International Organisation for Biological Control (IOBC)
Asia & Pacific Regional Section, IOBC-APRS

IOBC-APRS Newsletter No. 3 December 2015

Message from the President

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It is again a great pleasure to write to say hello to everyone in this our third regional newsletter. I hope everyone has had a productive and stimulating year with many good things happening..

We continue to rebuild IOBC-APRS. Over the year we welcomed several new members including people from Japan, Thailand and Vietnam and now have members in 10 countries throughout our region. I do want to emphasise that IOBC-APRS is very much still in a rebuilding phase. Our numbers are still quite small though growing and if members can keep patience with us during this phase I am sure there will be much greater benefits for all in the years to come.

Our first regional Working Group - Predatory Mites as Biological Control Agents formed under the co-ordination of Professor Xuenong Xu and Dr Yulin Gao- held its first meetings in October. These were to start the planning of the international workshop for 50-60 people in May 2016 in Beijing.

The New Zealand Plant Protection Society meeting in Christchurch was held in August. We hosted a session "Benefits and challenges of insect biocontrol" and I understand this was well attended and stimulating.

EMAPi 2015 in Hawaii followed in September and several members attended as there were sessions of interest including "Biocontrol of invasive plants", "Biocontrol on islands" and "Biocontrol in restoration". Arising from this conference was a proposal for a Global Working Group on the Biological Control of Invasive Cacti put forward by Michael Day of our region. Twenty six species of Cactaceae have been targeted for biological control and these include some of the outstanding successes. Our APRS members are sure to play a significant role in this new Working Group.

I have started to draw up a list of all people in Australia who have a significant interest in biological control in all its forms. I hope such a list will be useful to members and perhaps lead to our expanding our Australian membership. I suspect the completed list will include 100-150 people. Please advise me if you know of people working "off the beaten track" whom I might miss. I have also had very preliminary discussions with people about the creation of a Facebook or Linked In page for

APRS as an additional communcation tool. However I do understand that many members are not keen on using Facebook for various reasons.

You will hear from Ronny (below) that we are probably going to have to make new arrangements for membership subscriptions next year. After all her hard work last year, there are now issues beyond our control. I do hope all members rejoin next year as these next few years are quite critical for our long term future. We would always like to hear from members if they become aware of larger issues affecting biocontrol where IOBC APRS might play a role. As 2015 draws to a close – how on earth did it go so quickly?- I would like to thank our hard working committee and particularly Barbara and Ronny who have again done so much to keep us functional.

With very best wishes for the festive and holiday season, Bill.

Important message from the treasurer…

As 2015 is drawing to a close it is encouraging to reflect on the growth of our membership base from 30 members a year ago to 71 at the end of the year. We certainly wish to grow even further, to enable IOBC-APRS to add value to your biocontrol work!

Recently, our credit card payment platform, SwipeHQ, experienced issues that impact global accounts holders such as ourselves. These issues stem from events unrelated to SwipeHQ platform directly and while they are working to find a way to overcome the problem there is no satisfactory solution at the time of writing. We do not know when the platform will resume operations for global accounts.

The committee explored options for a plan B, and decided that an interim measure to enable collection of 2016 membership fees would be to use a variation of our previous system, PayPal.

How is it going to work at your end? In January you will receive an invoice by email. It will be a PayPal invoice, but you do not need to have a PayPal account in order to pay it. You will have two options for payment:

1. Via a PayPal account, or
2. By credit card.

Even you have a PayPal account, you do not have to use it if you prefer to pay directly by credit card. A detailed explanation will be sent closer to the time to guide you through the options.

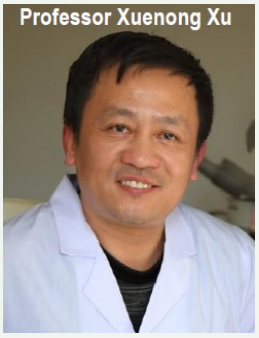
Note that the PayPal invoices will carry the name and details of our previous treasurer, Leigh Pilkington. This cannot be changed in our PayPal account, but it is not a mistake. Please consider this invoice safe.

