

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE

### Commission Education, Research Training and Consultancy

Newsletter #3. April 2009.

#### 1. ISHS Symposium at Chiang Mai, Thailand. 30 June- 3 July 2009.

As you know this Symposium was postponed from December 2008 because of the troubles in Bangkok. However the Convenor Dr Peter Batt has rescheduled this Symposium to be held, in association with the Commission for Economics and Management, to be held at the same venue from 30<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2009. While the combined number of presentations offered for both Symposia was more than 75, only 27 have registered for the Education Symposium. This is a disappointing number indicating the challenge of members in obtaining funds to attend meetings solely dedicated to one of the most important issues in horticultural science today, education and training. There is still time to arrange to attend this meeting. I have just spent 1 week in Bangkok and there were no signs of any trouble in the part of the city where our meeting was located. There are no problems in Chiang Mai. Contact for registration [http://agrienvi.curtin.edu.au/about/conferences/ishs\\_v/](http://agrienvi.curtin.edu.au/about/conferences/ishs_v/)

#### 2. 28<sup>th</sup> International Horticultural Congress – IHC Lisbon 2010, 22-27 August 2010.

You should all be planning to attend IHC2010 in Lisbon. The Congress is structured to have 8 Plenary Colloquia, eighteen 2-3 day Symposia, thirteen 1 day seminars, and a number of 2-3 hour evening Workshops (19 at present but others will be added). Details of all these events are included in the Second Circular which will be available for scrutiny on the IHC2010 website shortly ([www.ihc2010.org](http://www.ihc2010.org)). The planning group responsible for the 29<sup>th</sup> International Horticultural Congress, to be held in Queensland, Australia will be present to answer any questions on coming down under in 2014

There are several opportunities for you to become involved in sessions that are devoted to education, training and consultancy during the Congress.

**Colloquium:** There is a major Colloquium “*Educating the next Horticultural Generation of Professional Horticulturalists*” that will be addressed by three world class invited speakers.

**Seminar:** Those interested in offering presentations on education will do so by participating in the Seminar “*Horticultural Education in an Age of Information, Bio- and Nanotechnology*”. This seminar will confront key issues in existing horticultural education institutions and organisations involved in training and extension (outreach) programmes, and provide a vision for future education systems. In addition innovative knowledge/information transfer technologies and communication methods can be outlined and discussed, for use in both developed and developing countries. Distance education, e - learning, integrative learning techniques, curriculum development, interdisciplinary programmes, marketing of education programmes and the importance of practical or experiential learning in

horticultural education and training for the next decade. (Convenors: Errol Hewett, David Aldous and Nouredine Benkeblia).

**Workshop:** If there is enough interest shown by attendees there will probably be an interactive Workshop organised to discuss methodologies, needs, successes and options for the theme “*Horticultural Training in Developing Countries*”. Send me your views on this Workshop, including and offering that you wish to make, and check for details on the Workshop section on the IHC2010 web site ([www.ihc2010.org](http://www.ihc2010.org)).

**Linking Sessions:** The Seminar and the Workshop will be linked to the Colloquium indicated above, as well as to the Symposia “*Horticulture for Development*”, in which there will be exploration of ways in which the knowledge of horticulture can alleviate poverty and fight malnutrition., and *Capacity Building for Plant Breeding in Developing Countries*”, that will address issues with producing quality vegetables for export including the scope of the problem and solutions being offered by some institutions and organisations.

### **3. Future Commission Activities**

**2010. ISHS Postharvest Research and Extension Symposium Thailand.** Convenor Dr Sirichai Kanlayanarat. This Symposium will be held in the last quarter of 2010 (date to be finalized) and is part of a major extension and training programme being developed in South Asia in conjunction with FAO and other donors. This conference will be associated with the Celebration of Princess Sirindhorn's 55th Birthday in 2010. In collaboration with Commission Quality and Postharvest Horticulture and Commission Economics and Management

**2010. ISHS Symposium on Tropical Horticulture in Jamaica, 22-25 November.** Convenor Dr Nouredine Benkeblia, [in collaboration with Sections Ornamentals, Tropical and Subtropical Fruit, Commission Education, Research Training and Consultancy, and Quality and Postharvest Horticulture].

