

# IOBC Global

*International Organization  
for Biological Control*



## IOBC Newsletter Issue 96, December 2014

*IOBC is affiliated with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) as the Section of Biological Control of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS)*

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### Message from the President:

Hi all,

Just a brief note this time to wish you all the very best for the festive season.

We have all been very busy over the last six months, with lots going on. Russell will be covering this in more detail in the Newsletter, but I would just like to say how delighted we are with the re-establishment of the ATRS, and we wish the new committee all the very best.



APRS has also been quite active: they launched a new website in the last few months (check it out); sent out their first APRS Newsletter to members; ran an IOBC Symposium at the Australian Entomological Society Conference in Canberra where two young scientists were supported to attend and present talks on biological control (one from China and one from Australia). APRS is also very pleased to have a new Regional Working Group established on Predatory Mites as Biological Control Agents.



NRS held a symposium at the ESA meeting in Portland last month on Practical Implementation of Conservation Biological Control. The conference also had quite a focus on brown marmorated stink bug, which has caused many of us to sit up and take notice.

*Message from the President (continued ....)*

Several countries are now in a phase of preparedness planning for the possible arrival of this pest, and we are all watching with interest how the biological control programme is developing in the USA.

We are just starting the run-up to the next International Congress of Entomology in Orlando, Florida, USA in 2016, and we are in the process of planning symposia for that, so watch this space and we will keep you up to date as things unfold. If anyone has ideas for symposia, please let us know very soon, because details are needed by the organizers within the next 2-3 months.

Best wishes, Barbara

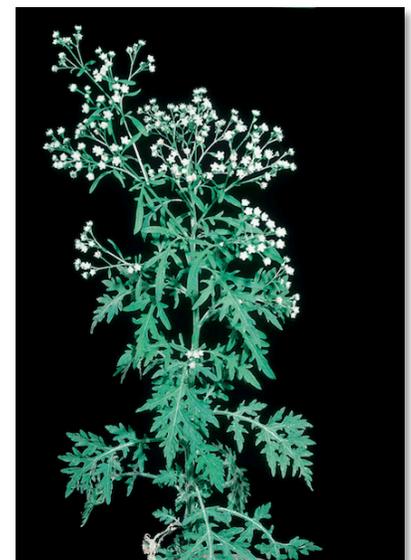
## Global Working Group on Parthenium has new Convener:

During The joint Second IOBC Working Group Meeting on Parthenium and the International Workshop on Biological Control and Management of Parthenium conducted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, July 13-17, 2014, Ms. Lorraine Strathie was elected as the new Coordinator of the IOBC Global Working Group on Parthenium. The selection was unanimously ratified by the IOBC-Global Executive Committee.



Ms. Strathie has been employed as a Researcher at the Agricultural Research Council – Plant Protection Research Institute in South Africa since 1995. She is based at the ARC-PPRI quarantine research facility at Cedara near Pietermaritzburg. Her undergraduate and postgraduate studies were undertaken at the University of Cape Town, where she completed a BSc (Zoology and Botany) in 1991, BSc (Hons) in 1992 and MSc (with distinction) in 1995. Her postgraduate research examined aspects of the biological control of the invasive alien plants *Sesbania punicea* and *Prosopis* species. Since 1995, Ms Strathie has conducted research on the biological control of *Chromolaena odorata* using several insect agents, and since 2004 she has been the project manager and

conducted research on the biological control of *Parthenium hysterophorus* for South Africa. Both plant species are severe invaders in Africa, Asia and Australia. Her research activities have included overseas surveys for natural enemies for the biological control of invasive alien plants, native field host range studies, research in quarantine on the biology, impact and host specificity of various introduced biological control agents, initiation of biological control research and implementation programmes, field releases, and post-release field evaluation of weed biological control agents. These activities have been undertaken in Central and South America, Australia, South Africa, and Ethiopia. Since 2005, Ms. Strathie has been involved in the USAID-funded Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab's Parthenium management project in Africa. She has authored and co-authored scientific publications in international journals, conference and international workshop proceedings and book chapters, edited international workshop proceedings, and has presented research findings at numerous national and international conferences and workshops. Ms. Strathie has co-supervised students and trained international researchers, and has been involved with the organization of several national and international workshops and conferences, including International Workshops of the IOBC Chromolaena Working Group in 2000 and 2010, and the First International Workshop of the IOBC Parthenium Working Group in 2010.



