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International Congress of Plant Pathology August 24-29 2008, Torino, Italy

ICPP 2008 Newsletter

Hot topics

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In brief

- Participants from 84 countries
- Cocktail offered by Coldiretti
- The venue: Lingotto Conference Centre
- A portrait of the ISPP president Richard Falloon
- Tomorrow programme

Participants

Pre-registered: <u>1430</u>

Countries represented: <u>84</u>

Top Ten: 1. Italy (151) 2. USA (143) 3. UK (96) 4. Australia (92) 5. Japan (72) 6. China (67) 7. Spain (66) 8. France (57) 9. Germany (52) 10. The Netherlands (40)

Fellowships

Thanks to the generosity of several agencies (Fondazione CRT, Compagnia di San Paolo, NATO, ...) 126 fellowships have been awarded. Awardees belong to the following countries: Argentina, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Iran, Serbia, Benin, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Bielorussia, Kenya, Syria, Brasil, Morocco, Thailand, Camerun, Nigeria, Turkey, China, Pakistan, Venezuela, Egypt, Peru, Vietnam, Jordan, Philippines, India, Portugal.

<u>The Rectorate of the</u> <u>University of Torino</u>

The Rectorate, seat of the University of Turin, was designed in 1713 by Michelangelo Garove, architect of the Savoy dukedom, in classical Baroque style. Adapting the design to the trapezoidal lot, the architect constructed a building entirely devoted to studies which central core is a double balcony court decorated with statues by Ignazio and Filippo Collino.



Technical sponsors/1

.Intesa San

Intesa Sanpaolo is a banking group resulting from the merger between Banca Intesa and Sanp a o l o I M I . It has leadership in the Italian market and a strong international presence focussed on Central-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean basin.

Birra Menabrea

Founded in Biella, today Birra Menabrea, under the guid-

7 Minabrea Aleco

ance of the fourth descendant of the founding family, produces around 100 thousand hectolitres, of which a small but increasing part is exported to around 20 countries throughout the world. Counthroughout the world. Special labels for bottles (on sale) were designed by Birra Menabrea especially for the Congress

What's up

Welcome cocktail offered by Coldiretti.

Coldiretti is the main agricultural organization in Italy and amongst the first ones at Eur o p e a n l e v e l. With over 568,000 farms associated, it represents a social force that values agriculture as an economic, human and environmental resource. Its regional branch - Coldiretti Piemonte – will contribute to the hosting of the ICPP 2008 Welcome cocktail providing delegates a unique chance to sample the local gastronomic delights and some of Italy's most distinctive wines, one of Piedmont's major prides.



matic system to change seat

capacity from 2,090 down to

495. The Conference Centre

offers all user classes logistic

and technological support

from advanced technology,

electronic and audiovisual aids

to simultaneous interpretation

booths and a complete infor-

mation system for visitor

and service.

Renzo Piano. The Lingotto and it is fitted with an auto-

The

monitoring

complex hosts a mall (8 Gal-

lery), a cinema (Pathè), the

gallery entitled to Giovanni

and Marella Agnelli on the

roof of the building (the so-

called "Scrigno"), the Dental

School of the University of

Torino and the Laurea (1st

degree and Bachelor-level of

the Bologna process) in auto-

Auditorium is the hall with

the highest capacity: its ceil-

ing, stage and seats are mobile

plants. He completed post-

motive engineering.

The Congress venue

The Lingotto Conference Centre is a great modern structure designed specially for conventions. Once Europe's most famous car manufacturing complex, FIAT's first factory (Lingotto) was conceived and built between 1917 and 1920, after the most advanced engineering culture of the time. In the nineties it has been reconverted into a modern multifunctional space by the renowned architect and designer

People

Prof. Richard E. Fallon

Prof Falloon was elected as President of the ISPP in 2002, prior to the 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP2003) in Christchurch, New Zealand. His election co-incided with election as President of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society. He is also a Past President (1995-1997) of the New Zealand Plant Protection Society. Prof Falloon has been working in plant pathology research since he graduated MAgrSc (Hons I) form Lincoln Agricultural College, University of Canterbury, New Zealand, in 1973. His early research was on pathogens affecting pasture

Tomorrow

Auditorium:

- Congress opening (9.30-11.00)
- The role of plant pathology in food safety and food security (11.30-13.00)
- Concepts in biological control of plant pathogens (14.30-16.30)
- Public Discussion Forum: Plant Pathology and Global Food Security (19.30-22.00)

Halls (14.30 - 16.30) :

