

Welcome to the 23rd edition of ENDURE News, the electronic newsletter from ENDURE. Please feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues.

- **[Reducing reliance on conventional pesticides](#)**
 Experts from ENDURE and the European Research Area Network in Coordinated Integrated Pest Management (ERA-Net C-IPM) have reviewed the current state of the art of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) research and development, with a particular focus on how European agriculture is moving from conventional crop protection systems to IPM systems less reliant on pesticides, the major challenges encountered during this transition and future priorities to overcome existing IPM R&D challenges and so facilitate the uptake of more sustainable crop protection systems in European agriculture. 
- **[IPM: A leap of faith or a confident step?](#)**
 Recent issues relating to proposed withdrawals of key pesticides for farmers in the European Union, including neonicotinoids (pollinator loss concerns) and glyphosate (for example, weed resistance, health and biodiversity loss concerns) have raised the profile of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) amongst stakeholders as a potential way forward for more sustainable crop protection, write Nick Birch, Graham Begg, Cathy Hawes and Geoff Squire from Scotland's James Hutton Institute. 
- **[C-IPM publishes strategic research agenda for IPM](#)**
 A strategic research agenda for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Europe has been prepared by Coordinated Integrated Pest Management (C-IPM), the European Research Area Network (ERA-Net) seeking to align national research programmes on IPM in Europe. 
- **[Apply now for 2016 Summer School](#)**
 Applications are now being accepted for ENDURE's 2016 Summer School. Focusing on 'The role of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in mitigating the effects of climate change on pest dynamics - modelling approaches', the Summer School will run from October 9 to 14, 2016. 
- **[Herbicide-tolerant crops in IWM](#)**
 Scientists have proposed five actions to facilitate the incorporation of herbicide-tolerant crops in Integrated Weed Management (IWM) systems and have emphasised that the same approach should be taken whether the crops are conventionally bred or genetically modified to be herbicide-resistant. 
- **[ENDURE says thanks to founding member](#)**
 ENDURE said goodbye and thanks to an old friend and one of its founding members in May, with the retirement of Piet Boonekamp (left in photograph) of Wageningen University and Research Centre's Plant Research International. He has been replaced on the ENDURE Executive Committee by his former colleague, Willem Jan de Kogel. 
- **[DEPHY: Real-life examples of change](#)**
 One of the cornerstones of France's attempts to reduce pesticide use in agriculture is the DEPHY network which, alongside an experimental system, comprises 1,900 farms which are taking various approaches to ensure a more parsimonious use of pesticides. These farms now have several years of experience behind them and thanks to the production of 'trajectory sheets', which chart the motives for change, the steps taken, the successes and the setbacks, it is possible to get a fascinating insight into real-life examples of change. 
- **[Interview: Jürgen Köhl, BIOCOMES](#)**
 The BIOCOMES ('Biological control manufacturers in Europe develop novel biological control products to support the implementation of Integrated Pest Management in agriculture and forestry') project is aiming to deliver at least 11 new biological products to control significant diseases and pests over the coming years. With the project, which brings together 27 business and research partners from 14 different countries, passing the halfway point, ENDURE spoke to BIOCOMES coordinator Jürgen Köhl from Wageningen UR in the Netherlands. 
- **[Learning from PURE: Grapevine](#)**
 While the area dedicated to vineyards may have shrunk across Europe over the past decade, grape production remains very important, with European vineyards accounting for more than half of the world's total vineyard surface. And it's a crop which offers particular challenges for Integrated Pest Management (IPM), because pesticide use generally remains high and some of the options available in annual crops, such as rotations, are not feasible. 
- **[Sustainability indicators added to Italy NAP](#)**
 Researchers from the Institute of Life Sciences at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa, one of ENDURE's Italian partners, have played a central role in establishing a new set of indicators for the 

sustainability of cropping systems, which is to be added to Italy's National Action Plan (NAP).

- **Sustainable weed control: what France has learned**

Given Europe's desire to cultivate crops in more sustainable ways less dependent on chemical inputs, the problem of weed control in arable crops remains an important stumbling block. To address this, France has made considerable investments in trials and research, with the knowledge gathered providing possibilities for reducing herbicide use while guarding agronomic and economic performance. Here we report on a major meeting held to discuss progress and provide links to a raft of further information.



- **UK invests in innovative agriculture**

The United Kingdom is investing £68 million (€87 million) in the launch of three new Centres for Agricultural Innovation, focusing on crop health and protection, agricultural engineering and precision farming, and excellence in livestock production. The three new centres will collaborate with the first Centre for Agricultural Innovation, launched late last year, which is called Agrimetrics and deals with data science and modelling.



- **France's EcophytoPIC continues to expand**

The development of France's portal dedicated to Integrated Pest Management is an ongoing process, providing access to lots of interesting information to those with a knowledge of French or a good translation program. New pages added to the EcophytoPIC site include, for example, sections dedicated to conservation biological control (using functional biodiversity), the mass release of beneficial insects and an examination of the ongoing experimental work on entovectoring.



