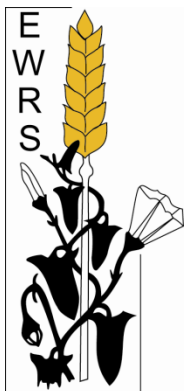


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**EUROPEAN WEED RESEARCH SOCIETY**



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*Convolvulus arvensis* L. in an organically grown wheat variety mix in the MASCOT trial at the Interdepartmental Research Station 'E. Avanzi' of the University of Pisa, Italy, in 2011, as part of the SOLIBAM (Strategies for Organic and Low-input Integrated Breeding and Management) project (Picture and text: Ambrogio Costanzo).

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## FROM THE BOARD

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues and friends,



It is with great pleasure that I am taking over the duties of President from my predecessor Hansjörg Krähler, whom I want to warmly thank. Hansjörg has served the EWRS with great passion and commitment. Among other things, I was amazed to see how he could put up a successful and active new Working Group (Weed Mapping) in such a short time! This makes me think that we should always beware of stereotypes. Many people would think that Presidents coming from the industry would commit to this task without much passion, being too much distracted by everyday company affairs. Well, I have rarely seen such a genuine enthusiasm and wholehearted commitment to the President tasks like that shared by the latest two Presidents we had from industry. We look forward to have a third one soon!

But first I must acknowledge the election of our new Vice-President (and future President): Laszlo Radics from Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary. Congratulations Laszlo, and welcome aboard. I also want to congratulate Ben Post and Andrej Simončič for their re-election as EWRS Treasurer and Board Secretary, respectively. You can find a full report of the 2011 election round at page 9. I also sincerely thank all the members who participated in the elections as candidates. Let me use this opportunity to invite our members to propose themselves as candidates in the next election round. Why not take the chance to see how the EWRS works directly from the control room?

I am happy to serve our Society for the next two years and hope to contribute to maintaining, and possibly increasing, the high scientific recognition that the EWRS has reached worldwide. Much of this success depends on our Working Group-based structure. Through Working Group activities we can look at weeds and weed management from a plethora of observation points, something which is unrivalled worldwide. But any machine needs maintenance: that's why we invite all of you to make full use of the opportunities our Society has to offer, be you a young research fellow, an experienced scientist, or a vegetation manager. Active members are the fuel and lubricant of the EWRS machine.

This historical moment brings about many important challenges for science and society. The number of weed scientists is decreasing everywhere despite the fact that weeds are and will remain a major obstacle to crop production and the preservation of habitat quality. But we increasingly recognise that what we call 'weeds' can also contribute to the conservation of (functional) biodiversity and environmental quality. On a more practical side, in the EU we are facing a dramatic reduction in the availability of herbicides, and the new EU Framework Directive on Sustainable Pesticide Use will radically change the way crops will be grown. This will bring about undoubted challenges but also huge opportunities to improve our cropping and weed management systems. In this context, the role GM crops are going to play in EU agriculture is still uncertain and vastly debated.

A few years ago I enjoyed writing an insight paper with some colleagues of mine (Fernandez-Quintanilla *et al.*, Weed Res. 48, 297-301). I still think that many of the perspectives on the future of weed research we envisaged by looking through our crystal ball are still there and need someone to tackle them. I believe that weed scientists have the right mental flexibility to take on these new challenges. Wherever there are weeds – or someone caring/worried for them – there will be room for weed scientists. So let's think positive and get ready for new opportunities.

*Ad majora!*  
Paolo Bàrberi

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## FINAL REPORT OF ELECTIONS FOR BOARD FUNCTIONS 2011

### Election procedure

This is to inform you of the outcome of the election procedure for the Vice-president 2012-2013 and for the Treasurer and Secretary position 2012-2015. The election process for three Board members was conducted following the guidelines of the new EWRS Constitution. On 30<sup>th</sup> May 2011 the elections 2011 for renewal of three EWRS Board functions (Vice-President, Board Secretary, and Treasurer) started, when all Ordinary, Sustaining and Honorary members were asked electronically to propose nominees. The "Call for Nominations" finished on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011. No further nominees have been accepted thereafter. After the procedure to get nominees for all three positions, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, we have begun with the procedure for the acceptance of the nomination. We have finished the nomination process with 2 nominees for Vice President (Laszlo Radics, Willy Rueegg) and 4 nominees for the Secretary position (Roland Beffa, Jacek Kiec, Paul Neve and Andrej Simoncic), whereas for Treasurer we succeeded to get only one nominee (Ben Post). All nominees for Board functions have sent their CVs. The final election round was accessible online and available for voting from 3<sup>rd</sup> October until 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

