

International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS)

Activities' Report - Year 2018

Federica Rossi – Maurizio Lambardi

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). 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 2018 relevant for Italy and for CNR

In the 2018 the XXX International Horticultural Congress "Bridging the World through Horticulture" (<http://www.ihc2018.org>) was held from August 12th to 16th at the Istanbul Congress Center, Turkey. The four-year Congress is the more important and significant event for the ISHS. The full program of the 5 days of Congress was composed of 2 Colloquia, 39 Scientific Symposia and 9 Workshops. The collaboration of Italy at the organization of various events has been good and qualified:

Scientific Symposia

- S2- Micropropagation and In Vitro Techniques (2nd International Symposium). Co-Convenors: Drs. Maurizio Lambardi and Elif Aylin Ozudogru, CNR-IVALSA (now IBE) of Florence;
- S9- Evaluation of Cultivars, Rootstocks and Management Systems for Sustainable Production of Deciduous Fruit Crops. Co-Convenor: Dr. Brunella Morandi, University of Bologna;
- S10- Understanding Fruit Tree Behaviour in Dynamic Environments. Co-Convenor: Dr. Pasquale Losciale of Crea, Bari;
- S11- Nuts and Mediterranean Climate Fruits: Advances in Breeding and New Strategies of Horticultural Management for Sustainable Production. Co-Convenor: Prof. Tiziano Caruso, University of Palermo;
- S26- Turfgrass Management and Science for Sports Fields: Bridging the needs and research on turfgrass at the age of climate change (4th International Conference). Co-Convenor: Prof. Giorgio Gianquinto, University of Bologna;
- S38- 10th International Symposium on Temperate Fruits in the Tropics and Subtropics. Co-Convenor: Prof. Giuliano Finetto, University of Verona.

Workshop

- Future of World Horticulture From Youth's Eyes. Co-Convenor: Hana Voca, University of Bari.

Acta Horticulturae

Eight volumes of Acta Horticulturae have been produced in the 2018 with the contribution of Italian Editors:

- 1192, V International Symposium on Ecologically Sound Fertilization Strategies for Field Vegetable Production. Co-Editor: Silvana Nicola, University of Turin;
- 1199, VIII International Olive Symposium. Co-Editor: L. Sebastiani, Scuola Superiore di Studi Sant'Anna;
- 1209, II International Conference on Quality Management of Fresh Cut Produce: Convenience Food for a Tasteful Life. Co-Editor: Silvana Nicola, University of Turin;
- 1215, International Symposium on Greener Cities for More Efficient Ecosystem Services in a Climate Changing World. Co-Editors: G. Gianquinto, F. Orsini, University of Bologna;

- 1217, VIII International Symposium on Mineral Nutrition of Fruit Crops. Co-Editors: T. Mimmo, F. Scandellari, Libera University of Bolzano;
- 1221, EUFRIN Thinning Working Group Symposia. Co-Editor: G. Costa, University of Bologna;
- 1228, XI International Symposium on Integrating Canopy, Rootstock and Environmental Physiology in Orchard Systems. Co-Editor: L. Corelli Grappaldelli, University of Bologna;
- 1229, International Symposium on Flowering, Fruit Set and Alternate Bearing. Co-Editor: T. Caruso, F.P. Marra, University of Palermo.

Editorial Board of eJHS

Four Italians collaborated in the 2018 with The European Journal of Horticultural Science (eJHS, IF=0.43) as Associate Editors: Prof. Stefania De Pascale (University of Napoli), Prof. P. Inglese (University of Palermo), Dr. Maurizio Lambardi (CNR-IBE of Florence), and Prof. G. Prosdocimi Gianquinto (University of Bologna). One Italian collaborated in the 2017 with the international journal Fruits (IF=0.63) 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 2017 and impact on the Italian scientific community