- Tropical plant pathology
- Post harvest pathology
- Vascular plant pathogens
- Climate change and plant diseases
- Scientific publications
- Halls (16.30 18.30)
- Molecular diagnostic for plant pathology
- Disease models, epidemiology
- Genomics and proteomics

- Microbial endophytes
- Urban plant pathology **Poster viewing:** 13.00 - 14.30

Partner programme:

Torino orientation tour with aperitif (Departure 14.30 -Return: 17.45). Discover Turin historical and modern quarters and its cultural and social aspects: beautiful squares, famous avenues lined with trees, Baroque Palaces and Churches.









graduate studies at the University College of Wales Aberystwyth (Wales, UK) in 1978, where he studied the biology of Ustilago bullata, the pathogen causing head smut of prairie grass. In 1986 he took up a position at the Plant Diseases Division station associated with research on vegetable and arable crops. He worked particularly on pathogens of peas and potatoes, developing integrated management for important quality- and yield-limiting diseases causing problems for New Zealand's intensive cropping industries. His most recent research has focussed on

powdery scab of potatoes, developing very productive international collaborations, and working closely with potato breeders in New Zealand. Prof Falloon began association with the ISPP as Vice President, representing the Australasian Plant Pathology Society which hosted ICPP 2003. He was recently elected Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Science. He is currently Deputy Director of the Bio-Protection Research Centre at Lincoln University, and Plant Pathologist in the New Zealand Institute for Crop & Food Research.





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UPDATED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 1501

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 Provincia Torino
- Introducing P.
 Scott and R. Zeigler
- Meeting Timothy
 Hall
- New journal by Springer on food security
- Tomorrow programme

Hot topics

The support to the Congress of the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea



Italy since 1990. He received his degree in medicine at Parma University - Departments of Ecology and Occupational Health in 1972, his PhD in Occupational Health at Padua University in 1975 and his PhD in Hygiene and Public Health at Ancona University in 1986. From 1990 to 2001 he had been Chairman of the Environment and Health European Committee. At present C. Clini holds a number of leadership positions and more specifically Chairman of the Board of the Regional Environment Centre of Budapest, Member of the Bureau of the European Environment Agency, Vice Chair of the Hydrogen Economy International Partnership, Chairman of the Global Bioenergy Partnership, Visiting professor at the Department for Environmental Sciences and Engineering at Tshingua University of Beijing, Senior Research Fellow in the Sustainability Science Program at Harvard's Centre for International Development.

"It is important to recognize the commitment of the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP) to the improvement of the agricultural sectors of developing countries"- he said during the Congress opening speech - "The theme of this Congress "Healthy and safe food for everybody" is very much upto-date. Plant diseases are responsible of high losses both in industrialized as well as in developing countries [...] Plant pathology can

strongly contribute to the mitigation of the effects of climate change on agriculture".

<u>Technical spon-</u> sors/2 Lavazza coffee

Located in Turin, Lavazza is one of the most important roasters in the world, a leader in Italy with a 48% share of the retail market (in value, source: Nielsen). It operates in over 80 countries, in the Home and Away-from-Home sectors (Foodservice, Vending and Retailing). In 2006 sales totalled € 930 million.

Sant'Anna mineral water



The natural Sant'Anna spring

Sant'Anna springs are situated in the heart of the Maritime Alps at a height of 1503 metres. The water is extraordinarily pure and light and now it comes in bio-bottles realized in compostable material

What's up

Buffet prepared with products of "Paniere della Provincia di Torino"

The Province of Torino is much appreciated for its varied heritage of typical agricultural and food products and gastronomic excellence. In this spirit the "Basket of typical products of the Province of Torino" was created as a trademark, an umbrellalogo which protects and guarantees typical agricultural and food products of the territory, produced by farms with a documented historic tradition, using strictly local ingredients.



ISS launches a new Journal with Springer Food security - 1st issue March 2009

To address the challenge of global food security, the journal seeks to address the constraints - physical, biological and socio-economic - which not only limit food production but also the ability of people to access a healthy diet. The journal contains a mixture of original refereed papers taking a synthetic view of the science, sociology and economics of food production, agricultural development, access to food, and nutrition, together with review articles, case studies and letters to the editor. The journal covers the principles and practice of food security per

se, taking an overview of the subject or analysing it with a broad perspective over its many component disciplines. The journal will cover the following areas: Global food needs; Global food potential; Natural constraints to satisfying global food needs; Nutrition, food quality and food safety; Socio-political factors that impinge on the ability to satisfy global food needs.