### Final results of the EWRS Board Elections 2011

The number of votes received for the various candidates were the following:

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. Lazlo Radics	102
Dr. Willy Rueegg	93
Blank votes	8

#### TREASURER

Ben Post	189
Blank votes	14

#### SECRETARY

Dr. Roland Beffa	17
Dr. Jacek Kiec	16
Dr. Paul Neve	68
Dr. Andrej Simoncic	99
Blank votes	3

Consequently, the newly elected Board members are:

Vice-President	Dr. Laszlo Radics
Treasurer	Mr. Ben Post
Secretary	Dr. Andrej Simoncic

The EWRS Board would like to acknowledge the willingness of all candidates to serve and expresses its congratulations to the newly elected Board members.

Date and Place: 17<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2011, Ljubljana

On behalf of the EWRS Board, EWRS Secretary:  
Dr. Andrej Simoncic

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## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUPS

### A DIFFERENT KIND OF WORKSHOP BY THE EWRS WORKING GROUP SITE SPECIFIC WEED MANAGEMENT

Classical workshops are usually consisting of numerous talks, discussions and usually an excursion. The Workshop organised by the Working Group 'Site Specific Weed Management' will organise a workshop at the Department of Agriculture and Ecology, LIFE Faculty, of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, from 28 to 31 May 2012 is different.

**The Background** is that various research groups develop sensors and cameras with different properties. During experimentation in greenhouse and field the researchers continuously improve the performance of quantifying weed infestations in crops. Rarely, are the various developing scanners/cameras being compared concomitantly.

**The objectives** are to initiate and finish a joint experiment with proof-of-concepts from participating research groups, which bring their own sensors, scanning or camera devices to identify weed infestations.

**The aim** is to expose several sensor platforms to the same experiment and find common ground for developing a measurement protocol.

**The outcomes** are to write joint peer review articles for Weed Research, Precision Agriculture or Computers and Electronics in Agriculture on the basis of the joint experiment. The rationale is to describe the performance of various sensor and camera platforms on various vegetation densities and herbicide dose-response symptoms.

A self propelled sprayer with real time weed recognition (Roland Gerhards)



Most of time, we will be in the field and work with sensors and cameras in pre-designed experiments with spring barley and oil seed rape of varying density and non-uniformly distributed weed flora. Prior to the workshop we have treated the crops with increasing rates of herbicides that affect the colour of the canopy. We will continuously analyse the acquired data on a daily basis and before the end of the Workshop have a draft to scientific article.

There are 22 delegates and 6 different camera and sensor systems, so we are looking forward to participating in some exciting days at the end of May.

On behalf of the organising committee:

Roland Gerhards, Hohenheim University,  
Therese With Berge, Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research (Bioforsk),  
Jens Streibig, University of Copenhagen,  
Svend Christensen, University of Copenhagen.

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## EXTRACT OF THE REPORT ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON WEEDS AND INVASIVE PLANTS IN ASCONA, SWITZERLAND

by Christian Bohren, coordinator of EWRS Working Group on Invasive Plants;  
[christian.bohren@acw.admin.ch](mailto:christian.bohren@acw.admin.ch)



Scientists and practitioners from all over the world met from October 3 to 7, 2011 in Ascona, Switzerland for a symposium on terrestrial and aquatic exotic and invasive plants. This series of meetings, which began 2006 features bringing together specialists on biology, weed science, agronomy and practice. The delegates shared experiences on biology, ecology and control plant invaders and intractable weeds. The symposium in Ascona was after Ponta Delgada on the Azores (2006) and Osijek in Croatia (2008) again organized in a region – Ticino – where the problematic of invasive plants is everywhere visible. With its climate at the southern side of the Alps and with its role as international transit region for people and goods,

Ticino is the Swiss region with highest abundance of invasive neophytes. This region illustrates the development of flora in a changing world. Because of intensive South-North traffic, invasive plant propagules are displaced mainly from southern to northern regions; therefore southern Switzerland could demonstrate how flora of northern Switzerland will be developing in future. Nicola Schoenenberger from the Cantonal Museum of Natural History in Lugano gave a nice introduction to the Ticino region featuring the changing flora. The symposium was a very good opportunity for all participants to broaden their view on interactions between agricultural weeds, aquatic weeds and invasive neophytes.

