, it was observed in Java, Indonesia, a first



Typical waxy filaments characteristic of the giant whitefly (Picture courtesy of Merle Shepard)

report from Asia (Muniappan et al. 2011). It is also a polyphagous species but is known to be a serious pest of several crops including cucurbits, citrus, avocado, banana, cotton and ornamental plants such as *Hibiscus* spp.

When the whitefly became a problem in southern California, two parasitoids, *Idioporus affinis* (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae) and *Encarsiella noyesii* (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) from Mexico were imported and released in 1997 and

1998. Another parasitoid, *Entedononecremus krauteri* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) from Texas was also released in California. In Hawaii, the parasitoid, *Idioporus affinis* was found fortuitously introduced in 2003. These parasitoids are keeping the giant whitefly population under control in the U.S.A.

In Asia, the giant whitefly has been reported only from Java, Indonesia since 2008 and its population has remained relatively low. A recent (2011) quick survey and examination of the giant whiteflies in the Bogor area revealed heavy parasitization by a fortuitously introduced parasitoid, *Encarsia guadeloupae* (Hymenoptera:



Adults of the giant whitefly (Picture courtesy of Merle Shepard)

Aphelinidae) (identification confirmed by Greg Evans). It is possible that further chances of spread this whitefly within Asia has been markedly reduced by the presence of the parasitoid, *E. guadeloupae*.

Reference:

Muniappan, R., B.M. Shepard, G.W. Watson, G.R. Carner, A. Rauf, D. Sartiami, P. Hidayat, J.C.M. Afun, G. Goergen, and A.K.M.Z. Rahman. 2011. New records of invasive insects (Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha) in southern Asia and West Africa. *Journal of Agricultural and Urban Entomology* (in press).

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The IAPPS Newsletter is published by the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences and distributed in *Crop Protection* to members and other subscribers. *Crop Protection*, published by Elsevier, is the Official Journal of IAPPS.

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.

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