Meeting Timothy Hall

"The European Commission has been supporting trans-European and wider international scientific cooperation, both on pre-defined

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topics as well as on investigatordriven research activities through its multi-annual Framework Programmes (FPs). Since plant diseases and their control are impor-

Tomorrow

Auditorium

Host-pathogen interactions and molecular plant pathology (9.00-10.30)

Concepts in biological control of plant pathogens (11.00-13.00)

Molecular diagnostics for plant pathology (15.30-17.30) Halls (11.00-13.00)

- Plant virus epidemiology
- Airborne plant diseases
- Forest diseases
- Crop biosecurity
- Bioremediation

tant for farmers, consumers and the environment, research on plant health, pesticide usage, lowinput farming, food chain issues and associated genomics and biotechnology have been important components of recent FPs and will continue to be in the 7th FP", the Head of Unit for Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Aquaculture of the European Commission explains. Then he adds: "Increased opportunities are provided for plant health research and crop-related research in general, under the theme Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology, but also in other parts [...] in recent years there has been progress toward realising a more complete European Research Area in the plant sciences but further advances are still needed. (from the Congress Opening speech)

People

Dr. Peter Scott



where he has been responsible for new developments in knowledge management in the applied biosciences. He has led the development of CABI's Compendium Programme, and the formation of its international Development Consortia that now include more than 60 participating organizations in the public, private and development assistance sectors. Previously he was a plant pathologist at the former Plant Breeding Institute, Cambridge, UK, where he was responsible for research on the genetics of resistance to facultative parasites of cereals.

He is the Immediate Past President of the International Society for Plant Pathology

Dr. Robert Zeigler

Robert Zeigler has been general director of the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines since 2005. From



1992 to 1998, he worked at IRRI as a plant pathologist, leading the Institute's Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Program (1992-96) and Irrigated Rice Research Program (1996-98). After graduating in 1972, he joined the Peace Corps and spent two years as a science teacher in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa. He then returned to the US to complete his studies before joining in 1980 IRRI's sister centre in Colombia, the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) as a visiting research associate working on cassava. In 1982, Dr Zeigler went to Burundi to work for three years as a technical adviser for the African nation's maize program at the Institut des sciences agronomiques du Burundi. He then returned to CIAT as the institute's senior staff plant pathologist until 1992, ultimately taking over as the head of its rice program. After six years at IRRI, Dr Zeigler left to become professor and head of the Department of Plant Pathology and director of the Plant Biotechnology Centre at Kansas State University in the US, before working as director of the Mexico-based Generation Challenge Program Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.

Halls (15.30-17.30)

- Risk assessment (sponsored by EFSA)
- Diseases of Mediterranean crops
- Soil disinfestation
- Fastidious bacteria
- Diseases of ornamentals and turfgrasses
- **Poster viewing**: 14.00 15.30 **Partner programme**

Museums' tour (Departure: 9:30-Return: 17:45).

Egyptian Museum:second only to the Cairo museum for

its variety and completeness (30,000 items in exhibits).

National Museum of Cinema: located inside the Mole Antonelliana, the symbol of the City of Torino, conceived in 1862 by the Architect Antonelli as a synagogue. The Museum is the tallest museum in the world (167 mt. high) and one of the most exciting exhibitions of cinema, scrupulously documented and with many curious items.



A picture from yesterday welcome cocktail at the Rectorate



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Hot topics

Host-pathogen interactions and molecular plant pathology

Genetic technology has been able to guarantee higher yields and to remove some yield impairing factors and foster the full exploitation of key practices such as fertilization, crop protection and irrigation. But that would have not been possible without the fundamental contribution of advanced plant biology (molecular biology), which in the last years has greatly contributed in the understanding of mechanisms that regulate some gene and relatedcharacters expression and, therefore, in a new approach for studying host-pathogen interactions. All pathogens are able to deliver effector proteins directly to host plants often via specialized infection structures. Pathogen effector proteins are involved with the

suppression or modulation of plant innate immunity and fundamentally control plant pathogenesis. Interestingly the same proteins that modulate pathogen virulence are also involved in triggering genotype-specific plant disease resistance (Staskawicz, KS2). Key studies were presented during KS2 about the molecular mechanisms by which plant disease resistance proteins mediate pathogen recognition (e.g. the RPS5 gene confers resistance to certain strains of Pseudomonas syringae in Arabidopsis) and about how plants and animals have evolved structurally related innate immune sensors inside cells to detect the presence of microbial molecules.

Technical sponsors/3

CUS Torino (Centro Universitario Sportivo) - It promotes many different sport activities among

University students both from Italy and other EU countries.



CUS has been very active duting the Winter Olympics 2006 in Turin cooperating in the organization of the different events.



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company has developed in the last 40 years becoming leader in the egg and egg based products sectors within the Piedmont area.