### Session description

The topic of session 1 “Causes and impact of plant invasions” mainly dealt with impact. Unfortunately, we have made only limited progress on understanding invasion impact in the past decade despite the fact that impacts of exotic species are a major reason why citizens, managers, agriculturalists and scientists are interested in invasions. Clearly, assessing general patterns regarding impact is difficult and we often do not know whether impact is simply a matter of demography or whether it is largely driven by different per-capita effects.

The general idea of session 2 was to draw attention to differences and similarities between weeds of arable fields and invasive plants of more natural habitats through a series of oral presentations and a poster session dealing mostly with biology and ecology of plant invaders.

Motto of the session 3 was “How far are control methods transferable between agricultural weeds and plant invaders”. The session had the highest number of contributions with examples from different habitats and control methods, trying to find an generalizing answer. The main difference when choosing the weed control method is not only in a weed specificity but in the impact on habitat where the weedy plant is considered undesirable.

Session 4 featured on aquatic plants. The diversity in aquatic plants in Europe was presented. An overview was given on the current situation of introduced aquatic plants, as well as their pathways of introduction and their current status of spread. Species causing the most serious problems in European waters were highlighted.

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*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* from North America was the focal species in this extended session 5 that turned around the question whether Europe can “successfully fight the ragweed invasion”.

The motto of session 6 was “Impacts to and answers from human society versus plant invasion”. Trying to answer the question about the origin of plants – is it from here or from elsewhere and since when? – it is not possible to define a zero point. “Normal” biological invasions are natural, while “abnormal” invasions are of anthropogenic origin. If nature is essentially good, it is man corrupting it in causing “abnormal” invasions.

EWRS supported young scientists for their outstanding work by giving grants to cover conference fees and travel costs. The WG on Biological Control and the WG on Invasive Plants subsidised in Ascona the following students: Gabriele Bassler (Austria), Min Hahn (Switzerland), Ines Abela-Hofbauerova (Czech Republic), Miia Jauni (Finland), Nataša Kočič Tubić (Serbia), Tiziana Pedrotta (Switzerland), Mohammad Alebrahim Taghi (Iran), Anna Maria Väisänen (Finland). We welcome these young people as members of our society!

## Excursion



The excursion day of this four-days symposium was dedicated to diverse geographical zones where invasive neophytes occur and may cause problems to nature. In the morning 75 delegates visited the nature reserve of “Bolle di Magadino”. This is found in the estuary of the river Ticino to the Lago Maggiore. Nicola Patocchi, scientific leader of the foundation for the nature reserve explained how this area is in between human and natural impacts concerning the pressure of invasive plants. Some invasive neophytes are unintentionally brought by man as *Aster lanceolatus*, *Bidens frondosa*, *Reynoutria japonica*, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, *Solidago canadensis* or *Solidago gigantea*. Some species are under strict control, as seeds

of *Amorpha fruticosa* are brought by floodwaters of the lake, and they germinate in the nature reserve, but other neophytes are tolerated as newly arriving plants (*Impatiens glandulifera*). A lot of sensibility is needed for guiding the development of the natural reserve in a region where urban pressure is extremely high and land reserves are extremely short.



In the afternoon the delegates were confronted with problems of invasive plants in an area where man is moving mountains. A 15 km tunnel – part of a high-speed North/South bound railway link crossing on low altitude below the Alps – is presently excavated under the Monte Ceneri. Millions of cubic meters of granite stone powder are stocked in a mountainous valley between Bellinzona and Lugano. Alptransit – the constructing company – has employed specialists for re-naturalization of gravel deposit and construction sites. These engineers explained how they integrate aspects of invasive plants free re-naturalization right at the beginning of works. The majority of plant species listed on the Swiss “black list”

for neophytes was found at Sigirino construction site.



