

***Newsletter to members of the ISHS Commission Sustainability through Integrated and Organic Horticulture
October, 2009***

Robert K. Prange, Commission Chair (Robert.Prange@agr.gc.ca)

As the end of 2009 slowly approaches and my crop harvesting is almost finished I am taking a moment to share some information with my fellow Commission members.

• Organic Fruit Conference - Past and Future

Past - The Acta Horticulturae from the Organic Fruit Conference held in 2008 should be completed before the year-end. I have assumed the lead in editing the manuscripts after Dr. Weibel found that his Institute (FiBL) responsibilities had changed and he was not able to find sufficient time and support for this task. At the same time I anticipated having some internal editing support at my Research Centre. So with on-going help from Dr. Weibel and the capable members of the Editorial Board, I hope to accomplish the goal before the year-end.

Future - I have had communication with Dr. David Granatstein of Washington State University earlier this summer and he is keen to convene our next ISHS Organic Fruit Conference. We have not formalised it yet but if you have any thoughts on month and year for this future conference as well as topics for this Symposium, feel free to contact both David Granatstein (granats@wsu.edu) and me.

• Before 31 December 2009:

Now is a good time to prepare and submit your Abstract (Deadline 31 December 2009) for our Symposium of Organic Horticulture - Productivity and Sustainability at the 28th International Horticultural Congress (28thIHC). This Congress will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, 22-27 August, 2010 (www.ihc2010.org). It is anticipated that it will bring together over 2000 participants from more than 80 different countries. Its programme includes a number of major symposia including one sponsored by our Commission entitled: Symposium of Organic Horticulture - Productivity and sustainability (see attached brochure). The Conveners are Prof. Dr. Uygun Aksoy - E-mail: uygun.aksoy@ege.edu.tr and Prof. Dr. Isabel Mourão - E-mail: isabelmourao@esa.ipvc.pt

For online abstract submission go to www.ihc2010.org

Deadline for Registration at reduced fee: **30 April 2010**

For general Congress Information:
28th IHC Lisboa 2010 Secretariat for Scientific Programme
Instituto Superior de Agronomia
Tapada da Ajuda, 1349-017 Lisboa - Portugal
Phone: + 351 961068237 Fax: + 351 214411797
E-mail: info@ihc2010.org
Web: www.ihc2010.org

• Composting for Horticultural Applications Working Group:

Dr. Michael Raviv (Chair, Composts in Growing Media WG) and I have begun the process of establishing a Working Group in our Commission entitled Composting for Horticultural Applications with Dr. Raviv as the Interim Acting Chair. In the near future I expect the ISHS office will be contacting you and other members of ISHS asking you to consider becoming a member of this Working Group. I hope you will give it your careful consideration and support. I will try to formalise its creation when we have a Commission Business Meeting at the International Horticultural Congress. In the meantime, our Commission is sponsoring the following Symposium, which could be put under the auspices of the new Working Group, once it is formed. Michael Raviv and I commend Mr. Johannes Biala and his willingness to convene this important new ISHS Symposium.

April 4-7, 2011, Adelaide (Australia): International Symposium on Managing Compost and Organic Matter in Horticulture. Info: Mr. Johannes Biala, PO Box 74, Wynnum Queensland 4178, Australia. Phone: (61)7-39011152, Fax: (61)7-33962511, E-mail: biala@optusnet.com.au

- **Organic Greenhouse Horticulture Working Group**

I have been discussing with Ir. R.J.M. (Rob) Meijer (Coordinator Research Organic Protected Horticulture, Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture) the possibility of forming an Organic Greenhouse Horticulture Working Group in our Commission. Organic greenhouse horticulture is increasing at a significant pace, aided by some very dedicated horticultural researchers. A recent meeting of these researchers was held in Cologne, Germany and I will report further on this as more information is available. If you are interested in this idea, I suggest you communicate your support to both me and Rob Meijer (rob.meijer@wur.nl).

- **Collaboration with the ISHS Section Vegetables (Dr. Silvana Nicola, Chair)**

One of the roles of our Commission is to work in collaboration with other Sections and Commissions in sponsoring Symposia of mutual interest. I am pleased to tell you that the following Symposium is being offered in collaboration with ISHS Section Vegetables under the capable leadership of Prof. Dr. Stefaan De Neve and Dr. Sri Rochayati.

March 14-17, 2011, Salatiga (Central Java) (Indonesia): I International Symposium on Sustainable Vegetable Production in South-East Asia. Info: Prof. Dr. Stefaan De Neve, University of Gent, Coupure Links 653, 9000 Gent, Belgium. E-mail: stefaan.deneve@ugent.be or Dr. Sri Rochayati, Indonesian Soil Research Institute, Jl. Juanda, Bogor, Indonesia. E-mail: sri.rochayati@gmail.com

- **Biological Control in Horticultural Crops**

I have been working with Dr. Gene Albrigo, Chair (Section Citrus) on the idea of having a Symposium in Cuba and my suggested topic was Biological Control in Horticultural Crops since Cuban Horticulture has a strong reputation in this area of horticultural science. This idea has not progressed beyond some initial email exchanges with senior officials in Cuba who are acquainted with Dr Albrigo. Nevertheless, Gene and I have not abandoned this idea and in the next year, I intend to renew my efforts. If any of you have helpful ideas, please contact me.

- **Posting your publications on our Commission website?**

Is anyone interested in having their research articles posted on our ISHS Commission website? I am a firm believer that our Society of Scientists and a major priority must be the promotion of the individual member's scientific productivity. The posting idea could be as simple as a citation of your article with either a link to the actual article or the authors email address, if the article is not accessible on the Internet. It seems to me this is a simple and manageable way to let others know what you are doing and foster member-to-member communication. Some reasonable restrictions on content would apply, e.g limit it to refereed scientific articles (or equivalent). Peter Vanderborght (ISHS office) is willing to work with me on this idea but it will only be pursued if I receive sufficient response from members. I await your reaction and reply.

- **Feedback?**

Our Commission member list is now quite large and diverse. It is inevitable that some valuable ideas are being overlooked, so if you have thoughts on future activities and priorities for the Commission, e.g. new Symposia you would like to convene, you should not hesitate to contact me and I will work with you to have it come to fruition.