Madi Ventura - It



results from the merger in 2000 of two of the most important italian companies in the dried fruit market, becoming a national benchmark for the quality and reliability of its products.

STOP AND VISIT THE ICPP 2008 MERCHANDISING STAND!

You will find congress shirts, sweathers, hats, aprons, pins, mugs,...



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- Host-pathogen interactions
- EFSA sponsored session on risk assessment
- Meeting Pierre
 de Wit
- Introducing Gurdev Khush
- Tomorrow

What's up - Risk assessment of plant pathogens Special session in Hall 500 (15.30-17.30) sponsored by EFSA

What is EFSA?

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) was set up in January 2002 as an independent source of scientific advice and communication on risks associated with the food chain. EFSA was created as part of a comprehensive programme to improve EU food safety, ensure a high level of consumer protection and restore and maintain confidence in the EU food supply. As the risk assessor, EFSA produces scientific opinions and advice to provide a sound foundation for European policies and legislation and to support the European Commission, European Parliament and EU Member States in taking effective and timely risk management decisions.

Meeting Pierre de Wit

Q: Dr. De Wit, which are the main recent findigs related to host pathogen interactions?

A: During the last decade research in plant-microbe interactions has seen many breakthroughs. Pathogen avirulence genes and the cognate plant resistance genes, the two major players in the gene-for-gene based resistance, have been cloned. Research has now gone beyond this model by discovering the basic mechanisms of basal



Dr. Gurdev S. Khush

G.S. Khush was raised on a small farm in Punjab, India. He received BSc degree from Punjab Agricultural University in 1955 and a PhD in 1960 from the University of California, Davis. After serving as a faculty member of the University of California for seven years, he joined the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines as a Plant Breeder, and was appointed as Head of Plant Breeding Department in 1972. He retired in February 2002 as Principal Plant Breeder and Head of Division of Plant Breeding Genetics and Bioresistance.

Q: How does plant express its resistance in the light of these new achievements?

A: Most plants are resistant to microbes as they recognize non-variant molecules of microbes, also called microbeassociated molecular patterns (MAMPs) by pathogen recognition receptors (PRRs) that mediate basal defense. The primary function of pathogen avirulence factors is to suppress basal defense., whereas resistance (R) proteins recognize this activity of avirulence factors and mediate R protein-mediated resistance.

Q: Who can mainly benefit from these breakthroughs?

A: All these findings open new ways for breeders to make plants resistant to pathogens by exploiting both genes involved in both basal and gene-for gene resistance.



chemistry. During his 35 year career at IRRI he spearheaded the programme for developing high yielding and disease and insect resistant varieties of rice which ushered in green revolution in rice farming. More than 300 rice varieties developed under his leadership have been released in Asia, Africa and Latin America. IRRI bred varieties or their progenies are grown on 60% of world's rice land. Rice production increased from 257 million tons in 1966 to 626 million tons in 2006. Dr Khush had made outstanding contributions to advancing the frontiers of rice genetics. He has written 3 books, and

numerous papers in scientific journals. He has trained numerous plant breeders and served as consultant to several national rice improvement programs. For his contribution to food security he received the Japan Prize in 1987, the World Food Prize in 1996, the Rank Prize in 1998 and the Wolf Prize in Agriculture in 2000. He received honorary doctorate degrees from eleven universities and was elected to the Indian Na-Science tional Academy, Third World Academy of Sciences, US National Academy of Sciences and Royal Society of London.



Tomorrow

Auditorium

Diseases of Mediterranean crops and forests (9.00 - 1-0.30)

In celebration of 100 years of the American Phytopathological Society (15.00—17.30)

Halls (11.00 - 13.00)

- Knowledge transfer for plant pathology
- Plant pathogenic bacteria

- Natural compounds and disease control London
- Disease management in organic farming
- Nematology and plant diseases
- Wall-less, phloem-limited bacterial plant pathogens

Poster viewing: 14.00 - 15.00

Social event in the Langhe, Restaurant "La Cascata" in Verduno

Partner programme

- Basilica of Superga and park (Departure:14:30 - Return: 17:45).
- Torino historical cafes (Departure:14:30 - Return: 17:45).
- Maggiore Lake (Departure: 9.00 Return: 19:00).





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UPDATED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 1858 (152 accompanying person)

and downy mildews and leaf roll-associated viruses in

grapes, Verticillium wilt in

Hot topics

Dr.

