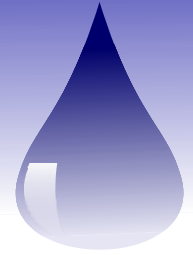




NEWSLETTER

Commissions
Plant Substrates and Soilless Culture
Protected Cultivation



Issue 2

2008

NEXT SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

International Symposium on “Soilless Culture and Hydroponics”

(Lima, Peru. 25-28 August 2008). The conveners are Dr. Rodriguez-Delfin and Dr. Pedro-Florian Martinez. Co-organized by the Commissions Plant Substrates (CMPS) and Protected Cultivation (CMPC).

Web: [http://
www.lamolina.edu.pe/
hidroponia/web2008/
index.html](http://www.lamolina.edu.pe/hidroponia/web2008/index.html)

International Workshop on “Greenhouse Environ- mental Control and Crop Production in Semi-Arid regions”

Tucson, Arizona, USA, 20-24 October 2008. The conveners are Dr. Gene Giacomelli and Dr. Chieri Kubota. Co-organized by the Commission Horticul-

tural Engineering (CMEN) and the Commission Protected Cultivation (CMPC).

Web: [http://
www.ghworkshoparidregio
ns2008.org/](http://www.ghworkshoparidregions2008.org/)



International Symposium on “GreenSys-2009: Sus- tainable Greenhouse Systems”

Québec, Canada. 14-19 June 2009). The conveners are Dr. Andre Gosselin and Dr. Martine Dorais. Co-organized by the Commission Horticultural Engineering (CMEN) and the Commission Protected Cultivation (CMPC).

Web: [http://
www.greensys2009.com/](http://www.greensys2009.com/)

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International Symposium on “Light in Horticulture”

(Tsukuba, Japan. 15-19 November 2009). The convener is Dr. Sadadori Sase. Organized by the Working Group Light in Horticulture, of the Commissions Horticultural Engineering (CMEN) and Protected Cultivation. Web: <http://www.lightsym2009.jp>

II Intern. Symposium on “Growing Media and Composting”

Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, June 2009
Convener: Dr. Bill Fonteno
This symposium was suggested during the Nottingham symposium in September 2007 and will be held jointly by the WG Growing Media (Dr. Silvia Burés) and Compost in Growing Media (Dr. Michael Raviv).

International Conference & Exhibition on Soilless Culture

(Incorporating Hydroponics + Organics International – 2009 Exhibition)
Convener: Dr. Fazalur Rahman Mallick

The third "International Conference & Exhibition on Soilless Culture - 2009

- ICESC-2009" will be held in Singapore from Dec. 7-12, 2009. The first Asia-Pacific Conference and Exhibition on Soilless Culture from 29 to 31 May 2001 in Singapore was a great success. The second Asia-Pacific Conference and Exhibition on Soilless Culture originally scheduled in September 2004 was upgraded to the "International Conference and Exhibition on Soilless Culture - 2005" - ICESC-2005 from 5-8 September 2005 was another success with 123 delegates from 43 countries.

www.icesc-2009.com



Diverse Activities for the IHC “Science and Horticulture” at Lisbon in August 2010

Symposium:

Environmentally Sound
Greenhouse Production

Seminar:

New and Innovative
Techniques for Horticultural
Production in Soilless
Cultivation

Workshop:

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Protected
Cultivation of Vegetables

NEW WORKING GROUPS

W.G. on “**Vegetable Grafting**” (promoted by the Section Vegetables in collaboration of CMPC

Contact: Dr. Kubota. E-mail: ckubota@Ag.arizona.edu.

W.G. on “**Ornamentals in Substrates and Soilless Cultivation**” (in collaboration with the Section Ornamentals)

Contact Dr. Dora Chimonidou from Agr. Research Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus E-mail: [Dr. Dora Chimonidou@arinet.arigov.cy](mailto:Dr.DoraChimonidou@arinet.arigov.cy)

W.G. “**Indoor Plants in Hydroponics**” (in collaboration with the Commission Landscape and Urban Horticulture)

Contact Dr. Mallick Rahman from Singapore, E-mail: icesc2005@singaporehydroponics.com

New Sub-Group

Within the W.G. "Light in Horticulture"

The initiative of Dr. Josepha Shahak from Israel was realized and a new sub-group on "Photo-selective Netting" was organized.

Contacts: Dr. Silke Hemming

E-mail:

Silke.hemming@wur.nl

And Dr. Josepha Shahak

E-mail:

Shahaky@volcani.agri.gov.il

Brief CV of Dr. Dora Chimonidou,

Chair person of the new WG "Ornamentals In Substrates and Soilless Cultivation"

Agricultural Research Institute (ARI), Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Nicosia, Cyprus
Education:

University of Reading, UK
PhD. Floriculture
Project Leader of projects at ARI:

< Cultivation of Roses and greenery in substrates.