- **Learning from PURE: Protected crops**

One of the legacies of the PURE project ('Innovative crop protection for sustainable agriculture') is a range of resources to encourage the implementation of Integrated Pest Management solutions in a selection of crops. Of these, comprehensive material is available for IPM in protected crops, with a particular focus on tomato production.



- **New website for EuroWheat**

EuroWheat, the European knowledge hub which has its origins in the original ENDURE Network of Excellence (2007-2010), now has a new website and logo. As EuroWheat explains on its new site, wheat remains one of Europe's most important crops and its production faces some particular challenges.



- **Potato blight info now online**

The proceedings of EuroBlight's 15th workshop, held in Brasov, Romania, in 2015, are now available on the network's website. The main objective of the workshop was to present and discuss recent results on integrated control of late and early blight in potato.



- **Scottish partner hosts Technical Day**

The James Hutton Institute, ENDURE's Scottish partner, staged a Technical Day for Farmers on June 9 this year. Building on the successful event two years ago, the 2016 Technical Day highlighted science and practice around topical issues including soil management and soil conservation, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), nitrogen usage and cycling including N-fixation, precision agriculture and the design of field margins and boundaries.



- **Projects to combat hairy root disease and mites**

More news of projects launched under Coordinated Integrated Pest Management's (C-IPM) first call is now available, providing details of plans to tackle hairy root disease in minor crops and mites in berries, soft fruits and woody ornamentals.



- **Follow IPM news on social media**

Alongside the ENDURE Twitter feed (@ENDURE_ERG), it is now possible to follow developments on France's Integrated Pest Management portal, EcophytoPIC, through social media thanks to the launch of a Twitter service and Facebook page.



- **SMaCH results to be aired**

The results of projects launched in 2013 by INRA's Sustainable Management of Crop Health (SMaCH) metaprogramme will be presented at a two-day workshop (in French) this autumn, alongside four theses supported by the programme.



- **New focus on potato late blight**

A new project is seeking to understand why, despite much research and many breakthroughs, late blight in potato remains stubbornly difficult to control with efficient and environmentally friendly methods.



- **C-IPM projects to tackle wireworms and weeds**

More details of the projects selected for funding under the first C-IPM (Coordinated Integrated Pest Management) call are now available, revealing the ambition to tackle wireworm control and weeds in maize and winter wheat through Decision Support Systems (DSS).



- **News from BIOCOTES**

The latest newsletter from BIOCOTES is now available, providing readers with updates on some of the 11 new biological control products the project is developing for a number of important pests and diseases in agriculture, horticulture and forestry.



- **Events calendar: Check it out!**

We regularly update our events calendar and five new events have been recently



added. New events include July's SIP2016 - International Congress on Invertebrate Pathology and Microbial Control and 49th Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology in France's Loire Valley and the following month's 32nd European Society of Nematologists (ESN) symposium in Braga, Portugal.

- **New group to boost European agroecology**

A new association has been created to promote agroecology in Europe. Called Agroecology Europe, its 19 founding members come from 10 countries across the continent, including representatives from several ENDURE partners.



- **SSSA evaluates biopesticide dossiers**

ENDURE partner Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa (SSSA) has been appointed by the Italian Ministry of Health (MinSal) as one of the research institutes responsible for the scientific evaluation of dossiers relating to the registration, re-registration and renewal of authorisations for biopesticides. Professor Paolo Barberi is the scientist responsible for this agreement.



- **Network launched for enhanced fruit production**

A thematic network focusing on fruit production in the European Union has been launched, with the ambition of unleashing, stimulating and using Europe's research potential to exploit new opportunities in the fresh produce category. Called EUFRUIT, it brings together 21 partners from 12 different countries and is being funded under the Horizon 2020 programme.



- **Seven IPM projects get green light**

The results of the first call for proposals from the Coordinated Integrated Pest Management in Europe (C-IPM) ERA-NET have now been published, with seven research projects selected.



- **New project to 'deepen sustainability'**

A new European Union-funded project has been launched to "deepen the roots of sustainability in agri-food systems by harnessing scientific and local knowledge, people's energy, motivation and innovation skills around the theme of agrobiodiversity by making use of novel, improved and demand-driven ICT (information communications technology) solutions".



- **International conference for ecological sciences**

Abstracts are now being accepted for the French Ecological Society's 2016 international conference (Sfécologie 2016), which will run from October 24 to 28 in Marseille, France, and host around 500 oral contributions and 400 posters.



- **IPM news from the Near East**

The latest issue of the Arab and Near East Plant Protection Newsletter (ANEPPNEL), published jointly by the Arab Society for Plant Protection and the Near East Regional Office of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, is now available.



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