



ENDURE NEWS, Issue 28, December 2018

Welcome to the 28th edition of ENDURE News, the electronic newsletter from ENDURE. Please feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues.

- [Save the date! 2019 Systems Summer School](#)

ENDURE and its partners are organising an International Summer School for 2019. Running from June 23 to 28 2019 in Volterra, Italy, it will address 'Methodological Approaches to Systems Experiments' and is designed for researchers, engineers and PhD students involved in the design, monitoring and exploitation of systems experiments.



- [Shifting to pesticide-free agriculture](#)

In preparation for the European Commission's €100 billion Horizon Europe research and innovation framework programme, set to be launched in 2021, European institutes have come together with the ambitious target of moving towards chemical pesticide-free agriculture in Europe.



- [IBMA calls for regulatory shake-up](#)

The International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA) has called on the European Union to establish a new regulatory organisation focused specifically on biocontrol in order to simplify and accelerate evaluations and approvals and thereby provide farmers with a greater range of options.



- [Diversification cluster to boost impact](#)

Six of the European Commission's H2020 projects have joined forces in a 'crop diversification cluster' which will involve sharing strategies and tools with the aim of boosting the impact of their research into various ways of improving the economic and environmental sustainability of European agriculture.



- [New project targets sustainable agri systems](#)

A new European project has been launched to "develop and support ecologically, economically and socially sustainable crop production via stacking and protection of functional biodiversity". Called EcoStack, the five-year Horizon 2020 project brings together 24 partners, including a handful of ENDURE partners who are leading three of the work packages.



- [Seeking a head start to combat wheat rust](#)

A new European project has been launched to help tackle the increased threat to wheat crops from invasive races of rust. In particular, RustWatch, coordinated by ENDURE partner Aarhus University, will provide a new early warning system to boost preparedness and resilience to new invasive wheat rust races.



- [DiverIMPACTS: Conference and interview](#)

A major European conference on crop diversification is scheduled for September 18 to 21, 2019. Organised by DiverIMPACTS (Diversification through Rotation, Intercropping, Multiple Cropping, Promoted with Actors and value-Chains towards Sustainability) and other projects targeting crop diversification, it will be held in Budapest, Hungary.



- [Models provide late blight insights](#)

Wageningen University, ENDURE's Dutch partner, has reported on the success of social-ecological modelling of potato late blight in providing insights for farmers, breeders, potato traders, retailers and governments. In particular, this approach has demonstrated the important role resistant varieties can play in disease control providing there is adequate cooperation between all stakeholders in the potato sector.



- [Stepping up Integrated Weed Management](#)

The first newsletter from the IWMPRAISE project is now available, providing updates on the European Union's first research and innovation project focusing solely on Integrated Weed Management (IWM) as a means of reducing herbicide use.



- [Making the most of EcophytoPIC](#)

EcophytoPIC, France's Integrated Pest Management portal, has introduced four news sections which make it simpler to keep up to date with fresh information on IPM. These sections are dedicated to summaries which offer one-page information on a technique, pest or event; dossiers providing complete and detailed information on a particular theme; news from the press and around the web; and a section enabling users to inform themselves on a particular innovation or IPM tool.



- [Demonstration network up and running](#)

With the EUCLID project (Europe China Lever for IPM Demonstration) moving into its third year, 2018 has seen the debut of its Innovation Demonstration Network, which is seen as a crucial step as it takes innovative research work conducted in the lab to the field.



- [Gaining an insight into IWM experiments](#)

More than 100 farmers, technicians and agronomists have been given an insight into Integrated Weed Management (IWM) through an open day held at Veneto Agricoltura's Vallecchia experimental farm in Italy. Visitors were able to witness the farm's ongoing experimental work as part of IWMPRAISE (Integrated Weed Management: PRACTical Implementation and Solutions for Europe), Europe's first Horizon 2020 project dedicated solely to weed management.



- [TRUE interviews now online](#)

There is a chance to catch up with some of the case study leaders in the TRUE project ('TRansition paths to sUustainable legume based systems in Europe') through video interviews recorded during a meeting of the Atlantic Legume Innovation Network held earlier this year.



- [James Hutton Institute welcomes vertical farm](#)

One of the world's most advanced indoor farming facilities has opened at the Dundee site of ENDURE's Scottish partner, the James Hutton Institute. The facility will be used to showcase Intelligent Growth Solutions' (IGS) power and communications technologies which are designed to reduce the barriers to vertical farming.



- [Potato app proves to be a hit](#)

The James Hutton Institute, ENDURE's Scottish partner, has introduced a web-based version of its Buntata application. The application, originally only a free Android app, makes it possible to identify potato pests and diseases in the field.



- [Updates for events calendar](#)

With locations as far flung as Canada, Japan and Malaysia (and, of course, Europe) and topics including agroecology, precision agriculture and biocontrol, our updated events calendar allows you to get ahead with planning your attendance at conferences and other events in 2019.



- [2nd Plant BioProTech set for 2019](#)

Following last year's first Plant BioProTech international symposium held in France, a second edition is being planned for November 19 to 22, 2019, in Marrakech, Morocco. The organisers note: "The symposium brings together international researchers and industrials from different disciplines: plant-microbe interactions, plant physiology, molecular biology, pathology...Our Plant BioProTech symposium focuses on microorganisms and natural elicitors active on plant protection, and their impact on agricultural practices in the future."



- [COLUMA 2019: Focus on weed control](#)

Végéphyll, France's association for plant health formerly known as AFPP, has issued a call for communications for 2019's COLUMA conference, an event held once every three years focusing on weed management.



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