



International Society for Horticultural Science
Commission Irrigation and Plant Water Relations

Working Group «Water Supply and Irrigation»

- ISHS Working Group V03 -

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce that Dr. Adriano BATTILANI from CER, Bologna, Italy, is my successor as Chair of the Working Group V03 Water Supply and Irrigation. He has been elected as new Chair during the Business Meeting of the Working Group held in Davis (California) last September 1-5, during the ISHS 4th International Symposium on Irrigation of Horticultural Crops convened by Dr. Richard L Snyder. Adriano was the unique candidate to the succession and he has accepted this position; I had previously circulated his Curriculum Vitae in my last newsletter at the beginning of 2003. The ISHS Council will be invited to approve this appointment in a next future.

I feel particularly happy of the election of Adriano. We have been collaborating together, and also with many other international scientific teams, for European research projects about irrigation management in vegetable crops for more than 12 years. By his high scientific competence and human qualities, his experience and his dynamism, I think that he is particularly qualified to chair the group.

Issues of water supply and management in horticulture will certainly be major topics for research in coming decades. This is such an important area that it justifies elevation to that of a Commission and ISHS is, accordingly, currently working on the set up of a new Commission called "Commission on Irrigation and Plant Water Relations" which is expected to consolidate several ISHS Working Groups that address issues of water usage/management and water relations in horticulture and possibly add some new additional Working Groups, provided promising activities can be created.

That change is driven by the current ISHS Vice President Prof. Dr. Ian WARRINGTON, Chair of the Executive Committee (composed of Chairs of all ISHS Sections and Commissions). The nomination procedure for the first Chair and Vice Chair is currently on its way and soon ISHS will circulate the ballots with the names of all persons who accepted to stand for the election of the office of Chair and Vice Chair of this new Commission. The Commission would comprise the already three existing working groups "F07 Water Relations in Woody Crops", "F20 Mineral Nutrition of Deciduous Fruit Crops" and "V03 Water Supply and Irrigation". This is communicated with some reservation as the final structure is being set up.

Remember that you can get general information about ISHS, find the list of the 94 ISHS Working Groups, and use the Online Membership Services to manage/update your ISHS membership profile (change of address, Section/Commission membership, Working Group membership, online membership renewal,) from ISHS website :

<http://www.ishs.org>

Together with this Newsletter number 7, please, find attached herewith a recently updated 8th version of the Directory of the Working Group Members.

By sending every year, more or less regularly, a Newsletter and a Directory to the 86 Members from 30 countries, I have tried to maintain a link between them and let them know each other better. I hope this could favour exchanges and maybe collaborations. I want to thank sincerely all the Members of the Working Group for their faithfulness and their participation and active contribution to the Symposia organised in cooperation with ISHS.

Of course, beside the contribution to Symposium and ISHS life, it would be nice that the activity of such a Working Group could help and result in building joint research projects with genuine scientific cooperation. Let's hope this will come progressively...

I express all my best wishes to the Working Group for the future and particularly to my Successor, with my congratulations.

Best regards, with my best wishes for the festive season and for the coming year,

Yvon Dumas

Avignon, 15 December 2003