



ESA

European Society for Agronomy

## Newsletter # 13 - March 2014

Dear ESA Members,

I am very pleased to inform you that we have received almost 250 abstracts for the 13th Congress of ESA to be held in Debrecen (Hungary) on 25-29th August 2014. As ESA congress has not been held in Central and Eastern Europe for a long time, our institution, the University of Debrecen, feels privileged to host such an important event. Our main objectives for the 13th Congress of ESA are the followings:

- to introduce the latest scientific results in crop sciences
- to identify the new scientific trends
- to promote scientific collaboration

The 250 abstracts received come from authors from all over Europe but also USA, Canada, Australia, China, Egypt, New Zealand, South Africa and many other countries, with a very good scientific level. Now the reviewing process is going on and we do hope that all participants will receive the notification of their abstract acceptance by April 15th. Repartition of authors registered is well balanced with ~60 ESA members, ~70 non members and ~70 PhD students. This augurs well for a successful and "young" congress.

Now we are negotiating with Elsevier to publish the best 15-30 abstracts in the Journal Agriculture, Ecosystem and Environment (AGEE). We are proud that the invited keynote speakers have accepted our invitation. They are the followings:

- Jon I. Lizaso (Spain): *Improving Crop Models: Incorporating New Processes, New Approaches and Better Calibrations*
- Antonio Delgado (Spain): *Phosphorus fertilization: a global constraint in the future?*
- Peter Shewry (UK): *Challenges for improvement of Wheat Grain Quality*
- József Popp (Hungary): *Competitive crop production: food-, energy- and environmental security*
- Hartmut Stützel (Germany): *Plant canopies under drought stress - structure, functions, genes and models*

During the 13th ESA Congress, we will have:

- a special course on *Water and nutrient supply of field plants in precision crop production*
- *MODEXTREME (FP7 Project): Modelling the impact of extreme climatic events in agriculture*  
Organizer: Pr Marcello Donatelli (Italy)
- a special workshop on *New challenges and issues in Central-Eastern European crop production*  
Keynote speaker: Prof Jerzy Kozyra: *Adaptation to climate change in Central Europe - needs and reality*

The 13th ESA Congress includes a special field trip with scientific and social programmes

- Field trip in Látókép Experimental Farm
  - long-term and other small-plots experiments (maize, sunflower, wheat, colza and other crops)
  - irrigation and tillage experiments
  - site- and variety-specific experiments
- Hortobágy National Park

Hortobágy is the largest natural grassland in Europe and it is the World Heritage of UNESCO. Special national horse-programme.

- Tokaj Wine Region

It is a world-wide recognized, famous wine region producing special white wines (aszú, szamorodni etc.). It is a World Heritage of UNESCO. Tokaj wines are well known as "Vinum regnum, rex vinorum (Wine of Kings, King of wines). Wine-tasting for participants.

The detailed programme is regularly updated on the website: <http://www.esa2014.hu/welcome/>. Check back for sessions, keynotes, etc. and useful information. Concerning registrations, the online secured credit card payment is now available and earlybird fares are valid until May 30, 2014.

Grants will be offered by ESA to students, already ESA member and whose abstract is accepted for oral presentation. Candidates have to send the notification of their abstract acceptance and a short CV to the ESA secretariat: [secretary@european-agronomy.org](mailto:secretary@european-agronomy.org). Grants will cover registration fees and possibly accommodation according to the number of demands received.

For additional question, on the congress, do not hesitate to contact us at: [info@esa2014.hu](mailto:info@esa2014.hu)



I look forward to meeting you at Debrecen

Prof. Peter Pepó  
President of ESA

ESA 2014  
Congress

### *ESA welcomes a new sustaining member*

The Catholic University of Ávila is a private University whose main targets are culture promotion and education. Scientific and Technology research is carried to develop knowledge, industrial competitiveness and life quality. Research Results Transfer Office (OTRI) is in charge of linking University with private sector through Research and Development Activities. This is made providing services, consulting, technical assistance, patent process or technical formation.