## Recommendations from the International Workshop on Biological Control and Management of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop of the IOBC Parthenium Working Group, Addis Ababa and Adama, Ethiopia, July 2014



1. The Workshop thanks the international and local funders, project partners and agencies in the U.S.A., Ethiopia, South Africa, Australia and Kenya for their support of biological control of Parthenium in Ethiopia.
2. It recognizes Parthenium to be one of the most invasive weeds in Eastern and Southern Africa, affecting crop and animal production, the environment, and human health.
3. It recommends that national, regional, and international organizations get involved (provide resources), increase awareness, and take necessary steps to mitigate adverse impacts caused by this weed, and to prevent its further spread in Africa.
4. Countries wherein this weed has already invaded should take up biological control without further delay. Governments are encouraged to establish policies for the introduction, evaluation and release of biological control agents, and to utilize existing data from other countries.
5. In countries with Parthenium and other established invasive species infestations, coordination of activities at a national and regional level are encouraged, through the establishment of a working group. Working groups should identify gaps and required resources for management.
6. Sharing of information in central databases and the utilization of links is encouraged.



## Recommendations completed from the 1<sup>st</sup> IOBC International Workshop on Biological Control and Management of *Parthenium hysterophorus* in Nairobi, Kenya November 2010:

7. While *Zygogramma bicolorata* is recognized as an effective biological control agent of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, there are other agents available in Australia that should be considered for introduction in countries where *P. hysterophorus* is a problem.
8. Where feasible, combined workshops of the IOBC Working Group on Parthenium with the IOBC Working Group on Chromolaena and other Eupatorieae, and/or the International Conference on Parthenium should be considered for future meetings.
9. The IOBC Parthenium Working Group, IPM Innovation Lab Parthenium Project and International Parthenium Weed Network should consider development of a Parthenium website.
10. Countries in West Africa, Indochina and Pacific should monitor possible introduction of Parthenium from countries where it is present, and take up immediate eradication measures when found.
11. Governments of countries where Parthenium has established in recent years are encouraged to declare it as a noxious weed.

**The newly rejuvenated IOBC Afro-Tropical Regional Section**

held its first organizational meeting in Pretoria on 14 - 15 November 2014, at ARC-PPRI and Rietondale Lodge, in South Africa. In attendance were President: Dr. Rene Noel Poligui, Vice President: Dr. Costas Zachariades, and Treasurer: Dr. Koffi Eric Kwadjo. Absent with apologies were Vice President: Dr. Samira A. Mohamad and Secretary General: Dr. Jean-François Vayssières.



It should be noted that, since the publication of the last Global Newsletter in June 2014, Dr. Vayssières (who works with IITA- CIRAD- Benin) graciously stepped forward to take on the responsibilities of the ATRS Secretary General in place of Ruan Veldtman.

The Executive Committee successfully addressed fundamental issues such as the establishment of Statutes and By-laws for the section, thus establishing an ordered framework upon which to build an active and intellectually vigorous nexus for biological control activities throughout the continent. Other items on the agenda were focused on proposals for working groups, the promotion (visibility and marketing) of the IOBC-ATRS, management of the bank account, the regional newsletter, a plan of activities, membership fees, and other questions.

Eight working groups (WG) were proposed for ATRS:

- WG on Fruit pests
- WG on Integrated Management of Weeds
- WG on Integrated Control of Mite Pests
- WG on Integrated Management of Banana Bunchy-top Disease
- WG on Integrated Management of Stem Borers
- WG on Grasshopper Management
- WG on Management of Tropical and Subtropical Plant diseases
- WG on Management of Insect Vectors of Emerging Human Diseases



Both French and English were chosen as the official languages for ATRS business.

Membership fees were decided as follows: 25 USD per year for regular individual members, 15 USD per year for students/unwaged members, and Institutional membership was fixed at 1,500 USD per year.

The next ATRS meeting is planned to be held before the end of 2015, in Ghana or South Africa, after the recruitment of additional members.

We encourage all biological control and IPM researchers and practitioners in Africa to contact the new ATRS and indicate your willingness to join the group (full contact details are on page 11). A significant issue still to be resolved is how to manage fee transfers among numerous African countries and banking institutions, each with their own bureaucracy.

Thanks to the ATRS Executive Committee for forging ahead.....

There has been a renaissance of activity in the IOBC Asia and Pacific Regional Section (ATRS) - with the Executive Committee stepping up and injecting dynamic new energy in the group. The APRS encompasses countries from throughout Asia, Oceania and the Pacific.