Diseases of Mediterranean crops

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- Diseases of Mediterranean crops
- APS centenary
- Meeting S. Chakraborty
- Introducing Jim Cook
- Tomorrow programme

What's up - APS centenary

APS is an international scientific organization devoted to the study of plant diseases and their control. APS advances modern concepts in plant health management in agricultural, urban and forest settings. The Society was founded in 1908 and has grown from 130 charter members to more than 5,000 plant pathologists and scientists worldwide. APS provides

information on the latest developments and research advances in plant health science through its journals and its publishing arm, APS PRESS. APS advocates and participates in the exchange of plant health information with public policy makers, and the larger scientific community; and provides opportunities for scientific communication, collaboration, and profes-

The following exhibitors are present at ICPP 2008:

- AGROINNOVA Centre of Competence for the innovation in the agroenvironmental sector;
- The American Phytopathological Society (APS);
- APS press;
- Bioreba diagnostic tools;
- The British Society for Plant Pathology;
- CABI publishing;
- Decagon devices environmental sensors;
- European Phytosanitary Research Coordination;
- Florilab diagnostic tools;
- ICPP 2013:
- International Society for Plant Pathology;
- Springer Editor.



sional development. The APS Centenary has been celebrated at Minneapolis at the end of July in a very successful meeting. Participants received "Memorable Milestones", a which includes collection "The 100-Year History of APS" by R. James Cook, "APS Centennial Oral History Project" by Darin M. Eastburn, and "APS Member Tributes: Past to Present".

Khaled Makkouk President of the Mediterranean Phytopathological Un-

ion and virologist at the International Centre of Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA), says to us: "Diseases are considered among the major biotic stresses that reduce crop production in all Mediterranean countries. Even though each crop is affected by a number of diseases, there are few which represent a threat for profitable crop production and require special attention. Examples of such diseases are citrus tristeza virus in citrus, Esca trunk diseases, powdery

olives, Bayoud disease in date palm, whitefly-transmitted viruses in tomato, fire blight in pome fruits, plum pox virus in stone fruits, and a number of viruses which affect cucurbit crops, to mention a few. Research efforts are intensified to develop integrated control options to reduce crop losses caused by these diseases with minimal use of chemicals. The threat of introduction and spread of diseases within the Mediterranean region is real and therefore regional coordination and cooperation in research, biosecurity and information exchange is a priority".

Meeting Sukumar Chakraborty

Dr. Chakraborty, how will climate change influence agriculture in the next years?

The impact of climate change will

be from rising greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, changes in temperature and rainfall and an increase



in the uncertainty of seasonal conditions. For instance, the frequency and severity of drought and floods may change. Yield of crops like wheat, rice and soybean may increase but sorghum, millets and many pasture plants will not benefit from rising carbon dioxide. The growing season will be extended in middle and higher latitudes but crop yield will suffer at lower latitudes. These effects will be modified by region-specific changes in rainfall pattern. Crops in hotter areas will demand more water and yield will



Prof. James Cook

R. James Cook is best known for his research at Washington State University (WSU) on biological and ecological approaches to manage root diseases of wheat. Starting in 1998, and before retiring from WSU in 2005, he held the R. J. Cook Chair in Wheat Research, a position endowed suffer if water is limiting. There may be less organic matter in the soil and adding more chemical fertilizers to maintain quality of a fast growing crop may have unwanted environmental consequences.

What should farmers expect from modified disease patterns due to climate change?

Rising temperature and carbon dioxide will also increase the growth and crop loss from some diseases. As rising temperature and other changes make some areas unsuitable for growing certain crops but the cropping systems do not change due to other limitations such as irrigation and other infrastructure, crops will suffer from climate stress and may become more susceptible to diseases. Pathogens may evolve more quickly to develop virulent races to overcome resistance and some varieties that

with a \$1.5-million gift to WSU

from the Washington wheat

growers. He was elected to the

US National Academy of Sci-

are currently resistant may become unproductive. Some diseases of minor importance may become more important while others may cease to be a problem. Measures used to control plant diseases will need to keep pace with changing pattern and severity of diseases. If more plant protection chemicals need to be applied to control diseases, these can potentially harm the environment.

How can research help in mitigating influences of climate change on crop production?

