



European Aerobiology Society

# Newsletter

## January, 2015

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**Do not forget to make reservations!**

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### 12<sup>th</sup> Basic course on aerobiology

### 10<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Aerobiology

Will be held at the Faculty of Biology and Agriculture, University of Rzeszow, Poland

from 20 to 26 July 2015.

The number of participants is limited to 25.

For registration and more information follow this link:

<http://www.ur.edu.pl/wydzialy/biologiczno-rolniczy/wydarzenia/12th-ecba/home>

The 10<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Aerobiology was held on 22 – 26 September 2014 at the University of Western Sydney. The main scientific interest during the event was focussed on automation of pollen monitoring, general pollen and fungi aerobiology, challenges posed by climate change, applied aerobiological research, clinical diagnosis and treatment. The symposium was organized perfectly. Participants had the opportunity to explore Sydney and the local region, culminating in a gala dinner on the stunning Sydney Harbour Foreshore.

During the symposium the Assembly of the International Aerobiology Association was organised. President G. Frenguelli mentioned in his speech that aerobiology already covered the whole world and this congress, which takes place in Australia, is proof of that. The Assembly discussed the priorities of membership and guidelines for further development of the Association. Bernard Clot was elected as the new president of the Association.

The Italian Aerobiology Association, with the support of the University of Parma, invited the International Association for Aerobiology to hold the 11<sup>th</sup> ICA in Parma (Italy). The proposal was supported by all members. The next ICA will be held on 3 – 7 September 2018 in Parma, the ancient city in the heart of Italy.



European aerobiologists discussed in Sydney

### 8<sup>th</sup> Advanced course on aerobiology

Will be held at the Faculty of Technology and Nature sciences, Siauliai University, Lithuania

from 16 to 22 August 2015.

The number of participants is limited to 18.

For registration and more information follow this link:

<http://ekomokslas.lt/aac2015/>

### EAS EAN Meeting. Dr. Siegfried Jäger Symposium



Researchers from almost all over Europe participated in the joint EAS-EAN symposium which was organised from 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 at the Medical University of Vienna. The scientific program with 38 presentations was of high quality. Sharing research results with numerous participants made this experience unique and memorable.



Participant of EAS EAN meeting

This come-together took place in honour and memory of Siegfried Jäger, who left us too early in September 2014. Thanks to him the EAN came into existence, and thanks to his diplomatic skills and efforts the community grew and became stronger and stronger. The additional value of this meeting included strengthening bonds between European Aeroallergen Network (EAN) data suppliers and establishing new co-operations.

During the meeting the first nominee for the Siegfried Jäger scholarship was selected. During the whole symposium a scientific committee evaluated applicants' scientific findings according to key criteria. Katharina Anna Bastl was awarded with this first scholarship which includes research stays in three European centres of aerobiological research: in Lyon at the RNSA, in Berlin at the Charité and in Vienna at the Medical University. Katharina is a young scientist who is doing promising research in the field of aerobiology at the MUW Vienna. But as she has a definitive job, she preferred to let this amount for the next scholarship. Everybody approved. The Siegfried Jäger scholarship will keep his memory as excellent scientist and bridge-builder.



Katharina Anna Bastl



## 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of European Aerobiology Society

An EAS committee meeting was held for preparing the General Assembly and for reviewing the EAS activities from 2012 – 2014. The debate on Quality control revealed that in the near future spore identification control should be initiated. It is also noted that the technical sheet for aerobiology is submitted for the approval to the European Committee for Normalisation. The financial aspects of the EAS and changes in membership fees collection were discussed. In total 40 members participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.



The president of the EAS Michel Thibaudon noted that the Society is very active, its activities are carried out by all work groups. He asked the group leaders to provide information about accomplished activities.

4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of EAS

The treasurer of EAS Uwe Berger introduced the use of the funds; he reported that the account is transferred to Vienna (this was decided in the EAS committee), the collection of the membership fee in the future should be more

modern, because new software is being prepared which will send automated reminders and information required for money transfer. The community actively discussed about the possibilities of increasing the number of members, about still unclear mechanism of accessing the journal "Aerobiologia", and about the opportunity to receive Grana.