The group has initiated a new website full of region-specific news, contact and event information, member publication lists, and even biocontrol-related video clips. Check it out at: <http://www.aprs.iobc.info>



There is also a new regional newsletter, downloadable in pdf format (for APRS members), as well as links to the Landcare (New Zealand) Research Newsletters on biological control of weeds (available for free to all).

An Australian Entomological Society Conference was held from 28 Sept. to 1 Oct in the Shine Dome in Canberra, Australia. During the conference, IOBC-APRS hosted a symposium titled "Biocontrol in the Asia Pacific Region: highlights from the last 50 years and emerging issues for the future," with 14 excellent presentations including keynotes from Andy Sheppard, Stephen Goldson and Mark Hoddle. Gurion Ang, winner of an IOBC Young Scientist Conference Award, won the prize for the best student talk. The programme for the Symposium, as well as pdf versions of Powerpoint presentations for all of the talks, are available through the APRS website at:



[http://www.aprs.iobc.info/news\\_20141106\\_IOBC-APRS\\_Symposium\\_Canberra.html](http://www.aprs.iobc.info/news_20141106_IOBC-APRS_Symposium_Canberra.html)

On November 12, 2014, as informed by Prof. Barbara Barratt, President of IOBC- Global, a new APRS working group: **Predatory Mites as Biological Control Agents** (initiated by Professor Xu Xuenong, chief scientist of the Agricultural Science and Technology Innovation Program (ASTIP)



*Protection and application of natural enemies*, Institute of Plant Protection - Chinese Academy of Agricultural Scientists), was officially approved after appraisal by IOBC international experts. This is the first IOBC-APRS working group initiated by a Chinese scientist. The working group will establish an international platform for communications and cooperation about predatory mites, and promote research and application of predatory mites worldwide. The success



in application is important in organizing international predatory mite research teams in the Asia-Pacific region, integrating resources for collaboration, and consolidating international cooperation and communication. The group is encouraged to communicate frequently and to cooperate with the existing WPRS working group, **Integrated Control of Mite Pests**.

For more information: [xnxu@ippcaas.cn](mailto:xnxu@ippcaas.cn)

Dear colleagues:

On behalf of the IOBC-NTRS we are pleased to introduce the new Executive Committee (2014- 2018):

President: **Yelitza Colmenarez** (CABI South America- Brazil, Venezuela) CAB International (CABI). Agronomic Engineer (UCLA- Venezuela) and PhD in Plant Protection (UNESP- Brazil), Coordinator of IPM and Sustainable Production, CABI Regional Representative South America.



Vice president 1: **Bruno Zachrisson** (Instituto de Investigación Agropecuaria de Panamá (IDIAP)- Panamá) Doctor in Entomology, Biological control of agricultural pests researcher, Vice Director of IDIAP.



Vice president 2: **Ximena Cibils Stewart** (INIA Uruguay) BS. Biology & Entomology (Iowa State University), MSc. Entomology (Kansas State University). Research Assistant at the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) located in Uruguay.



Secretary General: **María Gabriela Luna** (CEPAVE (CONICET-UNLP) - Argentina) Biology, ecology (UNLP), PhD Natural Sciences (UNLP), researcher and teacher at Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Museo (FCNyM, UNLP), La Plata, Argentina.



Treasurer: **Marcus Vinicius Sampaio** (UFU Brazil) Agronomic Engineer and PhD in Entomology (Federal University of Lavras). Professor at the Federal University of Uberlandia (UFU). and responsible for the working group: "Parasitoids of the Neotropical Region"



Ex Presidente: **María del Rosario Manzano**. (UNALP Colombia) Biologist (Univalle, Colombia), MSc. on Crop Protection, PhD in Entomology (both obtained at Wageningen University, The Netherlands). Teacher and researcher at Department of Agricultural Science.



Consultant 1: **Vanda Bueno** (UFLA-Brazil) Full Professor in Biological Control of Pests at the Federal University of Lavras (UFLA), Brazil.



Consultant 2: **Guillermo (Willie) Cabrera** (FuEdei Argentina). Degree in Ecology and ScD in Entomology, University of Buenos Aires. Director of FuEDEI.



Please visit our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/IOBCNTRS?ref=bookmarks>.

