

THE WEED EVENT OF THE YEAR 2000

John Terry from IACR-Long Ashton reports

The III International Weed Science Congress (III IWSC) organised by the International Weed Science Society (IWSS) (see BOX) and hosted by the Brazilian Weed Science Society was held at Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, from 6-11 June 2000. The topic of the Congress, which is held every 4 years, was "Global Weed Problems: Local and Global Solutions for the Beginning of the Century". Over 700 delegates from 63 countries around the world met to discuss a wide range of weed science topics.

All-Congress lectures

The following invited lectures were presented:

"Agricultural biotechnology in Brazil".

Dr Luiz Antonio Barreto de Castro, CERNAGEN, Brazil

"From scarcity to security: global weed science and future weed situation".

Dr. Timothy Reeves, Director General CIMMYT

"Novel controls of millennial weeds"

Prof. Jonathan Gressel, Weizmann Institute of Science

"Is Weed Science a science? The perception of agricultural administrators".

Dr. Judith St. John, USDA-ARS

"Getting weed management technologies to farmers in the developing world".

Prof. Okezie Akobundu

"The great global exchange. A perspective on the global movement of invasive species".

Dr Robert Eplee, USDA (retired)

Main topics

The following were the main topics at the Congress (session organiser in parentheses):

- Weed biology, dynamics and ecology (Frank Forcella)
- Integrated Weed Management (Clarence Swanton)
- Modelling problems and solutions (Martin Kropff)
- Physical control (David Bowran)
- Herbicides (Ken Pallett and Steve Duke)
- Herbicide resistance (Dale Shaner and Steve Powles)
- Herbicide-resistant crops (Sam Howard and Michael Oelck)
- Biocontrol (Louise Morin)
- Low input agriculture (Charlie Riches)
- Novel tools (Helmut Walter and Karl Hurler)
- Site-specific weed management (David Mortensen)
- Global movement and management of invasive plants

International Weed Science Society

The International Weed Science Society (IWSS), formed in 1975, is a world-wide scientific organization, open to all who are interested in weeds and their control. The purpose of IWSS is to supplement and complement the roles of regional and national weed science societies. The IWSS currently has almost 800 members from 71 countries. Individual membership of the IWSS costs US\$10 per year.

(Randy Westbrook and Robert Eplee)

- Global aquatic weed problems (R. Charudattan)
- Communicating weed science (Steven Dewey)
- Science of environmental issues (Robert Zimdahl)
- Spotlights on weed problems in global crops (Ricardo Labrada)
- Spotlights on global weeds (Ricardo Labrada and Leroy Holm)

Each session consisted of invited lectures, volunteered oral presentations and volunteered posters. Abstracts of 552 papers and posters are available on the congress website (see below) and in a soft-back publication. The IWSS plans to publish all abstracts and some papers on CD-ROM.

Satellite meetings

Since so many weeds scientists were gathered in Brazil for this Congress, a number of other satellite meetings were held pre- and during the Congress.

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| June 6 | Aquatics. Details from R. Charudattan (rc@gv.ifas.ufl.edu) |
| June 5-6 | International BioHerbicide Group Meeting. Details from R. W. Barreto (rbarreto@mail.ufv.br) |
| June 7 | "An Action Plan for Weed Management Technologies in the developing World". Details from Okezie Akobundu (mpsons@juno.com) |

For further information on III IWSC contact:

Dr João Baptista da Silva [baptista@estaminas.com.br] or examine the official website of the congress at <http://www.sercomtel.com.br/ice/plantas/>

Next meeting

It has been proposed that the IV IWSC will be hosted by the Southern African Weed Science Society in Durban in 2004.