



International Association for the
PLANT PROTECTION SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER

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PLANT PROTECTION STORIES - A NEW SECTION ON IAPPS WEBSITE

IAPPS website has been upgraded in the recent times to make it more functional and user friendly. A couple of new sections have recently been included in the new website. One of them, 'Plant Protection Stories' has been created with the aim to promote the development of an integrated approach to research on plant protection and to its world-wide education and practical application. This section will contain information to assist Plant Protection practitioners. Materials for this section will be supplied by IAPPS members in the form of reports, videos, and podcasts to illustrate the complexity of contemporary weed, pest and disease problems and the measures taken to manage them. The material contained in this section is original and reflects the views of the submitter but is intended to provide information, encourage debate, and advance the cause of plant protection. Short Stories editors will invite submissions that address issues in integrated plant protection and its promotion, describing successes and failures. However, endorsements of commercial products will not be accepted. The editorial committee is composed of Srinivasan Ramasamy, Nora Altier, Manuele Tamò, and Trevor Jackson. Currently four stories have been published, which can be accessed at <https://www.plantprotection.org/plant-protection-stories/>. The editorial committee invites more new plant protection stories from IAPPS members.

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PLANT PROTECTION EVOLVES IN NEW ZEALAND

Plant protection in New Zealand is adapting to the realities of COVID and evolving to address the challenges of supporting production of healthy food while meeting the threats of biodiversity loss and climate change. The flagship journal "New Zealand Plant Protection" has been converted to an open-access e-publication with past volumes digitized and available online and Bioprotection Aotearoa, a new Centre of Research Excellence guided by a Māori (indigenous) values framework has been launched.

Biosecurity risks from visitors and imported goods, plus the effects of climate change and pesticide resistance are just some of the issues currently affecting the protection of plants in New Zealand.



New Zealand Plant Protection Society
Protecting Plants with Science

Its new tagline “Protecting Plants with Science” encapsulates the New Zealand Plant Protection Society’s aim to reduce the impacts that plant pests, pathogens, weeds and border biosecurity have on New

Zealand’s economy and environment. The Society connects like-minded people and organizations by sharing the latest research findings on these issues via social media, through its website <https://nzpps.org/>, and at various events. Its [73rd annual conference](#), held in Napier in August 2021, was a great success with over 80 talks and posters presented over three days.

The Society also publishes relevant books and *New Zealand Plant Protection*, the premium peer-reviewed science journal for plant protection research in New Zealand. The digital age has had a transformational effect on communication globally and the Society has responded by converting its Journal to an open-access e-publication <https://journal.nzpps.org>. All past volumes have also been digitised and are freely available online.

The Society will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2022 yet its aims remain as valid as ever (Reported by Dr Mike Cripps, NZPPS President).



Plant protection has been served for nearly 20 years by the Bio-Protection Research Centre (<https://bioprotection.org.nz/>), based at Lincoln University, New Zealand, which has focused on research to find sustainable solutions to New Zealand’s pest and weed problems. This year, a new Centre of Research Excellence

has been launched, Bioprotection Aotearoa, which will integrate plant protection with Mātauraka Māori (indigenous knowledge) and the social sciences. Bioprotection Aotearoa builds on the work of the previous Bio-Protection Research Center, and will adopt an inclusive and holistic approach to scientific research guided by a Māori values framework. The new center is a partnership of 11 NZ Universities and research institutes which will train the next generation of bioprotection researchers and deliver world-class research that protects the productive and natural landscapes of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific. The main aims of the research are to provide the science to make landscapes more resilient to withstanding pest invasions.

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ANNUAL BIOCONTROL INDUSTRY MEETING ABIM 2021

At the 16th edition of ABIM, coorganized by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) and the International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA), representatives of the biocontrol industry met from 19-20 October 2021. This worldwide event for the biocontrol industry took place live in Basel again. More than 970 participants from 44 nations were able to network together, face to face, as well as listen to inspiring presentations and panel discussions.

Business meetings between delegates and our 71 exhibitors took place throughout the event. Both SMEs and large enterprises were well represented. An amazing number of innovations were presented. These are essential tools to facilitate the transformation to a sustainable agriculture.

As an unrivalled meeting place for the biocontrol industry, ABIM is internationally recognized. It remains the best place to discover and unveil new products, to discuss market opportunities, to present new research and products, to learn about the latest regulatory situation and to liaise with fellow professionals. The high number of delegates at this year's event shows the increasing importance of this topic. Jennifer Lewis, IBMA Executive Director explains this development: "Biocontrol is a nature-based alternative to chemical pesticides that improves biodiversity, soil quality, crop health and climate resilience in sustainable food production. Therefore, it is an important and essential instrument for our society when facing current and future challenges in the fields of agriculture and nutrition. It's great to see that this fact is now recognized".

Lucius Tamm, Director for Cooperation and Head of Department of Crop Sciences at FiBL further draws attention to the role of biocontrol when it comes to sustainability: "Agricultural systems and processes must become more sustainable in the future. Biocontrol delivers crucial solutions and can shape this transformation process to sustainable agriculture successfully. This is why this annual meeting for the biocontrol industry is so important – for the industry itself and for the whole of society".

The program of ABIM 2021 included a highly attractive journalist-led panel discussion involving biocontrol industry leaders, food processors, NGOs and researchers on how biocontrol will help transform agriculture. COPA President for European Farmers, Christiane Lambert, addressed the role of biocontrol in the transformation of agriculture in her keynote speech. COLEACP underlined the role of biocontrol in Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific countries. "There is huge interest from farmers worldwide in bringing these new innovative products to market quickly" said Lucius Tamm. The discussion has been broadcast and will be available for download by 1st November – Stay tuned on www.abim.ch.

Innovations have always been essential drivers for the biocontrol industry. This is why the Bernard Blum Award is presented annually to the most innovative biocontrol product of the year. Every year since 2015, an independent jury selects among a number of entries a winning biocontrol product which provides an effective solution in the management of pests or diseases while having a low impact on human health and the environment. The winning product of the 2021 Bernard Blum Award for Novel Biocontrol Solutions was BioPersi+ Classic/Speed Sachet from BioBee Sde Eliyahu Ltd. In 2nd place was Certis Europe with Problad and in 3rd place was Bee Vectoring Technology with their product Vectorite with CR-7 + Vectorhive. The winner of the new category "Best Innovative product assisting biocontrol uptake" is Bioline Agrosiences' product T-Booster. Read more about the products on IBMA Bernard Blum Award 2021 webpage.

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON AGRICULTURE, ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN HEALTH (ICCC 2022)

Organized by V Sivaram Research Foundation (VSRF), in collaboration with Swinburne University of Technology and Universiti Teknologi Mara, Sarawak, and in partnership with IAPPS, the International Congress on Impacts of Climate Change on Agriculture, Ecosystems and Human Health (ICCC 2022) is being organized to create an open space networking and platform in order to exchange of information and knowledge on novel innovations and their application in different domains in agriculture, Environment, Ecosystems and Health related issues. The event will take place Nov 16-18, 2022, at Miri City, Sarawak, Malaysia. During three days, oral and poster presentations, discussions, and side events will inspire new ideas and innovations that will support for international collaborations and networking on the core issues of Global Environmental Problems. We do hope that this international event will provide opportunities for developing close collaborations, and strategic alliances in scientific research in the field of sustainable agriculture, climate change, Ecosystem management, green technologies and health related issues. Among the keynote speakers our Secretary General, Prof Short Heinrichs. For details, registration and abstract submission: www.climateconf2021.com

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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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