I would also like to reassure you that funds in SwipeHQ accounts were not affected – only the ability to collect new payments was lost. We do not hold our funds in the SwipeHQ account, but transfer them quickly to the IOBC-APRS bank account.

Apologies for the inconvenience, and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Ronny Groenteman

Predatory Mites as Biological Control Agents



Plans are advancing well for the for the 1st IOBC-APRS *Predatory Mites as Biological Control Agents'* Working Group Meeting "Resources to Industry: bridge the gap"

When: 15-19 May 2016
Where: Institute of Plant Protection, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IPP-CAAS), Beijing, China
Theme:
This workshop will provide an opportunity to bring together international students, researchers and pest management practitioners dealing with all aspects of predatory mites and other biological control related fields. The purpose is to promote international communications and collaborations in research and application using predatory mites as well as other fields in biological control, and to promote greater development in natural enemy research and industry worldwide.
The theme of the 1st workshop is "Resources to Industry: bridge the gap". This topic implies our interest and endeavor in screening predatory mite resources and developing an industry with more commercial products against more target pests. We will especially focus on how we should evaluate and utilize rich predatory mite resources in the Asia-Pacific region.

Call for abstracts: We welcome oral papers and posters for the workshop. Time slot for each oral presentation is 20 minutes. Please submit the title of your presentation or poster to xnxu@ippcaas.cn before **January 15, 2016**, and submit an abstract (400 words) before March 1, 2016. Topics for contributed oral papers and posters include but are not limited to the following list:

- Natural Enemy Resource Survey and Taxonomy
- Progress in Fundamental Biological Research
- Mass Rearing and Industrialization
- Applications in Cropping Systems
- Applications in other Agroecosystems
- Integrating Natural Enemies with other Pest Management Strategies

Registration Fees (meals included):

$500 – Standard Professional Registration (non-IOBC members)
$450 – Standard Professional Registration (IOBC members)
$200 – Standard Student Registration (A valid/current student ID is required.)

Accomodation:

Holiday Inn Express Shangdi Beijing, 33 Shangdi East Road, Haidian District, Beijing.
It is a 3-star hotel. The rate of a standard room is ca. 450 RMB per night, (US$70; 64 Euro).
The hotel is ca. 4.0 km from IPP-CAAS, and 42.8 km from the Beijing Capital International Airport. There are airport shuttles 5:00 am-9:00 pm (24 RMB/US$3.75/3.5 Euro per person). We will also provide shuttles between the hotel and IPP-CAAS during the workshop

Further information :
Please get in touch with Professor Xuenong Xu (xnxu@ippcaas.cn) or Dr Yulin Gao (ylgao@ippcaas.cn) about the conference or if you would like to receive further information about this working group and its activities.

Report from the IPM Innovation Lab

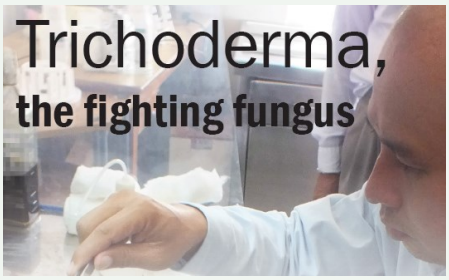
The IPM Innovation Lab have recently prepared a report of ten years of success, innovation, and collaboration

Dr Muniappan, Director of the IPM Innovation Lab says...

"Integrated pest management makes sense. It allows farmers to protect their crops from pests and diseases without heavily investing in toxic pesticides and suffering from the environmental and health costs that inevitably ensue.
As the director of the Feed the Future Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab (IPM IL) at Virginia Tech, I am proud to be part of a program that works to spread IPM techniques among smallholder farming communities in developing countries. Over the past ten years, we've operated in numerous countries and in six different regions of the tropical world, working with farmers, researchers, extension agents, government officials, students, and others to fight some of the most devastating scourges that have swept across the hot, flat, crowded places of the earth."

The report is beautifully illustrated and shows many examples of IPM success in developing countries, some of which are in our IOBC-APRS region.