See our website at: <http://www.iobcntrs.org>

**The NTRS briefly highlights the following activities carried out during 2010-2014:**

- ☑ Establishment of the first Neo-tropical WG: Parasitoids of the Neo-tropical Region, with 76 members from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Peru and Uruguay.
- ☑ Affiliation of the Brazilian entomological society (Sociedade Entomologica Brasileira, SEB) to IOBC-NTRS
- ☑ Publication of three annual newsletters (with a fourth in preparation)
- ☑ Organization and teaching of the first international postgraduate course focused on Biological Control of insect pests, sponsored by the IOBC-NTRS offered in Argentina (close collaboration between IOBC-UNLP).
- ☑ Establishment of travel grants and fellowships offered to young students to attend postgraduate courses organized or sponsored by IOBC.
- ☑ Endorsement and announcement of International Congresses, Meetings, Events, etc. relevant to the bio-control area in Latin America and elsewhere.
- ☑ Open and permanent communication among members via the IOBC-NTRS directory.
- ☑ IOBC-NTRS webpage update, new site: <http://www.iobcntrs.org/>

**Proposed activities for the next period (2014-2018):**

- ☑ Organize and implement the first WG Parasitoids of the Neo-tropical Region meeting, in Posadas, Argentina.
- ☑ Extend affiliations of South American Entomological Societies to IOBC-NTR
- ☑ Select an Editorial Committee for NTRS Newsletters and electronic bulletin.
- ☑ Publish four electronic bulletins and 2 new sletters annually.
- ☑ Organize and establish an international course on biological control, with emphasis in the Neo-tropical region, to be taught every other year in different locations.
- ☑ Continue to promote and provide financial assistance to young researchers in order to attend meetings and courses sponsored or organized by IOBC.
- ☑ Organize symposia to be held at Latin American scientific meetings (entomology, ecology, zoology, plant protection, etc.)
- ☑ Use social media to place key Biological Control information and key activities in the region.
- ☑ Reinforce communication with IOBC Global and other Regional Sections.





For those interested in biological control of the invasive weed *Chromolaena odorata*, the IOBC Global Working Group on Chromolaena has published Newsletter No. 19 (September 2014), with feature articles on the situation in West Africa and in Hawaii, USA

Access to the complete newsletter in pdf format is available online courtesy of the **Oahu Invasive Species Committee**:

[http://www.oahuisc.org/wp-content/uploads/Chromolaena-odorata-newsletter\\_Sept2014.pdf](http://www.oahuisc.org/wp-content/uploads/Chromolaena-odorata-newsletter_Sept2014.pdf)



## Call for Papers - Chemical Ecology of Parasitic Hymenoptera

Announcing a Special Issue: "Chemical Ecology of Parasitic Hymenoptera," to be published in BioMed Research International (Impact factor: 2.706). A Call for Papers is available at: <http://www.hindawi.com/journals/bmri/si/981238/cfp/>.

You are invited to submit an original research or review paper for this Special Issue. Submission deadline is Friday, 5 June 2015. Please contact us if you need further information:

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For information on upcoming biocontrol meetings and symposia, see:

[www.iobc-wprs.org/events/index.html](http://www.iobc-wprs.org/events/index.html)

[www.iobcnrs.com/index.php/events-calendar](http://www.iobcnrs.com/index.php/events-calendar)

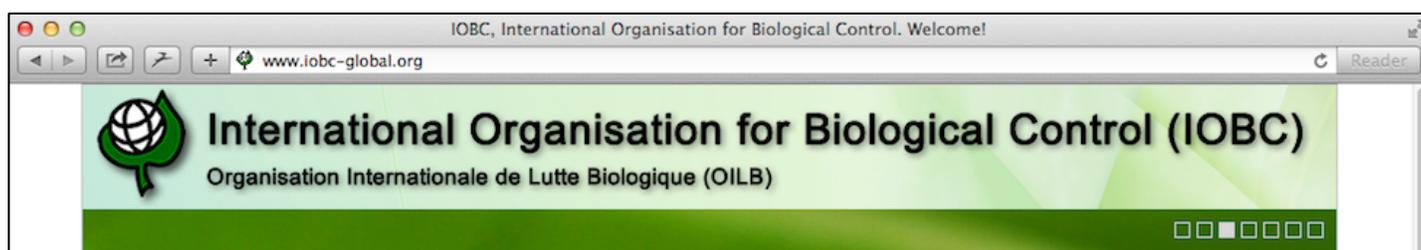
Also, although it's a long way off, mark your calendars to attend the International Congress of Entomology in Orlando, Florida September 25-30 (2016). There will be several IOBC sponsored Symposia, and many interesting talks and events....



## Meet our webmaster:

Hopefully, you have had a chance to view the attractive, efficient, and highly informative website for IOBC- Global [[www.iobc-global.org](http://www.iobc-global.org)].