We are still uncertain about the exact nature of the impact from plant diseases under a changing climate and research is vital to determine this. This is done at various levels; assessments at a regional/country level helps policymakers decide what investment and regulatory framework is necessary to address the issue, while detailed knowledge of impacts on individual crop and its diseases are needed for decisions at the farm level. Plant breeding for disease resistance has long been recognised as an important tool in combating diseases. Breeding will need to align itself to emerging threats from new races and/or new diseases predicted under climate change. If selection under conditions mimicking a changing climate fails to find enough natural variation in crop plants, other approaches like genetic engineering will help to develop novel sources of resistance. As it takes a long time to develop and release new varieties and other management options, the time to start this research is now. Other mitigation research may examine ways to minimise factors that contribute to climate change such as rising carbon dioxide and methane from agricultural production systems.

ences in 1993 and the US Agricultural Research Service Science Hall of Fame in 1997. He holds BSc and MSc degrees from North Dakota State University, a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and honorary

doctorates from North Dakota State and the University of Turin. He was entitled a 140-acre experimental farm at Washington State University to study direct seed cropping and precision farming technology on a large scale. Prof. Cook, who mentored and trained hundreds of people from all over the world, is also well known for his incredible energy.



Auditorium

Recent developments in disease management (h. 9.00 - 1-0.30)

Concepts in chemical control (h.11.00 - 13.00)

Halls (11.00 - 13.00)

- Induced resistance
- Mycotoxins
- Innovative disease control strategies
- Precision agriculture and plant pathology
- Diseases of soilless crops

Halls (14.00 - 17.30)

- Host-pathogen interactions
 Soilborne plant diseases and their control
- •Diseases of Mediterranean crops
- Plant breeding and resistance strategies
- •Crop and food biosecurity
- •Teaching plant pathology

Agroinnova lounge (h.13.00-14.00)

Presentation of the new Italian review about crop protection ("Protezione delle colture") (upon ivitation)

Partner programme

Venaria Reale and Racconigi Castle (Departure: 9.00 -Return: 19.00).

The wines of Piedmont - tour in the langhe region (Departure: 9.00 - Return: 17.45).







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CPP 2008 ewslette

Hot topics

Crop biosecurity

"Among the many challenges to achieving a sustainable society is the protection of the plant resources that underpin public health, environmental stability, and food security. Crop biosecurity is a state of preparedness that ensures a safe, affordable, and available supply of food, feed, fiber, and fuels by protecting natural and agricultural plant systems from the threats of plant pathogens and insect pests" - Dr. J. Stack from Kansas State University explains - "The increasing awareness of the importance of plant and crop biosecurity is evident at this 9th International Congress of Plant Pathology where several sessions address these issues including, a Crop Biosecurity Symposium reporting on the results from an European Union funded collaboration among seven nations, a Biosecu-

rity and Quarantine Symposium, and many individual contribu-

tions regarding the technologies and strategies upon which plant biosecurity will be based.

Public health is difficult to attain when a population is undernourished or starving. The diets of most poor societies are plantbased and many of the medicines used to prevent or cure diseases are plant derived. This is a global issue requiring international cooperation and collaboration. Population growth, climate change, and global trade of plants and plant products add a sense of urgency. Social unrest associated with food shortages in several nations over the past 12 months points to the critical need for crop biosecurity. We can ill afford to delay addressing this issue. Too many people are hungry and in poor health; more people will be hungry and sick if we do not secure our agricultural and natural plant systems".

Technical sponsors/4

Raineri olive oil

Founded in Imperia in 1910, Raineri produces quality extra virgin oils



selecting the best olive varieties cultivated in Liguria region.

Bosca Spumante

Located in Canelli, Bosca company pursues the highest quality by means of her precious tradition and a cutting edge technology in the industry of wine based products. Bosca products are present in markets all over the world always trying to bring together innovation and tradition in wine sector.

What's up - Special session EU Crop and food biosecurity, Roma Hall (14.00 - 17.30)

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We met Jacqueline Fletcher, regents professor at Oklahoma State University, who talked about two international projects on Crop biosecurity: "Global food security encompass a broad range of issues related to new and emerging diseases and pests that are naturally, accidentally, or intentionally introduced. Efforts to enhance our plant resources have not always kept pace with those related to livestock and other animal products. However, two projects focusing on crop biosecurity over the past three years, coordinated by Dr. Lodovica Gullino, AGROINNOVA

Director (Italy), and made possible through funding from NATO

and the European Union, represent landmark multi-national



approach to enhancing global food security for all. It is only through communication, common goals for crop protection, and cross-border respect that any nation will be optimally prepared to protect its crops and mitigate damage caused by such threats. The interactions of the multi-national teams of scientists on these two

projects culminated in discussions, conclusions and presentations at this Congress over the coming week. Furthermore, the Congress is facilitating discussions with representatives from many nations about continued and expanded collaborations and initiatives that will build on the accomplishments of the two initial projects".



www.cropbiosecurity.org

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- EU "Crop biosecurity" project
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- Introducing Laurence ν. Madden
- Tomorrow

