



11th World Congress on Parasitic Plants

7 - 12 June 2011
Martina Franca, Italy

International Parasitic Plant Society

11th World Congress on Parasitic Plants, 7 - 12 June 2011, Martina Franca, Italy

We are pleased to invite you to the 11th World Congress on Parasitic Plants, that will be held from 7 to 12 June 2011 in Martina Franca, Italy.

The Congress continues a long tradition of regularly assembling the world's experts on parasitic plants for professional and scientific meetings, which started in 1973 with the first international meeting in Malta.

The Congress will bring together scientists representing a wide spectrum of disciplines, research approaches, and geographical representation of parasitic plant research. Assembling specialists with different perspectives, all focused around the common theme of plant parasitism, provides a stimulating environment for learning, exchanging ideas, and connecting with old and new colleagues.

Parasitic plants - both the weedy species that severely constrain agriculture and the many other non-weedy species - present unanswered questions with regard to their origin and evolution from non parasitic plants, population structures and dynamics, evolutionary pathways towards crop parasitism, ecology, physiology, molecular biology, and the structure, function and development of their haustoria.

The Congress will include presentations at the cutting edge of parasitic plant research and management of parasitic weeds. A major emphasis in the Congress will be the fostering of interaction among participants.

Please consider attending the 11th World Congress on Parasitic Plants. Mark the date in your calendar and register for the Congress.

Please visit the official website of the Congress at the following address:
<http://ipps2011.ba.cnr.it>

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and Society, we are looking forward to meeting you in Italy.

DATES AND LOCATION

The Congress will be held from Tuesday 7th (arrivals) to Sunday 12th (departures) June 2011 in Martina Franca, a very nice small town located in South Italy, around 70 Km from Bari, in the heart of the Itria Valley, famous worldwide for the Trulli, the typical buildings recognized as World Heritage by UNESCO.

VENUE

The Congress will be held at the Park Hotel San Michele, an historic and fascinating hotel surrounded by a nice garden, located very close to the old city, at a walking distance from many other beautiful buildings and the commercial area.

TOPICS

Contribution and participation from researchers on any weedy and non-weedy parasitic plants is encouraged. The program will consist of oral presentations and posters. Oral presentations will be invited or selected from submitted preliminary abstracts.

Topics will include but are not limited to the following:

- Evolution and phylogeny of parasitic plants
- Parasite biochemistry and physiology (including molecular biology)
- Floral biology
- Ecology and population biology of parasitic species

- Host parasite communication (including germination stimulation, haustorial induction, etc.)
- Host and non-host response to parasitism
- Parasitic weed management
- Regulation and phytosanitation
- Parasitic plant genomics
- Geographical Information System (GIS) and modelling in parasitic weeds
- Crop resistance to parasitic weeds and crop breeding
- Any other aspects, descriptions, approaches and ideas related to parasitic plants

SYMPOSIA

The Scientific Committee encourages congress participants to propose topics for special symposia that will be held during the congress. The proposed topics should be considered as the "state of art" in any field of parasitic plants research. Proposals including title, abstract (limited to 100 words) and a list of (4-6) invited speakers should be sent to the Scientific Chair (eizenber@agri.gov.il) before November 1st, 2010.

REGISTRATION

The registration fee will be kept as low as possible, and in line with the previous World Congresses on Parasitic Plants.

The local organizers will assure the success of the congress by organizing high quality accommodation, food and services for attendees and accompanying persons.

The registration fee will include:

- access to the conference sessions and exhibition
- accommodation in single, double or triple rooms for 4 days
- full-board service including breakfasts, lunches and dinners
- mid session refreshments
- gala dinner
- half-day field/tourist excursion
- transportation from the Bari airport to the venue and return
- delegate pack
- one copy of the proceedings

TRANSPORTATION

By Air

If you plan to come by air, the Bari - Karol Wojtyla airport is the nearest airport, very well connected with the two main International Italian airports (Rome and Milan), and has many international flights, too, including those operated by low cost companies.

According to participants' flight schedules, transportation will be arranged directly from the airport to the Hotel Venue (the trip lasts around 1 hour).

By Train

For people travelling by train, Bari is well connected by train with many Italian and foreign cities, including by Eurostar fast trains. From Bari it will be necessary to take a local train or bus (Sud-Est line) to reach Martina Franca.

By Car

Bari is very well connected with good and fast toll highways with the most important cities, e.g. Naples (around 250 km), Rome (around 450 km) or Milan (around 800km). Martina Franca is well connected to Bari via local roads.

TOURS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

A number of individual or group, pre- or post- congress tours, will be proposed to attendees and accompanying persons. Further information will be given in the future.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The European Weed Research Society (EWRS) will partially support with grants the attendance of a number of young researchers who wish to present their research findings at the Conference.

The Organizing Committee is trying to obtain some grants from International Organizations and Foundations in order to support the attendance of young participants from all over the world, especially from developing countries.

Further information will be posted as soon as it is available. Please check the website occasionally to find additional and updated information.

SPONSORSHIPS

The organizers are looking for sponsorships in order to support the attendance of young scientists especially from developing countries, and to assure to the conference the level required and expected.

Please contact the local organizer at **ipps2011@area.ba.cnr.it** in case you are interested in being a sponsor.

ORGANIZERS

Program Committee

- **Hanan Eizenberg, Israel (chair)**
- **Phillipe Delavault, France**
- **Alexander Pérez-de-Luque, Spain**
- **Maurizio Vurro, Italy**
- **Koichi Yoneyama, Japan**
- **Jim Westwood, USA**

Local Organizer

Maurizio Vurro, Institute of Sciences of Food Productions, National Research Council

Via Amendola 122/O, 70125, Bari, Italy

e-mail: maurizio.vurro@ispa.cnr.it - phone: +39.080.5929331; fax: +39.080.5929374

WEBSITE

Information can be found at the official Website of the Congress at: **<http://ipps2011.ba.cnr.it>**
Please visit it regularly, or pre-register to receive updates on all the news about the Congress

DEADLINES

September 30th 2010 - Pre-registration - expression of interest

March 1st 2011 - Abstract titles submission

April 1st 2011 - Early registration

April 15th 2011 - Abstracts to be considered for oral presentation

May 1st 2011 - Abstract submission

May 27th 2011 - Registration

CONTACTS

Any information about accommodation, tours, location, etc. can be required to the following e-mail address: **ipps2011@area.ba.cnr.it**