You may have noticed similarities to some of our regional websites, including WPRS [[www.iobc-wprs.org](http://www.iobc-wprs.org)] and APRS [[www.aprs.iobc.info](http://www.aprs.iobc.info)]. What all three sites have in common is the hard work, dedication, and creativity of our webmaster, Madeleine Buehler from Switzerland. It is the talents of people like Madeleine that help IOBC to succeed....



Madeleine Buehler obtained her PhD in Natural Science in 1995 at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. She worked as a phytopathologist in the group of Prof. Dr. Cesare Gessler (former IOBC-WPRS treasurer).

In 1999 she founded **e-maintenance** as a private company for web design and update. Since 2001 the company is registered in the Commercial Registry in Switzerland under the name e-maintenance Bühler. Actually, her first customer in 1999 was IOBC-WPRS, followed by IOBC-Global, IBMA, COST-projects and research institutes in the area of crop protection, the Swiss Society for Phytiatry and many others (<http://www.e-maintenance.ch/English/referenzen.html>).

Apart from her university education as biologist/phytopathologist, she has long-term experience in marketing, product and project management in different companies. Since 10 years she is part-time working for Mettler-Toledo AG in the product management of laboratory balances as a global campaign manager.

She speaks and writes in German (mother tongue) as well as in English and French and she has basic knowledge in Italian and Spanish.

Madeleine lives up in the Swiss mountains, surrounded by stunning nature where she enjoys hiking, skiing and work as a natural and landscape photographer. Whenever possible she likes travelling around the world - just recently for three weeks through China - and getting to know other countries and cultures.

We thank Madeleine for her fine efforts in maintaining the websites for IOBC.



Eric Wajnberg, Editor-in-Chief of *BioControl*, is pleased to announce that we have two new Associate Editors:



Marta Montserrat (Spain - Spanish National Research Council, Department of Subtropical Pomology) will replace Arne Janssen (The Netherlands) to handle manuscripts dealing with predators.



Josep Jacas Miret (Spain - Universitat Jaume I, Departament de Ciències Agràries i del Medi Natural) will replace Torsten Meiners (Germany) to process papers focused on parasitoids.

We thank all the Associate Editors of *BioControl* for their service, and their contributions in making ours the top journal in the field of biological control.

**BioControl**, the official journal of IOBC, presents original papers on basic and applied research in all aspects of biological control of invertebrate, vertebrate and weed pests, and plant diseases. Coverage includes biology and ecology of organisms for biological control, and aspects of use including biological controls for integrated pest management, such as plant resistance, pheromones and intercropping. Organisms covered include parasitoids, invertebrate and vertebrate predators of pest animals and plants, mites, plant and insect pathogens, nematodes, and weeds. The journal publishes interdisciplinary papers with a global perspective on the use of biological control in integrated pest management systems, and related developments in molecular biology and biotechnology that have direct relevance.



**BioControl** also publishes forum papers and invited reviews and Letters to the Editor.



<http://link.springer.com/journal/105>

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Instructions can be found at the SpringerAlert page:

<http://www.springer.com/alert?SGWID=0-103-0-0-0>



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### Ecology of Aphidophaga

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[www.aphidophaga.org](http://www.aphidophaga.org)



### Biological Control and Management of Eupatorieae Weeds

Contact: Michael Day, Australia: [michael.day@daff.qld.gov.au](mailto:michael.day@daff.qld.gov.au)  
<http://www.arc.agric.za/home.asp?pid=5229>

### Biological Control of Diamondback Moth & other Crucifer Insects

Contact: Dr. Tony Shelton, USA: [ams5@cornell.edu](mailto:ams5@cornell.edu)  
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### Benefits and Risks Associated with Exotic Biological Control Agents

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### Biocontrol of *Ostrinia* and Other Maize Pests

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### Biological Control and Management of Parthenium Weed

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### Commission on Biological Control and Access and Benefit Sharing

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[www.iobc-global.org/download/659ABSinBiCoAddMat2009.pdf](http://www.iobc-global.org/download/659ABSinBiCoAddMat2009.pdf)



Join an IOBC International Working Group.... or propose a new one!

Working groups can operate on the global level, or within a regional section...

# Join IOBC...

Membership in IOBC is open to all individuals and all organizations, public or private, who desire to promote the objectives of biological control. There are four categories of

membership:

- Individual Membership is open to all individuals engaged or interested in biological control.
- Institutional Membership is open to any institution, including government departments, academies of science, universities, institutes and societies participating in biocontrol activities.
- Supporting Membership is open to any person or institution interested in promoting the objectives of the Organization.
- Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Council to anyone who has made outstanding contributions to biological control.



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