

International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS)

Activities' Report - Year 2020

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 2020 relevant for Italy and for CNR

Due to the persistence of the health emergency for the Covid19 pandemic, the conference activity was not completed or, in a few cases, transformed into online Symposia. The unfinished events were either canceled or postponed starting from 2023. The year 2022, in fact, is entirely dedicated to the organization of the XXXI International Horticultural Congress (IHC2022) in Angers, France.

However, to keep the scientific dissemination activity alive, Webinars and Talks were organized on various topics of horticulture and horticulture. Among these, a Talk saw the Italian contribution to the organization in the person of Prof. Francesco Orsini of the University of Bologna.



The 2020 publishing activity of *Acta Horticulturae* volumes that saw the contribution of Italian scientists as co-Editors is shown below.

Acta Horticulturae

Nel 2020 sono stati prodotti 5 volumi di *Acta Horticulturae* con il contributo di Editori italiani:

- 1295, EUFRIN Fruit Thinning Working Group Symposium. Co-Editore: G. Costa, Università di Bologna.
- 1285, XXX International Horticultural Congress IHC2018: II International Symposium on Micropropagation and In Vitro Techniques. Co-Editore: M. Lambardi, CNR-IBE.
- 1281, XXX International Horticultural Congress IHC2018: International Symposium on Cultivars, Rootstocks and Management Systems of Deciduous Fruit and Fruit Tree Behaviour in Dynamic Environments. Co-Editore: B. Morandi, Università di Bologna.
- 1280, XXX International Horticultural Congress IHC2018: International Symposium on Nuts and Mediterranean Climate Fruits, Carob and X International Symposium on Temperate Fruits in the Tropics and Subtropics. Co-Editore: G. Finetto, Università di Palermo.

- 1267, International Symposium on Survey of Uses of Plant Genetic Resources to the Benefit of Local Populations. Co-Editore: D. Avanzato, Crea, Roma.

Editorial Board of eJHS

Four Italians collaborated in the 2019 with 'The European Journal of Horticultural Science' (eJHS, IF=0.72) as Associate Editors: Prof. Stefania De Pascale (University of Napoli), Prof. Tiziano Caruso (University of Palermo), Dr.ssa Margherita Beruto (Istituto Regionale per la Floricoltura, Sanremo), Prof. F. Orsini (University of Bologna).

As for the Journal 'Fruits' (IF=0.80), 5 Italians are in the board of Associate Editors: Prof. Tiziano Caruso (University of Palermo), Dr.ssa Margherita Beruto (Istituto Regionale per la Floricoltura, Sanremo), Prof. F. Orsini (University of Bologna), Prof. G. Costa (University of Bologna), Prof. Francesco Paolo Marra (University of Palermo).

3. Activities carried on by Federica Rossi/Maurizio Lambardi (CNR Delegate, and Vice-Delegate) and other Italian scientists within the ISHS during 2020 and impact on the Italian scientific community

2019 Executive Committee meeting

In 2020, due to the persistent pandemic, the ISHS Executive Committee (EC) was held online. The Italian ISHS Secretary (Prof. Silvana Nicola) and 4 Division Chairpersons attended as EC representatives: Prof. Tiziano Caruso, University of Palermo (Division Nuts and Mediterranean Climate Fruits), Dr. Margherita Beruto, IRF of Sanremo (Division Ornamental Plants), Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Naples (Division Protected Cultivation and soilless Culture), Prof. Francesco Orsini, University of Bologna (Division Landscape and Urban Horticulture).

Each Chairperson illustrated the reports of the activity carried out within its own Division from August 2018 to August 2019. Newly proposed Symposia relating to the years 2020-2022 were submitted to the EC for approval.

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

Italy is the country with the highest number of members in the Society. Furthermore, the participation of Italians in Symposia and Workshops that are held in the world is always high and scientifically qualified, frequently assuming the function of Session Chairs. Moreover, Italy is always very active in assuming the responsibility to organize International Symposia in its Institutions. For 2020, 6 International Symposia were scheduled. The recent Covid-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of most of the events scheduled for 2020 and 2021, or the postponement starting from year 2023, as the year 2022 is dedicated to the holding of the XXXI International Horticultural Congress (IHC2022) in Angers, France.

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

The Italians in senior roles in the Society are:

- one member in the Board, as Secretary (Prof. Silvana Nicola of the University of Turin);
- three Council members, Representative for Italy (Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IBE of Firenze, as CNR Delegate; Prof. Massimo Tagliavini of the University of Bozen, as President of the SOI/Società di Ortoflorofruitticoltura Italiana; Prof. Stefania De Pascale, University of Naples, as former President SOI);

- 4 members of the Executive Committee, as Chairpersons of the above-mentioned Divisions. Moreover, 3 Vice-Chairpersons complete the Italian representation in the Executive Committee (Dr. Maurizio Lambardi, CNR-IBE of Firenze, Division Plant Genetic Resources and Biotechnology; Prof. Luca Corelli-Grappaldelli, University of Bologna, Division Temperate Tree Fruits; Prof. Guglielmo Costa, University of Bologna, Division Vine and Berry Fruits).

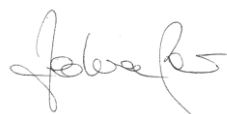
7. If Union with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2019 CNR Commission activities

There is not a CNR Commission in the ISHS.

8. Notes

None.

Federica Rossi



Maurizio Lambardi



Firenze, September 30th, 2021