Regula Gehrig, the vice president of EAS, and Uwe Berger informed about the EAN management and the collaboration with EAS. EAN will be transferred to the Medical University of Vienna. EPI Ltd will be closed and a new legal body will be established. All former EPI shareholders will be contacted. A new EAN board was created, which includes 3 representatives from EAS (Michel Thibaudon, Regula Gehrig, Carmen Galan), Uwe Berger as EAN manager and 3 external experts (Karl-Christian Bergmann, Mikhail Sofiev, Ondřej Rybníček). The EAN-Board has a controlling and consulting function. Carmen Galan presented the activity of the quality control work group and reported that at the moment together with Branko Šikoparija they are testing laboratories for ragweed pollen identification. Carmen Galan informed that it is intended to organize a joint master or PhD study programme on Aerobiology. For the implementation of the study programme we will apply to Erasmus+ programme. At the end of the meeting all attendees were informed about the next international events associated with Aerobiology: Basic and advanced course on aerobiology, and next ESA and ICA symposiums.



## 12<sup>th</sup> Basic Course on Aerobiology

The European Course on Basic Aerobiology (ECBA) will be organised from 20 July (Monday) to 26 July (Sunday) 2015. The ECBA is aimed at students and young scientists who are at the beginning of their research in aerobiology. The lectures will emphasize the following topics:

- pollen biology, structure, morphology
- aerodynamics and dispersal of airborne particles
- methods in aerobiology
- meteorological aspects of pollen dispersal
- forecasting in aerobiology
- statistics in aerobiology
- quality control in aerobiological analysis
- the morphology of fungal spores, their production and dispersal
- pollen and allergy
- aerobiology in agriculture



Faculty of Biology and Agriculture

Practical sessions will focus on operation of volumetric traps, 30 types of pollen grains, 12 types of fungal spores, scanning microscopic slides, innovation in microscopy, image analysis software. The course will end with the theoretical and practical examinations. All participants who will pass the course successfully will receive an international certificate. The number of participants is limited to 25.

For registration and more information please visit:  
<http://www.ur.edu.pl/wydzialy/biologiczno-rolniczy/wydarzenia/12th-ecba>



## 8<sup>th</sup> Advanced Course on Aerobiology

From 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015 the Advanced Course on Aerobiology will be held in Siauliai University (Lithuania).

This year's theme, "From phenology to sophisticated forecasting", calls on us to look back at some of the problems (phenology, vegetation, data analysis and quality, etc.) and, more importantly, force us to shed new light on issues to do the credible aerobiology. We will focus on applying the up-to-date associated data (pollen, mycological, phenological, botanical) in aerobiology and on developing the advanced modelling skills using climate/meteo or land use databases.



Course participants will work on the real data provided by the course teachers or will be given a chance to use their own (important to themselves) data. The course will combine a variety of lectures and practical sessions (including field work in nature) with the aim to explore and analyse aerobiological data from the different point

of view. Scientific programme will include:

- Mycology day (out- and indoor moulds, airborne moulds sampling and identification, moulds and health impact).
- Botany day (modern phenology, plant invasions – challenges for routine aerobiology, plant investigation (field work) in different habitats).
- Vegetation day (application of air pollution and aerobiological data in land management, pollen dispersion modelling).
- Climate day (influence of climate on pollen behaviour, application of meteorological data in aerobiology, modelling).
- Data handling day (quality control, new techniques, data dissemination of aerobiological information).

One day will be designed for participants to explore Lithuania.

For registration and more information please visit:

<http://ekomokslas.lt/aac2015/>

## 6<sup>th</sup> European Aerobiology Symposium

RNSA, AFEDA and Claude Bernard Lyon 1 University welcome all for the 6th European Symposium on Aerobiology. This meeting will be held in Lyon in 18-24 July, 2016.

The main points of the program will include: the Aerobiology session – monitoring, modelling forecasting, botany, phenology, melissopalynology, agriculture; ragweed day in partnership with IRS (International Ragweed Society); fungal spores (outdoor, indoor), pollen and moulds allergy, diagnostic, prevention, therapy, climate change, environmental studies – air pollutants, meteorology and etc. interesting places in Lyon were presented as well.

Conference will be connected with COST action FA1203 "Sustainable management of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* in Europe (SMARTER)". More than 120 participants from 33 countries are already participating in SMARTER (<http://ragweed.eu>).

For more information:

<http://www.alphavisa.com/esa/2016/index.php>

