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## **XXV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY: ORGANIZE A SYMPOSIUM !**

The Entomological Society of America, ESA, is honored to host ICE 2016, the XXV International Congress of Entomology, under the theme *Entomology without Borders*. The event is expected to bring together the largest delegation of scientists and experts in the history of the discipline, who will meet in exciting, easily-accessible, and affordable Orlando, Florida, USA September 25-30, 2016. The International Congress of Entomology, which takes place once every four years, will be even more special in 2016 as it is co-located with the annual meetings of the Entomological Society of America, the Entomological Society of Canada, and the Florida Entomological Society.

“The XXV Congress will provide a great opportunity to discuss and learn about recent advances in the science of entomology, and to establish contacts and collaborations among entomologists from different parts of the world,” said Dr. Hari C. Sharma, Chairman of the Council of the International Congresses of Entomology and IAPPS Coordinator for Region VIII, South Asia. “We invite you to participate in the largest scientific meeting in the history of entomology, with an expected attendance of more than 6,000 individuals,” said ICE 2016 Organizing Committee Co-Chairs Dr. Alvin Simmons and Dr. Walter Leal. “Opportunities for meeting key entomologists, making valuable connections, and for building long-term relationships will be an integral part of this important event.”

It's not too early to plan to be a part of ICE 2016, which will be an exciting and historic event. The organizers of ICE 2016 are now inviting members of the global community of insect scientists to submit ideas for symposia for the 2016 meeting. Each symposium at ICE 2016 will be 3-4 hours in length and will feature 15-minute presentations related to the symposium topic. Each symposium will be assigned to one of the 30 identified scientific sections, which range from acarology to urban entomology. **The deadline for submissions is March 2, 2015.**

Please use the below link to submit a symposium idea:

<http://esa.confex.com/esa/ice2016/progsymp/sessions/index.cgi>

For more information about the congress please visit our website: [www.ice2016orlando.org](http://www.ice2016orlando.org)

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## FIRST RECORD OF THE PREDATORY BUG, *NESIDICORIS TENUIS* IN ETHIOPIA

The zoophytophagous predator, *Nesidiocoris tenuis* Reuter (Hemiptera: Miridae) occurs in the Mediterranean (Gabarra, et al., 2008) and Asia (Muniappan, et al., 2012). It predate on aphids, whiteflies, thrips, mites, and eggs and small larvae of lepidopteran insects. In the absence of prey insects, it will feed on host plants. In addition, it oviposits its eggs in plant tissue. In the Mediterranean, it is inundatively released in greenhouses for control of whiteflies and the South American tomato leafminer, *Tuta absoluta* (Meyrick) (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae).

*Tuta absoluta* is a native of South America, and was accidentally introduced to Spain in 2006 (Urbaneja, et al., 2007). Since then, this highly invasive and destructive pest has spread to most of Europe and the Mediterranean. It was reported in Ethiopia, in the Tigray region in 2012 and in the Central Rift Valley in 2013 (Ayalew and Fekadu, 2013).

In November 2013, the USAID-sponsored IPM Innovation Lab (formerly CRSP) conducted a *Tuta absoluta* workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to sensitize Eastern African countries of its impending invasion. As a part of the workshop, a field trip was conducted to a tomato field at Koka in the Oromia region on November 27, 2013. A single male specimen of *Nesidiocoris tenuis* was collected by using a sweep-net over tomato plants. Its identity was confirmed by Dr. Thomas J. Henry of the Systematic Entomology Laboratory in the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the specimen was deposited at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. It was the first record of *N. tenuis* in Ethiopia and most probably in Africa.



Picture of the original specimen of *Nesidiocoris tenuis* collected in Ethiopia (courtesy of Dr. Amer Fayad)

Ayalew, G. and A. Fekadu. 2013. Occurrence and studies on the management of the tomato leafminer, *Tuta absoluta*, in the Central Rift Valley of Ethiopia. Workshop on *Tuta absoluta* – Meeting the Challenge of the Tomato Leafminer, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (abstract).

Gabarra, R., J. Arnó and J. Riudavets. 2008. Tomate. In: J.A. Jacas and A. Urbaneja (eds) Control biológico de plagas agrícolas, Phytoma-Espanña, Valencia, Spain, pp 410-422.

Muniappan, R., B.M. Shepard, G.R. Carner and P.A. Ooi. 2012. Arthropod Pests of Horticultural Crops in Tropical Asia. CABI, Oxfordshire, UK. 168p.

Urbaneja, A., R. Vercher, V. Navarro, F. García Marí, J.L. Procuña. 2007. La polilla del tomate, *Tuta absoluta*. Phytoam Espana, 194: 16-23.

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## MICRO-ORGANISMS AS AGENTS BETWEEN FERTILIZATION AND PLANT PROTECTION

A symposium is being organized May 13 – 14, 2014 in Braunschweig, Germany, to summarize the most important aspects which are relevant for the classification and potential registration of micro-organisms if they are intended to be used as plant protection and fertilizer agents.

Micro-organisms are widely used as agents in plant production to guarantee the growth of healthy plants by direct or indirect interactions with harmful organisms and by avoiding malnutrition.

‘Micro-organism’ means any microbiological entity, including lower fungi and viruses, cellular or non-cellular, capable of replication or of transferring genetic material (Reg. EU 1107/2009).

There are several theoretical modes of microorganism action related to optimal plant growth:

- a) direct parasitization of harmful target organisms
- b) induced resistance in host plants against harmful target organisms
- c) production of own secondary substances toxic to attacking pathogens
- d) competition with target organisms on resources
- e) influence on secondary substances of plants later used as extracts against target organisms
- f) influence to fertilization status of host plants of target organisms.

It is the mode of action and the intention of use which decides about the classification of the microorganisms, the related registration requirements and processes in European member states. Some of the arguments cited above are clearly covered by the definition of plant protection products (PPP). Other actions may be better described by fertilizer effects. While plant protection products undergo an intensive assessment of risks and benefits, fertilization effects often do not require registration of those micro-organisms.

Please register at the symposium website: [www.ppphe.phytomedizin.org](http://www.ppphe.phytomedizin.org) – The German Scientific Society for Plant Protection and Plant Health.

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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](http://www.plantprotection.org).**

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