Nowadays Catholic University of Avila is carrying research activity on:

- Plant health: Agroforestry pest (insects and arthropods).
- Diagnosing, management and control of pests in agroforestry environment.
- Entomological biodiversity in agroforestry environments.
- Agroecology and Ecological Agriculture
- Plant health in main crops in Castilla y León.
- Agronomy and plant improvement for main crops in Castilla y León.
- Agronomical studies and plant improvement.
- Agricultural quality of human consumption analysis
- Agricultural food quality in main crops in Castilla y Leon.
- Agromarketing
- Agromarketing studies. Logistics
- Quality and standardization. Distribution
- Agroalimentary marketing
- Merchandising



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[www.ucavila.es](http://www.ucavila.es)

Website: [www.ucavila.es](http://www.ucavila.es)

## ***ESA welcomes Dr Edna Curley as Irish National representative***

Dr. Edna Curley is agronomist at the Plant and AgriBiosciences Research Centre (PABC), Genetics & Biotechnology Lab of the National University of Ireland Galway (Ireland). She obtained her doctorate of Philosophy, Biosystems Engineering at the College of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine of the University College Dublin. The title of her thesis was: *Investigate the influence of land spreading organic agricultural nutrients on groundwater quality when applied to establishing energy crops.*

*Sigma Chain ( $\Sigma$ chain) - Vulnerabilities in the food chain- a stakeholders' guide*

National representatives make the links with the national societies and organizations related to agronomy and agriculture. Candidacies are always welcomed for non represented countries.

<http://www.european-agronomy.org/about-esa/esa-national-representatives.html>

## ***ESA and Agropolis International are organizing Agro2015***

**Agro2015 - The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium for Farming Systems Design  
September 7-10, 2015, Montpellier France**

Following the success of FSD4 in China, the European Society for Agronomy has been mandated to organize the next symposium (FSD5) in order to strengthen the interdisciplinary and methodological focus of the FSD initiative on methodologies for the design of productive and sustainable farming systems in a multi-scale and multi-domains approach. This means that FSD, although focused on the design of farming systems, deals with local as well as global issues as targets and constraints (food security, climate change, biodiversity, socio-economic development).

FSD5 will be an opportunity to enlarge the collaboration with major agronomy societies in the world (Europe, USA, Australia, China, South America, Africa...) as well as with scientific societies in other disciplines (IFSA, animal science, economy...) or international institutions (CGIAR...) or initiatives (Yield Gap and Water Productivity Atlas, AgMip, GFS...) with an interest in farming systems. We also aim at involving research related to policy design, incentives and investment, as well as players in the value/supply chains, to help secure positive change within farming systems.

**Website:** <http://fsd5.european-agronomy.org/>

**5th International Symposium  
for Farming Systems Design**

**SEPTEMBER  
7-10, 2015  
MONTPELLIER  
France**

Agricultural systems  
by design

## 15th ESA congress in 2018

**Candidacies to host the 15<sup>th</sup> ESA congress are welcomed until April 27, 2014.** A first selection will be made by the ESA board to select best candidacies to be voted at the ESA General Assembly in Debrecen. Candidacies must be presented by an ESA member who will supervise the scientific content and the abstract review process, in coordination with ESA board. He will also be in charge of the logistics, registrations and finances of the congress.

The congress venue should be large enough to accommodate a congress up to 500 participants, include an auditorium and several rooms for parallel sessions and offer all technical facilities. The host city should offer enough hotel rooms from budget to 3\* hotels and easy air connections.

For further information, do not hesitate to contact the secretariat: [secretary@european-agronomy.org](mailto:secretary@european-agronomy.org)

## 2nd edition of the Premio Daniel Carasso (deadline June 30, 2014)

The Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation, which supports research and innovation in the field of sustainable food and diets, calls on the scientific community to mobilise for the second Premio Daniel Carasso. The Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation was created in early 2010 under the aegis of the Fondation de France in memory of Daniel Carasso - founder of Danone in France and the United States - and of his wife Nina. It is a family-based foundation that is independent of Danone and whose prime goal is to foster new ways of understanding nutrition that further human self-development and create more harmonious living conditions for people. To those ends the Foundation funds projects in two distinct but complementary fields: food to nourish the body and art to nourish the mind. Since 2010, the Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation has channeled €15 million into funding 55 organisations. Of that amount, 50% has been invested in projects related to sustainable food and diets. Although the Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation supports a wide variety of organisations and projects, its objective remains the same: the development of sustainable, balanced and ethical food systems and diets.

Website: <http://www.fondationcarasso.org/en/call-entries>

## Events...bookmark your agenda!



**Plant Biology Europe FESPB/EPSO Congress 2014 - June 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
Dublin, Ireland

The Congress will attract up to 1,000 delegates mainly coming from the academic, industry/commercial sectors and state bodies. The programme will cover all aspects of plant biology, from the level of cells/genes to plant communities and ecosystems, as well as new technological developments in the plant sciences. The congress coverage would also encompass plant evolution and both the contemporary and future importance of plants and plant-related products, for food, energy and other bio-based compounds, including the impact of climate change.

Website: <http://www.europlantbiology.org/>