**2011. ISHS. Education and Training Symposium, North Carolina, USA.** Convenor Dr George Wilson. This symposium will be held in October/November (date to be finalized) in conjunction with Commission Economics and Management at the same venue.

### **4. Supply Chain “Training for Trainers” Workshops**

Post-farm loss of fruit and vegetables in developing countries are high, up to 40% in the supply chain from farm to consumer. This translates into reduced incomes for producing farmers, compromising food security, income generation, reduce opportunities to relieve poverty and malnourishment for children and woman in rural communities. At present the progressive globalization of markets and its repercussion on the organization of different marketing channels supposes a new and decisive challenge for the growers who must accelerate the integration of their operations with the rest of the food chain. A workshop (Training of Trainers on Horticultural Chain Management for the Asia-Pacific Region) held in Bangkok 3-9 March 2008, organised by FAO and King Mongkutt University, provided a successful framework that can be adapted to other regions in the developing world. Participants at this workshop were from eight countries, representing personnel from Government agencies, universities and the private sector. The format of the workshop comprised a combination of lectures, laboratory exercise, field visit to markets, farms, packhouses and different types of markets. Feedback from participants was very positive, all were confident that they would be able to apply some of the principles and practices in a positive way on return to their countries positively.

ISHS educators and practitioners have the skills and expertise to add value to the FAO model in different countries. Discussions are being held with FAO personnel in an attempt to assist in extending such a model with ISHS input. Initial discussion is around the possibility of organising a “*Training of Trainers on Horticultural Chain Management for the Caribbean Region*” Workshop in India in 2009, and then another in association with, and prior to an ISHS Symposium “*Tropical Horticulture and Ornamentals*” to be held in Kingston, Jamaica, 22-25 November 2010.

If you are interested in convening such a training workshop in conjunction with FAO, and an upcoming ISHS Symposium then please contact me at [ewmrhewett@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ewmrhewett@xtra.co.nz).

## **5. Master's Degree course dedicated to “Mediterranean and Tropical Horticulture”.**

The Hortimet academic opportunity results from a tight collaboration between four French academic and research institutions:

- Montpellier SupAgro (International Center for Higher Education in Agricultural Sciences),
- AgroCampus Rennes: Angers Center (formerly INH)
- CIRAD
- INRA

This French academic initiative creates an opportunity for any foreign student willing to deepen his (her) knowledge and skills in the Mediterranean and Tropical Horticultural sectors and related sciences. Sustained by the French Research Institutes, the course will offer interesting opportunities to realize internships in French laboratories (in France or overseas (notably in places where CIRAD research teams are based) and could eventually lead to enrolment in a PhD programme. Courses will mainly be given in French, but the M1 Master courses will offer some opportunities to apply for intensive French language course which will facilitate integration of non French-speaking students.

Further information can be obtained from Professor J. L. Regnard, UMR DAP Campus CIRAD, TA A 96/03, Avenue Agropolis, 34398 Montpellier Cedex 5, France

Phone : +33 (0)4 67 61 75 04. Email: [regnard@supagro.inra.fr](mailto:regnard@supagro.inra.fr)

Additional information and application forms are available through the websites of Montpellier SupAgro: [www.supagro.fr](http://www.supagro.fr), and AgroCampus Ouest Centre of Angers: [www.agrocampus-ouest.fr](http://www.agrocampus-ouest.fr)

## **6. Future Newsletters**

We would be most happy to receive contributions from members that could be included in the next Newsletter. Do not hesitate to send information to us and we will ensure that it gets circulated to all members of the Commission. We are still interested in organising an e-Conference on new and innovative technologies for education and learning; anyone interested in taking on the role of convening such a conference please contact us directly.

Errol Hewett  
Chair

David Aldous  
Vice Chair

ISHS Commission Education, Research Training and Consultancy  
***Start planning to attend IHC2014 to be held in August, Queensland AUSTRALIA.***  
***Contact Russ Stephenson on [Russ.Stephenson@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:Russ.Stephenson@dpi.qld.gov.au) or Jill Stanley on [JStanley@hortresearch.co.nz](mailto:JStanley@hortresearch.co.nz) or [www.ihc2014.org](http://www.ihc2014.org).***