ICPP 2008 Newsletter

Pictures from yesterday dinner in the Langhe



People

Dr. Laurence V. Madden

L.V. Madden is a leading international authority in plant disease epidemiology who has made numerous research contributions that have substantially increased our understanding of disease development in time and space. He has pioneered the use of many modelling approaches to: analyze, compare, and predict plant disease epidemics; characterize the spatial pattern of disease incidence, and relate spatial heterogeneity to crop, pathogen, and environmental factors; relate disease dynamics to crop losses; relate envi-

ronment to disease and inoculum dynamics; and evaluate control strategies. Of major significance is his work with colleagues on development of differential-equation models for plant virus diseases with insect vectors. In this major contribution, the basic reproduction number for predicting invasion and persistence of viruses was derived. In other long-term research, he has shown how spread of diseases with rain-dispersed spores is determined by surface topography, plant canopy, and rain intensity.

Madden's research has been

extremely productive, with 200 peer-reviewed journal articles and two books on plant disease epidemiology. He has received many honours, including the Ruth Allen Award from the American Phytopathological Society (APS), the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Ohio State University, the E.C. Stakman Award from the University of Minnesota and the Jakob Eriksson Prize from ISPP during the present ICPP Congress. He is an elected Fellow of 3 scientific societies. He served as President of APS in 1996-97.

Participant's view about ICPP Organizers need all appreciation for bringing together so many delegates from 84 countries to evolve strategies for healthy and safe food for everybody [...] I would like to put in record that seniors scientists made various sessions and at the same time young pathologists presented their work in beautifully designed posters [...] Organizers should be thanked whole heartedly for nice arrangements, kind hospitality, nice food [...] Untiring efforts made by ICPP 2008 President Professor Gullino and all the volunteers are praiseworthy.

Prof. Arun Arya (India)



Tomorrow

Auditorium

Knowledge and technology transfer for plant pathology (h.9.00-10.30) Concepts in chemical control (h. 11.00-13.00) Congress closing (h.16.30-18.00) Halls (11.00-13.00)

• Taxonomy of plant pathogens

- · Biosecurity and quarantine
- Plant pathology in industrialized and developing countries
- Transgenic plants
- Global seed health: concerns and solutions

Halls (14.00-16.00)

- •What future for plant pathology?
- •Plant pathogens and

microbial interactions in soil

Partner programme

Shopping tour - visit of special stores. Departure: 14:30 Return: 17:45 ca.

Dr. Emanuel Moses

E. Moses completed his PhD in Plant Pathology at University College (University of London) in 1997 and joined the Crops Research Institute of its native Ghana in the same year. He has occupied the positions of Head of Root and Tuber Crops Research from 2001 to 2006 in its institute and the Coordinator of Adaptive Research in the Middle Zone of Ghana in the National Root and Tuber Improvement Programme (in the same period). Some of its significant achievements include winning the P.H. Gregory Prize award of the British Society for Plant Pathology in 1996 and receiving the second prize in Scientific Presentations of the International Society of Tropical Root Crops (African Branch) in 2001. He was the recipient of the first Congress Challenge Award of the International Society for Plant Pathology in 2003



International Congress of Plant Pathology August 24-29 2008, Torino, Italy

ICPP 2008 Newsletter

Hot topics

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In brief

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EXECUTIVE COMMIT- for TEE OF ISPP STATE- p MENT a

"We, the Executive Committee of the International Society for Plant Pathology, meeting in Torino, Italy at ICPP 2008, endorse and support the application of the many facets of modern plant pathology as tools to enhance food and fibre productivity and food security, to improve the lives of the fast growing world population, and to address environmental degradation, hunger and poverty. We also strongly advocate using sound science as the basis for regulatory and political decisions pertaining to biotechnology including genetic modification

for plant improvement. We promote the careful, unbiased and science-based evaluation of modern technologies and products".

President: M. Lodovica Gullino Vice President: Wafa Khoury Vice President: You-Liang Peng Secretary General: Greg Johnson Treasurer: Thomas Evans Immediate Past President: Richard Falloon

Technical sponsors/5

F.lli Rabino Farmhouse

A farmhouse located near Alba which produces quality wines obtained by traditional vineyards as Nebbiolo, Barbera and Arneis. The farm belonged to the Savoia Family and its architecture is very peculiar. The Rabino Family is a very special one: AGROIN-NOVA carries out the experimental trials on grapevine in the farm since the early 1980s.

Restaurant La Posta

The Restaurant belongs to the Genovesio family and it is located in a XVIII century palace in Cavour (Turin province). It offers typical dishes of Piedmont tradition such as fresh hand made pasta and quality wines. It is supplier of the University of Torino since many years.