< Use of substrates for cultivating flowers in low quality water.

< Irrigation of flowers with treated waste water.

< Physiology of flowering and the effect of water stress at different stages of development.

< Post harvest physiology and keeping quality of cut flowers.

< Cultivation of New Cut Flowers under Cyprus climatic conditions and evaluation of different Drying techniques.

Organization of Symposia, Seminars and Workshops

There was recently some correspondence by some members of our Commission which should be of interest to all of us. Comments are much appreciated!

Eric van Os wrote:

< Dear All

Looking to the topics at the attached hightech Greensys 2009 symposium in Canada you will see a topic 8 Growing media and fertigation management. About that time there is another symposium about growing media in US (follow up of Nottingham).

My point for discussion: Is it possible to concentrate subjects/topics at one symposium where that topic is the main subject? In this case the big flow of papers will go to the US and a small

flow will go to Canada. Probably the Canada visitors will complain that there was not much information about the subject "growing media", only time for one session. You see it happen frequently. For example: in Antalya (April 2008, under Com. Plant Substrates and Com. Protected Cultivation) there was a similar discussion: one is for more concentration, another does not want to "control" the topics; conveners like a rather big symposium. For Lima (August 2008, Hydroponics) there will be mainly papers on Hydroponics but there will be also papers about comparison of growing media, which will fit better in US in 2009. Most important: researchers will learn more about that specific topic at the specialized symposium. But a more "generalist" will like to hear something about all topics at a symposium such as Greensys 2009.

Is it possible that we, as chairmen, have one opinion on this? Do we need a "protocol" in which we advise conveners to refer to other symposia which fit better to that specific subject? No control of chairmen is needed, it goes as it goes?

I prefer a kind of concentration but I like to hear your opinion and finally I like one guideline for our Commission.

Looking forward to your reaction>

Dr. Bill Carlile replied:

<Dear All,

Erik's comments are very timely in view of the situation that arose at the Growing Media symposium in Nottingham last year. Despite having a formal agreement with the International Peat Society, a symposium under their aegis (and that of the International Mire Conservation Group) was set up in France one month after the Nottingham event. This resulted in a reduced attendance at both events, and associated budgetary problems.

Coordination and dissemination of information is the key here: early decisions on symposia within the Commissions primarily responsible for particular subject areas might be appropriate. For example, symposia on growing media, and hydroponics are held biennially in different years (e.g. Nottingham GM 2007: Lima Hydroponics 2008: US GM 2009), and decisions made well in ad-

vance re locations. Agreements with other societies with similar subject areas also need to be taken into account (e.g. IPS congresses and meetings have been arranged. with the one exception noted above in the years between Growing Media symposia).

With the large and expanding numbers of commissions and working groups in ISHS, there is an ongoing need for coordination of activities. A balance needs to be struck: on the one hand, major findings, reviews etc are likely to be delivered at symposia appropriate to the topic in question: however, it must be acknowledged that at a regional or national level, researchers may only be able to afford to travel to an event held locally, and will thus choose to present their findings there.

To re-emphasise, part of the answer may be early decisions (? 2 years in advance?) on symposia within Commissions primarily associated with particular subject areas, early dissemination of this information, and where symposia are proposed with similar subject areas as fringe sessions, organisers of such events should be positively ad-

vised by the ISHS secretariat of likely overlap.>

International Workshop on Greenhouse Environmental Control and Crop Production in Semi-Arid Regions

October 20-24, 2008
Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.

Dear Colleagues,

I am glad to announce that we will soon host 100+ delegates from 28 countries in Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A. for the upcoming international workshop focusing, for the first time in ISHS history, on semi-arid greenhouse technology and crop production. The workshop idea was developed during the ISHS Symposium on Greenhouse Cooling, held in Almeria, Spain in 2006, reflecting the recent trend of a growing greenhouse industry in semiarid regions.

Greenhouse plant production is extending beyond traditional areas to harsher climates including semiarid and arid regions, where we have an abundance of solar radiation but limited other resources such as water. The emerging greenhouse regions include southern Spain, northern Mexico, and southwestern U.S.A.

Along with this rapid development and “migration” of greenhouse technology, new technologies must evolve, and supporting operational information must be developed. Achieving sustainable greenhouse applications will require an interdisciplinary and multi-dimensional approach, combining both horticultural and engineering expertise. Furthermore, the applications of greenhouse technology are no longer limited to traditional food and floriculture crop production, but capitalize on plant processes to produce biopharmaceuticals, bio-active compounds, bio-remediation, and bio-energy. It is therefore a critical time for researchers, educators, and the industry to work together for the enhancement of society with controlled environment agriculture technologies.

