

Ninth Arab Congress of Plant Protection (Damascus, 19-23 November, 2006)

Under the Patronage of His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ninth Arab Congress of Plant Protection, organized by the Arab Society of Plant Protection (ASPP) and the General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research (GCSAR), Syria, was held at the Congress Palace, Damascus, Syria, 19-23 November, 2006.

Around 600 researchers from 15 Arab countries (Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen, Morocco, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates and Qatar) in addition, to participants from Iran, Pakistan, USA, Greece, Italy, France and UK took part and delivered oral and/or poster presentations in plant protection.

The congress program included four Scientific symposia: "Invasive Pest Species: Identification and potential Control", "Policy and Developmental Issues in Plant Protection", "Pests Management without Synthetic Chemical Pesticides" and "Molecular Diagnostics of Plant Pest Species". Invited Speakers from FAO, ICARDA, University of Nebraska and University of Minnesota (USA), Ain Shams University, Cairo University and National Research Center (Egypt), University of Athens (Greece), Central Science Laboratory (Sand Hutton UK) and Istituto di Virologia Vegetale, Torino (Italy) took part.

Thirty four Scientists and graduate students from ICARDA attended the conference and they made 24 oral and 10 poster presentations. From Iraq, 80 participants covering all Universities and Plant Protection Institutions in Iraq attended and gave around 90 presentations (40 of them from Nineveh Province). One Entomologist scientist, Dr Suaad Irdeny Abdullah from College of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Mosul was supported by the ACIAR Iraq project

One of the six congress awards for graduate students went to Iraqi students: Mrs Batool A. Karso from University of Dohuk, Kurdistan Region, in addition, two awards went to ICARDA students: Mr Mohamed Khalaf (PhD student, Virology Lab) and Mr Nader Asaad (M.Sc student, Virology Lab).

It is also worth mentioning that the abstracts book and congress program were prepared at ICARDA and edited by three ICARDA scientists (Drs Safaa Kumari, Khaled Makkouk and Ahmed Al-Ahmed).

During the 9th ACPP Congress of Plant Protection, a new executive committee for the Arab Society for Plant Protection was elected to serve for a three years term (2007-2009) and is composed of: Dr Wafaa Khoury (Lebanon, President), Dr Majd Jamal (Syria, Vice President), Dr Safaa Kumari (ICARDA/Syria, Member & Chairman of the Publication Committee), Dr Mohamed El-Said El-Zemaity (Egypt, Member & Chairman of Membership Committee), Dr Ibrahim Al-Jboory (Iraq, Member & Chairman of Translation Committee), Dr Ahmad Katbeh (Jordan, Member & Chairman of Honour and Awards Committee) and Dr Khaled Makkouk (Lebanon, Member & Editor-in-chief, Arab Journal of Plant Protection).

You can find all the abstracts (English version) presented at the 9th ACPP on the following website:

http://www.asplantprotection.org/Test/9thACPP_EN.htm