The conference dinner was held on the Isole di Brissago. These are two little islands in the Lago Maggiore sheltering a botanical garden, which is run under the government of the canton Ticino. Guido Maspoli, director of the botanical garden, gave a short overview of the history and collection of plants in this place. These islands are the warmest locality in Switzerland representing a wet (!) Mediterranean climate with about 2000 mm annual rainfall.

## Summary

Trying to answer the question about the origin of plants – is it from here or from elsewhere and since when? – it is not possible to define a zero point. “Normal” biological invasions are natural, while “abnormal” invasions are of anthropogenic origin. If nature is essentially good, it is man corrupting it in causing “abnormal” invasions. We admire nature, but we feel guilty for “modern” plant invasions. Invasive alien species introduced intentionally or unintentionally by man can undoubtedly cause damage to the countries where they occur. Only limited progress on understanding invasion impact is made in the past decade despite the fact that impacts of exotic species are a major reason why citizens, managers, agriculturalists and scientists are interested in invasions. A general idea for this symposium was to draw attention to differences and similarities between weeds of arable fields and invasive plants of more natural habitats. Farmers do not usually distinguish between native and non-native species and control both groups with the same methods with aim to reach economically acceptable competition level which means in some cases (like sugar beet) weed free crop. The control methods used in natural- and semi-natural habitats must be selective to species and take into account also non target (native) plants and environmental impacts. The diversity in aquatic plants in Europe was presented. An overview was given on the current situation of introduced aquatic plants, as well as their pathways of introduction and their current status of spread. Species causing the most serious problems in European waters were highlighted. *A. artemisiifolia* serves as model plant in Europe to demonstrate negative impacts of the alien's spread on agriculture (yield loss) and human health (allergies). Resulting awareness of the general public and the strength of respective control activities by the policy makers are driving forces for transferring control methods from the agricultural field to zones of public infrastructure.

More than 100 delegates from 26 countries of all continents came to Ascona. Thirty-nine oral presentations were given and 49 posters were exposed. A full report and abstracts can be found at: <http://www.invasive.weeds.ascona.ewrs.org/>.

Several people expressed their wish to give continuity to this type of symposium – which EWRS will certainly back. In fact, the symposium will have a future: the fourth edition will be held in 2014 in Southern France (Montpellier). More information is coming soon!



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## MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

### NEW SPANISH REGULATIONS REGARDING WEED MANAGEMENT

By Jaime Costa, Regulatory Sciences Manager, Monsanto Agricultura España;  
[jaime.costa@monsanto.com](mailto:jaime.costa@monsanto.com).

#### Spain regulates inspections of spraying equipment

The recently published "Real Decreto 1702/2011"\* emphasizes correct application of plant protection products to avoid adverse effects on humans and the environment. To achieve this, and within the scope of Directive 2009/128/EC for the sustainable use of pesticides, the new Spanish Decree defines the different types of application equipment, regulates their periodic inspections, and defines the characteristics and methodology to be followed by the Technical Inspection Stations (see picture below). Inspections will need to be completed for every sprayer at least every 5 years, and every 3 years after 2020. The procedures to be followed in the Technical Inspection Stations will be harmonized by a National Reference Laboratory and their content and training requirements for the inspectors –involving a 40 h total training- are detailed in the Annexes of this Decree.

\*<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2011/12/09/pdfs/BOE-A-2011-19296.pdf>