2018 Executive Committee meeting

The ISHS Executive Committee (EC) was held on 8-9 August 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey, during the XXX IHC2018. The Italian Vice-President (Prof. Silvana Nicola) and 5 Section/Commission Chairperson attended as EC representatives: Prof Tiziano Caruso, University of Palermo (Section Nuts and Mediterranean Climate Fruits), Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IBE of Florence (Commission Molecular Biology and In Vitro Culture and CNR representative), Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Naples (Commission Protected Cultivation), Prof. Giorgio Prosdocimi Gianquinto, University of Bologna (Commission Landscape and Urban Horticulture), Dr. Damiano Advanced, Rome, expert consultant (Commission Plant Genetic Resources). Furthermore, Prof. Ferdinando Branca of the University of Catania (Vice-Chairperson of the Vegetables Section, Quality Production Systems, Leafy Green and Non-Root Vegetables) participated in the work, replacing the relevant Chair. Each Section/Commission Chairperson illustrated the reports of the activity carried out within its own Section/Commission from August 2017 to August 2018. Newly proposed Symposiums relating to the years 2019-2021 were submitted to the EC for approval.

Furthermore, following the elections held in spring 2018, on 16 August the new Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Divisions, formed following the decisions taken on the occasion of the 2017 Executive Committee, were presented. The Italian representation was qualified in the new Society organization. In fact, they were elected as Chairs: Tiziano Caruso, University of Palermo (Division Temperate Tree Nuts); Margherita Beruto, IRF of Sanremo (Division Ornamental Plants); Stefania De Pascale, University of Naples (Division Protected Cultivation and Soilless Culture); Francesco Orsini, University of Bologna (Division Landscape and Urban Horticulture).

The following were elected as Vice-Chairs: Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IBE of Florence (Division Plant Genetic Resources and Biotechnology); Luca Corelli-Grappaldelli, University of Bologna (Division Temperate Tree Fruits); Guglielmo Costa, University of Bologna (Division Vine and Berry Fruits).

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. Furthermore, the participation of Italians in Symposiums and Workshops that are held in the world is always high and scientifically qualified, frequently assuming the function of Session Chairs.

The evaluation also takes into account the fervent organization of International Symposia that has always characterized the Italian contribution to the Society. In the period 2019-2022, 10 Symposia are already scheduled: International Symposium on Precision Management of Orchards and Vineyards in Palermo (October 2019), IX International Strawberry Symposium in Rimini (May 2020), IV International Symposium on Woody Ornamentals of the Temperate Zone in Turin (May 2020), International Symposium on Tropical and Subtropical Horticulture in Mediterranean Climate in Palermo (September 2020), II International Symposium on the Role of Plant Genetic Resources in Reclaiming Lands and Environment Deteriorated by Human and Natural Actions in Palermo (September 2020), I International Symposium on Plant Propagation, Nursery Organization and Management for the Production of Certified Fruit Trees in Bari (September 2020), III International Organic Fruit Symposium and I International Organic Vegetable Symposium in Catania (October 2020), VIII International Conference on Landscape and Urban Horticulture in Catania (February 2021), and XIV International Symposium on Plant Bioregulators in Fruit Production at Riva del Garda (September 2021).

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

During the IHC2018 in Istanbul, the voting for the renewal of the offices in the ISHS Board took place. Silvana Nicola of the University of Turin was elected in the role of Secretary.

In addition, there is the participation in important roles in the Society of:

- three Council members, representatives for Italy (Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IBE of Florence; Prof. Massimo Tagliavini, Libera University of Bolzano, as President of the SOI/Società di Ortoflorofruitticoltura Italiana; Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Naples, former President of the SOD);
- four members of the Executive Committee as Chairperson of Divisions, mentioned above as participants in the Executive Committee of Istanbul. Furthermore, three Vice-Chairpersons complete the Italian representation in the Executive Committee.

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 Italian version of "Harvesting the Sun - A Profile of World Horticulture", published in its original version by the ISHS, has been completed. The work, published by the SOI (Società di Ortoflorofruitticoltura Italiana), with the coordination of its President, Prof. Massimo Tagliavini, saw the contributions of a large number of Italian scientists in the horticulture sector and the collaboration of the CNR representative, Dr. Maurizio Lambardi as General Secretary of the SOI.

Maurizio Lambardi
Federica Rossi

Firenze, July 18th, 2019

