

# International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS)

## Activities' Report - Year 2016

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### 1. Introduction

The International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) is a Society of individuals, public institutions, private organizations and governmental agencies devoted to horticultural research education and industry ([www.ishs.org](http://www.ishs.org)). With its over 7000 individual members from 150 countries, over 150 Institutional Members and 60 Country Members, the ISHS is the biggest and most important Society in the world building and maintaining human knowledge, skills and biological resources in support of worldwide horticulture.

### 2. Main activities carried on by ISHS during 2016 relevant for Italy and for CNR

In the 2016, one Conference and two Symposia have been held under the Italian organization, i.e.,

- I European Conference of Post Graduate Horticulture Scientists. Palermo, 12-13 May 2016. Organised by the University of Palermo (<http://www.soihs.it/ecphs/default.aspx>)
- X International Symposium on Grapevine Physiology and Biotechnology. Verona, 13-18 June 2016. Organised by the University of Verona.
- XI Orchard Systems 2016. Bologna, 28 August-2 September 2016. Organised by the University of Bologna (<http://www.orchardsystems2016.org>)

#### *Acta Horticulturae*

Seven volumes of *Acta Horticulturae* have been produced in the 2016 with the contribution of Italian editors:

- 1144, Proceedings “III International Symposium on Postharvest Pathology: Using Science to Increase Food Availability” (co-Editor S.M. Sanzani, A. Ippolito; University of Bari)
- 1138, Proceedings “EUFRAIN Thinning Working Group Symposia” (Editor G. Costa; University of Bologna)
- 1136, Proceedings “I International Symposium on Grapevine Roots” (Editors F. Battista, D. Tomasi, F. Gaiotti; Vivai Rauscedo)
- 1120, Proceedings “International Symposia on Postharvest Knowledge for the Future and Consumer and Sensory Driven Improvements to Fruits and Nuts” (co-Editor D. Avanzato, Rome)
- 1117, Proceedings “II International Berry Fruit Symposium: Interactions! Local and Global Berry Research and Innovation” (co-Editor B. Mezzetti, University Politecnica Marche)
- 1113, Proceedings “International Symposium on Micropropagation and In Vitro Techniques” (co-Editor M. Lambardi, CNR-IVALSA)
- 1110, Proceedings “International Symposium on Molecular Biology in Horticulture” (co-Editor R. Muleo, University of Tuscia)

#### *Editorial Board of eJHS*

Four Italians collaborated in the 2016 with The European Journal of Horticultural Science (eJHS, IF=0.4) as Associate Editors: Prof. Stefania De Pascale (University of Napoli), Prof. P. Inglese (University of Palermo), Dr. Maurizio Lambardi (CNR-IVALSA of Florence), and Prof. G. Prosdocimi Gianquinto (University of Bologna). One Italian collaborated in the 2016 with the international journal *Fruits* (IF=1.0) as Associate Editor, Prof. Carlo Fideghelli (CREA-FRU, Roma).

### **3. Activities carried on by Maurizio Lambardi (CNR vice-delegate) and other Italian scientists within the ISHS during 2016 and impact on the Italian scientific community**

#### *2016 Executive Committee meeting*

The ISHS Executive Committee and Council meetings took place on August 20-25, 2016, in Quebec City (Canada). The Vice-President (Prof. Silvana Nicola), two Council members (Prof. Stefania De Pascale and Dr. Maurizio Lambardi), and all the five Italian members of the Executive Committee (see above), among which the CNR delegate, Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, attended the meeting and presented the reports on the activity carried out from August 2015 to August 2016 in the frame on the relative Sections and Commissions.

A moment of particular importance of the meeting was the discussion among the members as for the opportunity to confirm the organization of the next International Horticultural Congress (August 2018) in Istanbul, Turkey, in view of the dramatic events that took place in the months before the meeting in Quebec City. The IHC Turkish delegation expressed their persistent desire to continue in the organization of the Congress, ensuring the utmost attention to guarantee the security of delegates, attending from all over the world. There has been a lively debate, during which the Italian delegation expressed itself for maintaining the Congress organization in Turkey; moreover, the Italian delegation confirmed full cooperation to the organizers. The Council finally decided to confirm the organization of the event in Turkey.

### **4. Evaluation of the participation in terms of benefits and membership cost**

Taking into consideration that the ISHS is the world most important Society dealing with horticulture, it is strategically important that Italy continues to play a major role in the Society life. Members of the ISHS have many benefits for their annual subscription, such as to be constantly informed on the major events in the world in horticulture, discounts for attending Symposia, access to a large database of publications in the plant sector. Moreover, young scientists and students have the possibility to attend to International High Formation Schools at reduced fares.

### **5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement**

The evaluation of Italians' attendance to the ISHS Symposia and correlated activities is very positive. Italy is the country with the highest number of members in the Society. Moreover, Italians are very active in taking the responsibility to organize ISHS events in Italy, and the participation of Italians at Symposia and Workshops around the world is always large as well.

### **6. Italian experts with important roles within the ISHS or within related Commissions and Programs (if known)**

In the 2016 organisational structure of the Society, Italy had experts in the Board, Council and Executive Committee, i.e.:

- the Vice-President (Prof. Silvana Nicola, University of Turin), elected in the 2014 and in office until the 2018;
- three Council members, representative of the country (Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IVALSA of Florence; Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Napoli and past President of the 'SOI/Società di Ortoflorofruitticoltura Italiana; Prof. Paolo Inglese, University of Palermo);
- five members of the Executive Committee, as Chairpersons of Sections/Commissions: Prof Tiziano Caruso, University of Palermo (Section Nuts and Mediterranean Climate Fruits), Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IVALSA of Florence (Commission Molecular Biology and In Vitro Culture), Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Napoli (Commission Protected Cultivation), Prof. Giorgio Prosdociami Gianquinto, University of Bologna (Commission Landscape and Urban Horticulture), Dr. Damiano Avanzato, International Horticulturist Consultant (Commission Plant Genetic Resources). Moreover, three Italian Vice-Chairpersons complete the Italian representation in the Executive Committee.

Moreover, along the year, five Italians (Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, Dr. Damiano Avanzato, Prof. Silvano Sansavini, Prof. Giorgio Prosdocimi Gianquinto and prof. Tiziano Caruso) have been appointed ISHS representatives at five International Symposia.

#### **7. If Union with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2016 CNR Commission activities**

There is not a CNR Commission in the ISHS.

#### **8. Notes**

*“Harvesting the Sun”, Italian version*

The SOI (Italian Society of Horticulture) signed an agreement with ISHS in order to prepare an Italian version of “Harvesting the Sun – A Profile of World Horticulture”. Harvesting the Sun traces the farm-to-table journey using simple language and informative graphics. It highlights innovations in crop breeding, production, and handling, presenting recent advances in how to control pests and diseases, promote food safety, and minimize post-harvest losses. It explores how horticulture offers myriad paths to economic growth, and offers insights into how the cultivation of plants nourishes the spirit as well as the body. The SOI, under the coordination of its President, Prof. Massimo Tagliavini, and with the collaboration of Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, General Secretary of the SOI, initiated in the 2016 the preparation of an Italian version of the booklet, to be completed in the 2017.

*Signature*

Federica Rossi

Maurizio Lambardi

Firenze, June 5, 2017