

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF ARTHROPODS

Dear Colleagues,

The 4th International Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods will take place in:

Pucón, Chile
March 4th to 8th, 2013
So mark your calendars!!

History and Mission of this Symposium

The conference continues the series of international symposia on the biological control of arthropods held every four years. The first meeting was held at Hawaii – USA during January 2002, followed by the Davos - Switzerland meeting during September 2005, and the latest was at Christchurch – New Zealand, during February 2009. The goal of these symposia is to create a forum where biological control researchers and practitioners can meet and exchange information, to promote discussions of up to date issues affecting biological control, particularly pertaining the use of parasitoids and predators as biological control agents. This includes all approaches to biological control: conservation, augmentation, and importation of natural enemy species for the control of arthropod targets, as well as transversal issues.

The aim of the meeting is also to stimulate ideas by presenting new information. Therefore, all presentations should present original data from projects dealing with predators and parasitoids, avoiding overviews, summaries, or well known material.

The 4th International Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods will be organized following this concept. Proposals for ideas for scientific sessions, themes and session organizers will be received and selected by the scientific committee. Presentation selection will be responsibility of the session organizers in collaboration with the scientific committee. Submissions that are not accepted as oral presentations due to time restrictions will still be considered as poster presentations.

Meeting format

The meeting will span over one week (Monday through Friday), with four days devoted to talks and one (Wednesday) for field trips. There will be no concurrent sessions, in order to have the greatest opportunity to interact, and posters will be displayed during the total duration of the meeting.

International Participation

An important goal of these meetings is to be truly international, with good participation from all parts of the world. This year we are particularly excited that the meeting is in South America, as in the past this region has been poorly represented, being a good opportunity for creating and expanding networks.

Additionally, to promote this outcome, the local organizing committee has identified “Regional Coordinators” whose job will be to promote awareness of the meeting among biological control researchers and practitioners in specific geographical areas. Selected scientific session leaders should also follow this concept to ensure an international atmosphere during sessions.

Scientific and organizing committee

International committee

Barbara Barratt, AgResearch Ltd, New Zealand.

Jacques Brodeur, University of Montreal, Canada.

Roy Van Drieshe, University of Massachusetts, USA

Mark Hoddle, University of California – Riverside, USA.

Ulrich Kuhlmann, CABI, Switzerland

Nick Mills, University of California – Berkeley, USA.

Alberto Urbaneja, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias (IVIA), Spain

Local committee

Audrey Grez, Universidad de Chile

Blas Lavandero, Universidad de Talca

Marcos Gerding, Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agropecuarias (INIA)

Tania Zaviezo, Universidad Católica de Chile

Meeting Location and venue

Pucón (<http://www.chile-pucon.com/-English->) is situated in the Araucanía Region (38° Lat. South), on the eastern shore of the Villarica lake, with views of the cone-shaped Villarrica volcano. Pucón is a small town, but a major centre of adventure tourism in Chile, due to its privileged natural surroundings, near a volcano and several lakes, natural reserves and hot springs. Some of the activities that can be done near the town are trekking, rafting, mountain biking, horseback riding, bird watching, fishing and canopy. Forests around Pucón are composed of native trees, like Araucarias (Monkey puzzle Trees) and *Nothofagus*, where rare endemic flora and fauna can be found.

The conference hotel and venue is the Gran Hotel Pucón, built in 1934 at the shore of the lake. We were able to negotiate competitive rates for the participants of the meeting and we can thoroughly recommend this place. Additionally, information on other accommodation options will also be posted.

More Information to Follow at a Later Date

This note intends to provide you with the date and the place of the meeting for your long-term planning purposes. More detailed information (including materials concerning the submission of presentations, and registration information, webpage, etc) will follow in the coming months.

We are looking forward to your participation and hope to organize a stimulating conference. As we begin planning sessions, your input is welcomed. Please send your suggestions or any questions to Tania Zaviezo, committee chair, at tzaviezo@uc.cl.

With kind regards,

Audrey Grez
Blas Lavandero
Marcos Gerding
Tania Zaviezo