#### Spanish effort in prevention of exotic weeds

Another recent Decree has been published (<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2011/12/12/pdfs/BOE-A-2011-19398.pdf>) which is related to the prevention of exotic weeds. As published in "Real Decreto 1628/2011" the Spanish authorities are taking measures to avoid the introduction and spread of exotic invasive species to preserve the natural heritage and the biodiversity. The Decree explains the reasons and procedure for inclusion of different species from a broad range of taxa, the restrictions to introduction and/or transport and trade in Spanish territory, and the strategies for management and potential eradication of invasive species. The highest concern Catalog of exotic invasive species – whose introduction into natural spaces, transport and trade are banned - includes plants like *Agave americana*, *Ailanthus altissima*, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, *Araujia sericifera*, *Helianthus tuberosus* and *Opuntia*, which can be considered weeds in some situations. The List of potentially invasive exotic species, whose introduction in Spanish natural spaces is not allowed, includes several weeds such as: *Abutilon theophrasti*, *Acacia* spp, *Agave* spp, *Eschscholzia californica*, *Hydrilla verticillata*, *Lantana camara*, *Lonicera japonica*, *Pennisetum* spp, and *Solanum eleagnifolium*. Some of these plants, like *Abutilon theophrasti* can be found as weeds in cotton and maize (see picture below) in NE and South Spain.



Training farmers and technical operators on spray distribution with low-drift nozzles in North Spain.



*Abutilon theophrasti* and *Sorghum halepense* growing as maize weeds in NE Spain.

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## HISTOLOGY OF *CARDARIA DRABA*

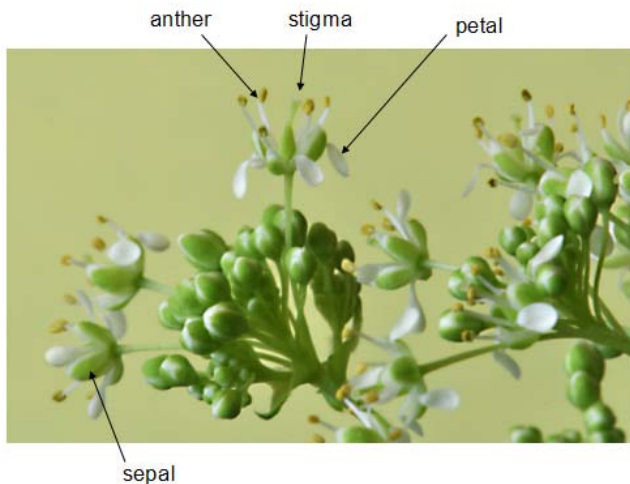
Dear Colleagues,

This contribution is devoted to *Cardaria draba* (L.) Desv. or hoary cress (Bayer code: CADDR). It is a perennial, cruciferous weed. Its roots can grow as deep as 25 cm into the soil. Newly formed shoots can arise from roots similar to those in field bindweed or in Canada thistle. The origin of hoary cress is European. It is, however, widespread over North America today where it was first reported at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In Europe, it is a troublesome weed along roads and highways. It used to be widespread on wet, arable land in the beginning of the last century. Today, this is, however, seldom the case.



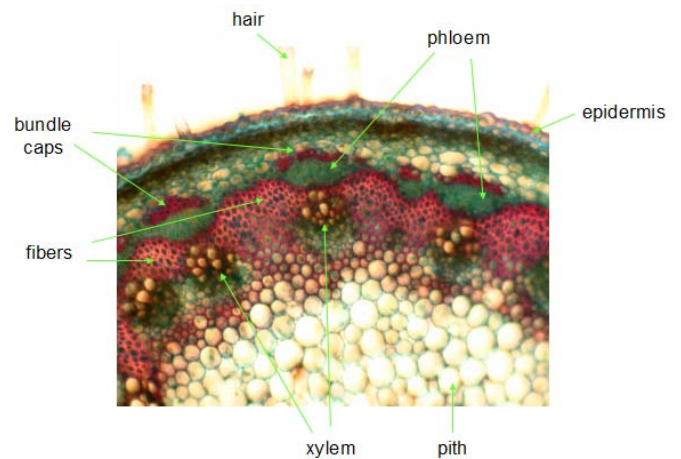
*C. draba* at the border of a pavement near Frankfurt, Germany

The flower consists of a calyx with sepals and a corolla with petals.