The workshop will consist of these major topical areas: 1) Greenhouse Design, Environmental Control and Systems, 2) Efficient Energy and Resource Use, 3) Plant Response to Abiotic and Biotic Environments, 4) Value Added Plant Production, and 5) Greenhouse Societal and Special Applications.

The organizing and scientific committees plan to have many “interactions” and “cross-talks” across different focus areas during the workshop.

This workshop will be held in Tucson, Arizona, the authentic Southwestern destination. The Southwestern frontier spirit still exists here and, taking advantage of the abundance of solar radiation, Arizona is one of the major states contributing food production. Greenhouse industry has bloomed during the past 10 years and continues to expand rapidly in southern Arizona. The University of Arizona launched the interdisciplinary, Controlled Environmental Agriculture (CEA) program in 2000, which serves the nation’s and international CEA community through education, research and outreach. The workshop scientific program includes a full day optional tour to the Controlled Environment Agriculture Center and Eurofresh Farms (Willcox, Arizona), the world’s largest Venlo greenhouse complex. A post-conference 3-day tour is planned to visit Mexico to see the fast growing industry and enjoy the cultural exper-

iences. There will be a pre-conference tour and spouse tours planned for visiting other University of Arizona facilities and for sightseeing. Please access to our workshop website for more details and update information (www.GHWorkshopAridRegions2008.org).

We look forward to seeing you in Tucson, Arizona in October!

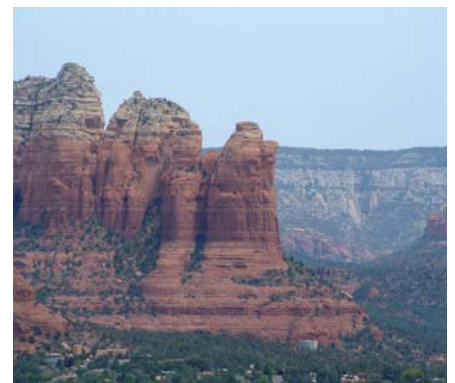
Chieri Kubota, Ph.D.
ISHS Tucson Workshop
Scientific Committee,
Chair

Department of Plant Sciences

Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

Bio5 Institute for Collaborative Bioresearch

The University of Arizona



Update on Nottingham Symposium

Fifty seven papers were received by the organising committee in the months

following the Nottingham symposium on Growing Media. Initially a grammar check was run on all papers by members of the organising committee and although this took time, it greatly assisted with subsequent refereeing. Refereeing got under way in February of this year, although some authors took until April to respond to the grammar check! I cannot praise too highly the work of internal and external referees. Two of the fifty seven papers have been rejected due to poor scientific content: around 20 have been raised to the status of peer-reviewed with the remainder being accepted as contributions. Currently the organising committee is awaiting responses from six authors. Forty nine papers are currently (17 Aug) 'Acta ready'. It is hoped that the six remaining authors will respond by the end of the month. Then the organising committee will check formats, prepare lists of participants, contents sheets etc. We hoped to have the Acta within one year of the symposium, but it will take a little longer. Most will know of the move of Bill Carlile to Bord na Mona in Ireland: fewer may know of the move of the co-convenor Dr Vicky Surraige from Nottingham

Trent University to the University of Guelph in Canada. Fortunately, Dr Anne Coules has stepped in to act as co-editor at Nottingham, with Bill in Ireland. This has led to an extraordinary amount of email traffic.

The job would be FAR easier if only authors would READ the ISHS guidelines. A note for other future conveners!

HERE IS A NOTE OF THE EDITOR:

Who knows what stands for

? BORD NA MÓNA ?



The Bord na Móna group is founded on complementary skills and experience acquired over 50 years to develop Ireland's peat resources.

Peatlands occupy 1.34 million hectares of the island of Ireland, or 16.2% of its surface area. Bord na Móna's production operations are exclusively within the Republic of Ireland, and here peatland covers 1.17 million hectares, or 17.2% of the land area.

It is important to note that much of the area classified as peatland has been modified by human activity over many years, even centuries. For example in 1981 it was estimated that over 172,000 hectares or almost 55% of raised bogs had been subject to hand-cutting for fuel, or development for forestry or agriculture.



Bord na Móna's contributes to the Irish government targets for peatland conservation and wildlife services.

Irish Peat is recognised for its superior storage and performance characteristics.

Bord na Móna is one of Europe's premier suppliers of peat and growing media to commercial growers.

Bord na Móna is one of Europe's premier suppliers of peat and a full range of growing media.

(Extracted from the home page:

www.bordnamona.com)