To see the report visit this web page: http://www.oired.vt.edu/ipmil/publications/annual-reports/



Halting papaya mealybug in India

NZ Plant Protection Society Conference: IOBC-APRS Session

APRS ran a session at the NZPPC in August 2015 on 'Benefits and Challenges of Insect Biological Control. Pdfs of the papers can be found on the NZPP website

http://www.nzpps.org/nzpp_contents.php?vol=68#p179 and they were published in New Zealand Plant Protection Volume 68 (2015)

Two of our NZ APRS members presented papers in the session (names in bold)

Toni Withers

Titles and authors for the session were:

Selecting potential non-target species for host range testing of *Eadya paropsidis* **T.M. Withers**, G.R. Allen and C.A.M. Reid

Neolema ogloblini: exploring a new option for the control of tradescantia (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) S.D. Jackman, P.G. Peterson, A.W. Robertson and C. van Koten

Parasitoids of leafrollers (Lepidoptera:Tortricidae) from scrub vegetation near horticultural areas in Nelson. P.W. Shaw and D.R. Wallis

Influence of cold storage on survival and fitness of *Mastrus ridens*, an ectoparasitoid of codling moth. W.R.M. Sandanayaka, V.A. Davis, A. Chhagan, P.G. Connolly and J.G. Charles

Stephen Goldson

Effect of *Epichloë* endophyte strains in Lolium spp. cultivars on Argentine stem weevil parasitism by *Microctonus hyperodae* **S.L. Goldson**, F. Tomasetto and A.J. Popay

Feeding and oviposition by Argentine stem weevil on *Epichloë uncinata*-infected, loline-containing Festulolium. G.M. Barker, B.J. Patchett, T.J. Gillanders, G.S. Brown, S.J.Y.

The Conference venue, The Chateau on the Park, Christchurch, NZ

IPM Conference November 2016

For more information and online registration see:

http://www.cropprotection2016.com/

Also, contact Prof. V. Sivaram: email sivaram900@gmail.com

Some recent publication by APRS members

Biological Control 93 (2016) 1–7

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Biological Control

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ybcon

Developing a strategy for using entomopathogenic nematodes to control the African black beetle (*Heteronychus arator*) in New Zealand pastures and investigating temperature constraints

Michael J. Wilson [a,*], Derrick J. Wilson [a], Andrea Rodgers [a,b], Philippa J. Gerard [a]

[a] AgResearch, Ruakura Research Centre, Private Bag 3123, Hamilton 3240, New Zealand
[b] Fairfield College, 25 Bankwood Rd, Chartwell, Hamilton 3210, New Zealand

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocontrol.2015.11.002

www.nature.com/scientificreports

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Volatile fragrances associated with flowers mediate host plant alternation of a polyphagous mirid bug

Received: 28 May 2015
Accepted: 09 September 2015
Published: 01 October 2015

Hongsheng Pan[1,2], Yanhui Lu[1], Chunli Xiu[1], Huihui Geng[1], Xiaoming Cai[3], Xiaoling Sun[3], Yongjun Zhang[1], Livy Williams III[4], Kris A. G. Wyckhuys[5] & Kongming Wu[1]

DOI: 10.1038/srep14805

Some recent publication by APRS members

PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Host Plants Affect the Foraging Success of Two Parasitoids that Attack Light Brown Apple Moth *Epiphyas postvittana* (Walker) (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae)

Yi Feng[1]*, Steve Wratten[2], Harpinder Sandhu[3], Michael Keller[1]

1 School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia, **2** Bio-Protection Research Centre, Lincoln University, Lincoln, New Zealand, **3** School of the Environment, Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia

* yi.feng@adelaide.edu.au

DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0124773

PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Prey Preference and Life Table of *Amblyseius orientalis* on *Bemisia tabaci* and *Tetranychus cinnabarinus*

Xiaoxiao Zhang[1☯¤], Jiale Lv[1☯], Yue Hu[2], Boming Wang[1], Xi Chen[2], Xuenong Xu[1]*, Endong Wang[1]*

1 Lab of Predatory Mites, Institute of Plant Protection, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, China, **2** Syngenta Biotechnology (China) Co., Ltd., Beijing, China

☯ These authors contributed equally to this work.
¤ Current address: Lab of Predatory Mites, Institute of Plant Protection, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, China
* xnxu@ippcaas.cn (XX); endong_2000@126.com (EW)

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