What's up - The support of Dow Agrosciences

Dow is one of the main sponsors of ICPP Congress. We have met Dr. Bacci of Dow Agrosciences Italy. "The support of Dow to the Congress is driven by the strong interest the company has in the development of new fungicides especially on minor crops - he says - and that is true especially in Italy, a country where minor crops have a key importance from an economical point of view. Dow needs to know which are the most recent achievements gained in the plant pathology research sector in order to select and focus on the hot topics and to be able to invest in the best way". Finally he adds: "We warmly hope to get important inputs from the Congress in order to extend our expertise and interests in new fields such as food security and crop biosecurity and to evaluate with an increased awareness fundamental issues related to crop protection such as environmental protection and worker exposure".

ICPP 2008 Newsletter

Meeting Ilan Chet

Q: Dr. Chet, which recent developments in biological control of plant pathogens do you consider as the most interesting?

A: During the last years the subject of biological control attract more and more researchers. However most of the research is dedicated to study new mechanisms, signal transduction and mode of action on the molecular levels

People

Maria Lodovica Gullino -The new ISPP President.

Born at Saluzzo and very proud of her home-town, she spent her all career at the University of Torino, where she is Professor in Biological and integrated Plant Disease Management, School in Biotechnology. She spent in the 1980's various long research periods in foreign Universities in the Netherlands and in the US. She is presently Past-President of the Italian Society for Crop Protection (A.I.P.P.) and of the Italian Association of the Agricultural Scientific Societies (AISSA). She has been vice-President of the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP) during the period 2003-2008, and has been elected President for the period 2008-2013. Her research interests focus on plant disrather than a breakthrough in a commerfungal control. It was found

cial

that beyond mycoparasitism and antibiosis the biocontrol agents like Trichoderma can change the plant metabolism and stimulate induced resistance. Many factors like jasmonic acid, ethylene, PAL and kinases are involved in

ease management, biological

and integrated control of dis-

eases, crop biosecurity, effect

of climate change on plant

agriculture. Co-author of 8

books, she published over

500 scientific articles and re-

views on Italian and interna-

tional Journals. Since 1998 she

is in charge of the Interna-

tional Affairs of the Univer-

sity of Torino and in 2002,

together with Angelo Gari-

NOVA, a Centre of Compe-

environmental and agro-food

sector, which rapidly gained

national and international

recognition. She is member of

dealing with environmental

issues and consultant of the

Italian Ministry for Environ-

ment, Land and Sea since

1992, Director of Interna-

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International

tence

diseases.

and sustainable

AGROIN-

Committees

agro-

this complicated process.

Q: Which other mechanisms are involved in induced resistance?

A: The biocontrol fungi and bacteria stimulate increased growth response in plants. I years of work we are just in the beginning of understanding this exciting phenomenon.

tional High Level Courses on

Sustainable development for

Chinese and eastern Europe

officers at the Venice Interna-

tional University. Editor of

Informatore Fitopatologico -

La Difesa delle piante (2000-

2007), in 2008 launched, to-

gether with Angelo Garibaldi,

a new Italian Journal on Crop

Protection (Protezione delle

colture). She has coordinated

and managed many national

and international research

projects (many in China as

well as in other developing

and emerging countries), and

organized several national and

international Congresses, in-

cluding ICPP 2008. She ob-

tained several awards form

public Institutions and private

companies. Although admit-

ting to be a little workaholic,

she enjoys travelling, exercis-

ing, shopping and the good

Italian lifestyle.

Prof. Angelo Garibaldi

People

Full professor of Plant Disease Management at the Faculty of Agriculture University of Torino, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture (1990-



1996) and Deputy Rector (1996feel that despite of so many 2004) of the University of Torino, he is currently President of the Centre of Competence for the Innovation in the agro-environmental sector (Agroinnova). He has been responsible of many research projects. He supervised many students in the preparation of their Master and PhD thesis in Italy and abroad. He is one of the main world expert on disease of ornamentals, and an avid hunter of new diseases. He received the prize Van Der Brande from the University of Gent (Belgium) in 1990 and the gold medal by the Ministry of Research and University for his achievements (2000).



Tomorrow

Post Congress Technical Excursions

1 - Forestry and forest pathology - Aosta Valley; full day tour.

2 - Horticulture - In the land of the Marquisate of Saluzz; full day tour.

3 - Organic agriculture, alpine

botanical garden and the art of cuisine - Pellice Valley; full day tour.

4 - Viticulture and grapevine pathology - Alba, Langhe e Roero; full day tour.

All excursions depart from and return to the Lingotto Conference Centre. Report time is 15 minutes prior to departure.