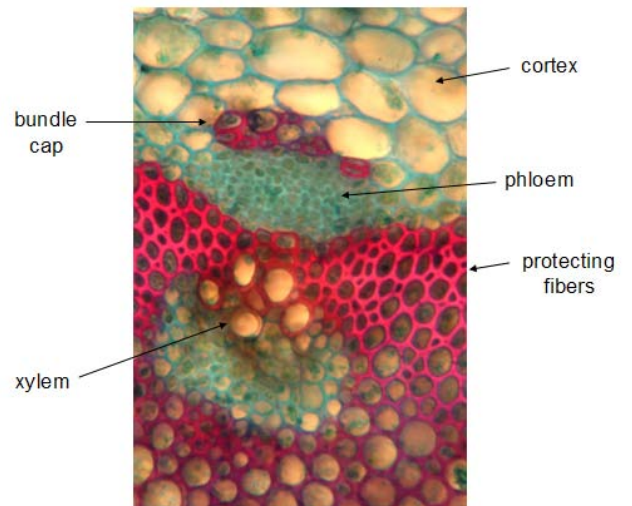


Inflorescence of *C. draba* with petals and sepals.

The vascular bundles are heavily protected by fiber layers: bundle caps protect the phloem from the outside and thick fiber buffers between the bundles protect the phloem and the xylem on radial sides.



Transverse section through stem of *C. draba* ; Etzold blue, 100x



Transverse section through stem of *C. draba* , single vascular bundle imbedded in protecting fibers; Etzold blue, 400x

My next histology notes will deal with *Cassia obtusifolia* L. syn *Senna obtusifolia* (L.) H.S.Irwin & Barneby or sicklepod.

Hansjörg Kräbmer

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## CALL FOR CONFERENCES

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### **25<sup>TH</sup> GERMAN CONFERENCE ON WEED BIOLOGY AND WEED CONTROL**

13 – 15 March 2012  
Braunschweig, Germany

Julius Kühn-Institute (JKI), the Institute for Geoecology of the TU Braunschweig and the Weed Science Working Group of the German Phytomedical Society (DPG) would like to invite you to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> German Conference on Weed Biology and Weed Control.

The aim of the conference is to provide a platform for an exchange and discussion of new research results and innovative methods in the area of weed science. The program will consist of oral presentations and posters. Scientific contributions will be presented both in German and English.

Registration details and further information can be found at the official website of the conference at: [www.unkrauttagung.de](http://www.unkrauttagung.de)

The regular registration fee is € 210,00 whereas the reduced fee for Students and Pensioners is € 105,00. The registration includes proceedings, welcome reception and coffee breaks. The Conference dinner on 14 March will cost an extra € 12,00 and this includes a buffet and drinks. Accommodation can be arranged at: [www.braunschweig.de/english](http://www.braunschweig.de/english) → Tourist Service → Hotels.

Further information can be obtained from the local organizers Dr. Henning Nordmeyer and Dr. Lena Ulber, Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI), Braunschweig, Germany; e-mail: [unkrauttagung@jki.bund.de](mailto:unkrauttagung@jki.bund.de)

### **7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL IPM SYMPOSIUM "IPM ON THE WORLD STAGE—SOLUTIONS FOR GLOBAL PEST CHALLENGES"**

Memphis, Tennessee, USA  
March 27–29, 2012

The 7<sup>th</sup> International IPM Symposium "IPM on the World Stage - Solutions for Global pest Challenges" will be held in Memphis at that the Memphis Cook Convention Center from 27 to 29 March 2012. For more information please look at <http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium12/>. Information on sponsorship opportunities, call for award nominations, and information about opportunities to host related meetings can be found on the web site.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROBOTICS AND ASSOCIATED HIGH-TECHNOLOGIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR AGRICULTURE (RHEA-2012): "APPLICATIONS OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS AND ROBOTICS FOR CROP PROTECTION IN SUSTAINABLE PRECISION AGRICULTURE"**

Pisa, Italy  
19 – 21 September 2012

#### **Context**

RHEA-2012 is being fostered by the project RHEA (Robot fleets for highly effective agriculture and forestry management, FP7-NMP 245986). The RHEA consortium comprises a number of research centres, universities, and companies funded by the European Commission through the Seventh Framework Programme to develop robotic fleets for sustainable weed control and pesticide management in agriculture and forestry.

## Aim

The conference is aimed at spreading and sharing knowledge and information among researchers related to the applications of automated systems and robotics for crop protection in sustainable precision agriculture.

