



International Society for Horticultural Science

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Postharvest Commission

Newsletter

January 2000



1. The New Millennium

In spite of the dire predictions we have successfully moved into 2000, the first year of an exciting new future. The New Millennium is here with a range of attendant problems, opportunities and challenges that must be overcome if we are to make our world a better, safer, healthier place in which all our citizens may live and prosper.

I wish all members a healthy, satisfying and productive start to this new Millennium, and may your

collective efforts in horticultural science make a substantive contribution to improving human welfare.



2. Membership

Now is the time you will be paying your annual subscription to ISHS. Changes have been made this year to allow you to nominate membership to those Sections and Commissions which are of particular interest to you.

You may become a member of as many Sections or Commissions as you like, but please ensure that you indicate those reflecting your prime interest. Many ISHS members are not members of any Section or Commission; there are at least 30 members with predominant research interests in postharvest who are not members of the Postharvest Commission.

So pay your subscriptions promptly, indicate your main professional interests, show that you wish to be in the Postharvest Commission, and encourage your colleagues to become ISHS members.



3. Working Groups

Currently there are two Working Groups directly associated with Commission Postharvest, and two associated with other Commissions:

PH1 Vegetable Storage

PH2 Fruit Storage

VO5 (PH5) Vegetable Quality -
associated with Section
Vegetables

TO5 (PH6) Postharvest Technology -
the Tropics-Associated with
Commission Tropical and
Subtropical Horticulture

There is also an active postharvest group on Section Ornamental Plants, but to date there has been little if any active contact with Commission Postharvest that has traditionally been concerned with food crops.

I would be interested in members thoughts on how we should structure the Commission Postharvest. Should we retain the current Working Group structure; should we add more; what should they be? Should we generate more active linkages with other

Sections and Commissions such as Commission Economics and Management?

I propose to call for nominations and have elections for Working Group Chairs later this year. I will call for nominations later.

Please send me comments and suggestions.



4. Postharvest 2000, 26-31 March 2000

Have your registered for this ISHS Conference yet? It is not too late to do so. Dr Ruth Ben Arie indicates that to date they have received 340 abstracts from 256 registrants from 20 countries. The programme looks great, and the tours provide an opportunity to see something of this fascinating country and neighbouring Jordan. Special student rates apply. This will be a wonderful meeting in a very special city; do not miss out on the opportunity to visit Jerusalem in the first year of the New Millennium.

Check the website for updated information:

www.agri.gov.il/events/Postharvest2000.html
or
www.Kenes.com/postharvest2000/

5. International Horticultural Congress, Toronto, 11-17 August 2002

URGENT ATTENTION NEEDED

The Organising Committee for this Congress is about to make the final decisions as to the Colloquia and Symposia to be organised in Toronto 11-17 August, 2002.

ISHS COMMISSION POSTHARVEST

Please return completed questionnaire immediately to E.W.Hewett@massey.ac.nz
Fax No. 0064 6 350 5679

International Horticultural Congress 2000 Postharvest Symposium

Times have been sought for 4 separate Symposia at the Toronto Congress. The following 15 topics have been suggested. I need your assistance in selecting only 4 topics. Please rank in order of priority the six (6) topics that you would like to see offered at Toronto.

In addition I would like you to suggest possible convenors for each topic (the convenor would coordinate and possibly chair the session), and also suggest 1 to 3 possible keynote speakers for each topic. If possible provide contact email or fax addresses.

Topic	Ranking	Convenor	Keynote speaker
Low cost postharvest technologies to feed a hungry world			
Genomics - potential to manipulate quality and senescence			
Eat fruits and vegetables and remain healthy - whys and wherefores			
Fermentation metabolism revisited in a molecular age			
Active oxygen species and their role in senescence and quality			
Quality predictions, evaluation, management and future opportunities with new technology			
Preharvest factors affecting postharvest quality			
Quantitative models of product quality change in the coolchain			
Ethylene - current and future opportunities for manipulating ethylene to advantage			
Quarantine and quality management in a non-chemical/organic world			
Postharvest pathology and biocontrol			
Non-destructive technologies for product segregation			
New crops provide new tastes, flavours, problems and insights for postharvest science			
Freshcut products - challenges and opportunities			
Novel packaging developments for fashion foods			

Please email or fax your response to me by 26 January 2000.

Thank you for your assistance

Errol W Hewett

Chair Commission Postharvest
