

2ND ENDURE SUMMER SCHOOL 'MODELLING APPROACHES TO SUPPORT IPM'

Volterra (Italy), 15-20 June 2009

Organised by: Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa (Italy)

Presentation

This summer school for PhD students is part of the Education activities (SA 1.2) envisaged in the EU-FP6 Network of Excellence ENDURE (European Network for the Durable Exploitation of Crop Protection Strategies).

ENDURE is an initiative to reshape European research and development on pesticide use in crops for the implementation of sustainable pest control strategies. It was selected for funding by the European Commission in response to call FP6, Food Quality and Safety.

The purpose of the ENDURE Network of Excellence (NoE) is a durable restructuring of European research and development work on the use of plant protection products. The NoE should aim to reduce the use of these chemicals by including both fundamental research to deepen our understanding of the biology, ecology, behaviour and underlying genetics of the crop-pest system, and appropriate applied work (i.e. new and innovative technologies) to ensure that results are translated into practice. The network should include the expertise and knowledge available in the new Member States, and its restructuring should extend to projects already under way. It would be desirable to include in the network those working in or for INCO target countries whose agricultural products are exported to Europe. The NoE should establish itself as a world leader for the development and implementation of durable pest control strategies, and should become recognised as the first point of reference in Europe not only for scientists but also for legislators and users.

Click [here](#) to link to the ENDURE main website.

The Summer School will take place at [SIAF](#), an International School of Advanced Education recently established by the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa and the Foundation of the Cassa di Risparmio di Volterra. SIAF is located at Volterra (60 km SE of Pisa), in the heart of Tuscany countryside.

Aims and rationale

The objective of the summer school is to give an overview to all students of a wide range of modelling approaches and their pros and cons that can be applied to develop or test innovative IPM strategies, and to allow students to work with experts of some of these models on a case study in order to widen their view on modelling approaches for IPM.

The summer school is organised by Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa, in collaboration with modelling experts from all over Europe.

Programme

The summer school programme will include (1) lectures given by internationally-renowned experts belonging to ENDURE partners, (2) team work to facilitate active participation of the selected PhD students and their interaction with the lecturers and (3) opportunities during the whole week for students to discuss individually with the lecturers about their PhD project or related questions.

The type of transversal themes that will be treated by expert lecturers from all over Europe are:

- 1) Overview of various modelling approaches for testing and development of innovative IMP strategies
- 2) Technical aspects of modelling
- 3) The relation with the end-users of the model; participatory development

Three modelling applications will be presented and in case studies students will work on one of the case studies. They will be assigned to the case study groups based on their PhD project:

- 1) spatially explicit modelling for development of innovative IPM strategies
- 2) modelling of weed community response to cropping system management
- 3) multi-pest models

Application and Deadlines

Who can apply

The summer school is directed to a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 PhD students. Participation in the summer school is **not restricted** to PhD students directly linked to ENDURE partners. Applications from developing countries are welcome.

The PhD students applying for this course are expected to be enrolled in a PhD programme whose topic evolves around crop protection and who apply modelling to test or develop IMP strategies.

Selection criteria

Interested students are requested to register to this website and complete the online application procedure. Applications must include:

- Filled application form (http://www.endure-network.eu/summer_school_2009/registration).
- Short CV (max two A4 pages, Times New Roman 12 pt)
- Summary of PhD Project (max one A4 page, Times New Roman 12 pt)
- A motivation letter (max one A4 page, Times New Roman 12 pt)
- A support letter from their supervisor(s)

Deadlines

- 1 March 2009: closing date for receipt of online applications
- 3 March 2009: notification of acceptance to applicants (via e-mail and this website)

- 11 March 2009: Selected students have to communicate formally their acceptance to participate and send a proposal for their travel plan (at endure.summerschool@sssup.it).
- 14 June 2009: Arrival at Pisa Airport of all students
- 15 - 20 June 2009: Summer school

Costs

- ENDURE will cover most of the costs related to participation in the summer school:
 - APEX Flight or International Transportation to/from Pisa (<http://www.pisa-airport.com/>)
 - Local transportation provided by SSSUP (Pisa airport to/from SIAF Volterra)
 - Meals and accommodation at the venue
- Selected students are requested to send their travel plan to endure.summerschool@sssup.it by 11 March 2009. Flight tickets will be directly provided by the Summer School organisers, the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy (SSSUP), taking into account the travel plan suggested by the students.
- NOT included are: travel costs to/from airport at student's home country/country of departure; costs for visa, any other cost which is not mentioned above.

Information

Requests of information must be sent to endure.summerschool@sssup.it