

REPORT

10TH CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR PLANT PATHOLOGY 1–5 OCTOBER 2012 WAGENINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS “IPM 2.0 – TOWARDS FUTURE-PROOF CROP PROTECTION IN EUROPE”

The 10th EFPP Conference was organized by the Royal Netherlands Society for Plant Pathology (KNPV) on behalf of the EFPP, and held at the University of Wageningen in Wageningen (The Netherlands). It followed the 9th EFPP Conference organized in 2010 in Evora, Portugal (Mañka 2011).

Dr. Piet M. Boonekamp, President of EFPP and KNPV, explained the theme of the conference as follows in his welcome address:

The organizing committee has chosen this theme as European society expects much from crop protection research in the coming years. We, researchers associated with EFPP, have the task to develop new tools to support National Action Plans, which each member state of the EU has to develop and adopt in the framework of the new EU regulation on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The ultimate aim of the EU-policy is an improved, coherent and broadly embraced IPM (hence “IPM 2.0”) enabling and strengthening a fully sustainable crop protection (future-proof). We have therefore strived for a multidisciplinary conference that evaluates all existing aspects of IPM and incites new required technologies for its successful implementation in a broad variety of agronomic settings.

The conference was attended by ca 200 scientists from Europe and overseas. The Polish group (Phot. 1) consisted of 20 scientists.

President of the EFPP, Dr. Piet M. Boonekamp (Phot. 2) opened the conference which was focused on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the perspective of a new EU approach, from 2014 on.

The majority of lectures that followed covered following fields:

Session 1: New threats and old diseases in new surroundings.

Session 2: EU regulations.

Session 3: Decision Support Systems.

Session 4: Socio-Economics.

Session 5: Innovative cultivation systems.

Session 6: Resistance and IPM cereals.

Session 7: IPM of soil-borne pathogens.

Session 8: Innovation.



Phot. 1. The Polish group at the 10th EFPP Conference (photo by J. Danielewicz)

Session 9: IPM.
 Session 10: IPM potato.
 Session 11: IPM beet.

The impression of the author was that the preparation for IPM incorporation from January 1st 2014 requires a lot of work still, both from administrative and from research point of view.

The conference tour included a visit to the Floriade in Venlo, a great horticultural exhibition – a great horticultural event organized every ten years in another part of The Netherlands (Phot. 3).

The EFPP Conference in 2012 will be followed by the 11th Conference in 2014 in Cracow (Poland).



Phot. 2. President of the EFPP
 Dr. Piet M. Boonekamp (President of the Royal
 Netherlands Society for Plant Pathology)
 opening the 10th EFPP Conference
 (photo by M. Mańka)



Phot. 3. Floriade views (a, b – photo by P. Sobiczewski, c, d – photo by M. Mańka)

At the biannual meeting of the EFPP Board the new Executive Committee for 2012–2014 was elected:

President – Prof. Dr. hab. Małgorzata Mańka (Poland),

Vice-president – Dr. Piet M. Boonekamp (President of the Royal Netherlands Society for Plant Pathology),

General Secretary – Dr. Gert H.J. Kema (Royal Netherlands Society for Plant Pathology),

Treasurer – Dr. Arne Hermansen (Norwegian Society for Plant Pathology).

Literature

Mańka M., 2011: 9th Conference of the European Foundation for Plant Pathology & Sociedade Portuguesa de Fitopatologia “Integrated Plant Disease Management” Evora 15–18.11.2010. *Phytopathologia* 59: 59–62.

Małgorzata Mańka