## Themes

The RHEA-2012 is divided into two main themes containing plenary and parallel sessions devoted to:

### *Theme 1: Strategies and tools for precision agriculture*

- Topic 1.1: Automated machines for chemical weed control.
- Topic 1.2: Automated machines for physical weed control.
- Topic 1.3: Automated machines for tree crop protection.
- Topic 1.4: Agronomical, economical and safety impacts of automated machines use.

### *Theme 2: Automation and robotics for precision agriculture*

- Topic 2.1: Design and control of autonomous agricultural vehicles and systems
- Topic 2.2: Sensing, computer vision and image analysis in agricultural processes
- Topic 2.3: ICT technologies in precision agriculture

## Venue

The First International Conference on **Robotics and associated High-technologies and Equipment for Agriculture (RHEA-2012)** will be held in Pisa, Italy, from 19 to 21 September 2012. It is organized by the *Centro Interdipartimentale di ricerche agro-ambientali Enrico Avanzi, Facoltà di Agraria, Università di Pisa*.

## Registration

The registration form can be downloaded from the RHEA conference website ([www.rhea-conference.eu/2012](http://www.rhea-conference.eu/2012)) and once completed it should be sent to the Conference Secretariat ([Imartelloni@agr.unipi.it](mailto:Imartelloni@agr.unipi.it)).

## Important Dates

- Deadline for abstract submission: February 28, 2012
- Notification of acceptance: March 31, 2012
- Full paper electronic submission: April 30, 2012
- Notification of final acceptance : May 31, 2012

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE GLOBAL HERBICIDE RESISTANCE CHALLENGE 2013**

18-22 February 2013  
Perth, Australia

Global food production is one of the greatest challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Sustaining world food production requires reliable control of yield reducing crop weeds. Herbicides are the principal tool for crop weed control yet their sustainability is threatened by the evolution of herbicide resistant weed populations in many parts of the world. The latest chapter in resistance evolution is the widespread appearance of glyphosate resistant weeds threatening the success of glyphosate resistant crops. Crops with new herbicide resistance gene traits, new herbicides and non-chemical methods to manage weeds are being introduced to counter the weed/resistance threats.

The Global Resistance Challenge 2013 conference offers a multidisciplinary forum focused on all aspects of herbicide resistance in crops and weeds and their impact on global food production. Scientific sessions will range from the molecular basis of herbicide resistance evolution through agro-ecology and agronomy to on-farm resistance management.

The Global Resistance Challenge 2013 conference will provide a stage for young and established private and public sector researchers, crop consultants and others to present their work in front of a welcoming international audience in the beautiful portside city of Fremantle, Perth, Western Australia. We welcome

everyone who wishes to discover the latest advances in herbicide resistance to Perth in February 2013, to experience a magnificent Western Australian late summer. For more information: <http://www.herbicideresistanceconference.com.au/>

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## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

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### **WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING**

6– 9 February 2012  
Big Island, Hawaii, USA  
<http://www.wssa.net>

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### **2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "AGROCHEMICALS PROTECTING CROPS, HEALTH AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT - ROLE OF CHEMISTRY FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE"**

15– 18 February 2012  
Pusa, Delhi, India  
<http://www.apchne.com/home>

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### **25<sup>TH</sup> GERMAN CONFERENCE ON WEED BIOLOGY AND WEED CONTROL**

13 – 15 March 2012  
Braunschweig, Germany  
[www.unkrauttagung.de](http://www.unkrauttagung.de)

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### **7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL IPM SYMPOSIUM, 'IPM ON THE WORLD STAGE - SOLUTIONS FOR GLOBAL PEST CHALLENGES'**

Memphis, Tennessee, USA  
27-29 March 2012  
<http://www.ipmcenters.org/IPMsymposium12>

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### **4<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN WORKSHOP ON THE STANDARDIZED PROCEDURE FOR THE INSPECTION OF SPRAYERS IN EUROPE**

Iana, Italy  
27-29 March 2012  
<http://spise.jki.bund.de/index.php?menuid=16>

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### **2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL RAGWEED CONFERENCE**

Lyon France  
28-29 March 2012  
<http://www.internationalragweedsociety.org>

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### **AMBROSIA2012 CONFERENCE: "FROM SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE SHARING TO EUROPE-WIDE MANAGEMENT"**

Lyon, France  
29-30 March 2012  
[http://www.ambrosia2012.eu/#accueil\\_EN.htm](http://www.ambrosia2012.eu/#accueil_EN.htm)

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### **SHORT COURSE IN 'WEED MANAGEMENT IN MODERN AGRICULTURE'**

Zaragoza, Spain  
16-21 April 2012  
[Belkodja@iamz.chiheam.org](mailto:Belkodja@iamz.chiheam.org) / [www.iamz.chiheam.org](http://www.iamz.chiheam.org)

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### **WEEDS ACROSS BORDERS: MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE**

Hotel Grand Oasis Resort, Cancun, Mexico  
24-27 April 2012  
<http://www.weedcenter.org/wab/2012/index.html>

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**64<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CROP PROTECTION**

Ghent, Belgium

22 May 2012

<http://www.iscp.ugent.be>

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**INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP OF THE EWRS WORKING GROUP SITE SPECIFIC WEED MANAGEMENT (SSWM)**

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

28-31 May 2012

[svc@life.ku.dk](mailto:svc@life.ku.dk) (Prof. Svend Christensen)

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**VI<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WEED SCIENCE CONGRESS (IWSC): DYNAMIC WEEDS, DIVERSE SOLUTIONS**

17– 22 June 2012

New Century Grand Hotel, Hangzhou, China

<http://www.iwss.info>

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**RAISING THE BAR: IMPROVING THE STANDARD AND UTILITY OF WEED/INVASIVE PLANT RESEARCH**

25-29 June 2012

B Bar Ranch, Emigrant, Montana, USA

[http://app.lms.unimelb.edu.au/bbcswebdav/courses/NRMT90002\\_2011\\_SM2/Andina/index.htm](http://app.lms.unimelb.edu.au/bbcswebdav/courses/NRMT90002_2011_SM2/Andina/index.htm)

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**FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROBOTICS AND ASSOCIATED HIGH-TECHNOLOGIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR AGRICULTURE (RHEA): "APPLICATIONS OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS AND ROBOTICS FOR CROP PROTECTION IN SUSTAINABLE PRECISION AGRICULTURE"**

19-21 September 2012

Pisa, Italy

<http://www.rhea-conference.eu/2012>

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**18<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALASIAN WEEDS CONFERENCE**

8– 11 October 2012

Sebel and Citigate Albert Park, Melbourne, Australia

<http://www.18awc.com>

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**2012 CANADIAN WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**

12-15 November 2012

The Fairmont, Winnipeg, Manitoba

<http://www.weedscience.ca/home>

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**CROP PROTECTION IN SOUTHERN BRITAIN (AAB/BCPC/AICC CONFERENCE)**

27-28 November 2012

East of England Showground, Peterborough, UK

<http://www.aab.org.uk/contentok.php?id=136&basket=wwsshowconfdets>

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**WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING**

4-7 February 2013

Baltimore, Maryland, USA

<http://www.wssa.net/>

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**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE GLOBAL HERBICIDE RESISTANCE CHALLENGE 2013**

18-22 February 2013

Perth, Australia

<http://www.herbicideresistanceconference.com.au/>

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## EDITORIAL

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### INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

**Deadline for contributions to be published in the following Newsletter issue:  
1 April 2012**

#### Photographic images

It is possible to include photographic material. Please make sure that the images are taken at no less than 300 dpi otherwise the picture quality drops.

#### Questions

If you have any problems in writing or formatting your article, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'll be happy to assist you. As Technical Editor of the Newsletter, I prepare the final layout of the Newsletter prior to publishing. You can contact me by sending an E-mail to [newsletter@ewrs.org](mailto:newsletter@ewrs.org) / [moonen@sssup.it](mailto:moonen@sssup.it) or by calling me at +39 050 883567. I'm looking forward to receiving your contributions.

Camilla Moonen

### CHARGES FOR JOB ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

- Job advertisements are free of charge for EWRS members from public research and education institutions.
- The rate for a job advertisement from private enterprises is € 100,00 page. Reductions can be negotiated with the Newsletter editor for half page adverts.
- Publication of a job advertisement on a special page of the EWRS website <http://www.ewrs.org> will be charged € 300,00 per advert.

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