

BULLETIN No. 32

EUCARPIA

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH ON PLANT BREEDING
EUROPÄISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR ZÜCHTUNGSFORSCHUNG
ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE POUR L'AMÉLIORATION DES PLANTES

January 2005

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EUCARPIA aims to promote scientific and technical co-operation in the field of plant breeding in order to foster its further development. To achieve this purpose, the Association arranges and sponsors meetings of its members to discuss general or specific problems. Each year, **EUCARPIA** organizes open conferences and colloquia throughout Europe. Founded at Wageningen (The Netherlands) in 1956 as a non profit organization, **EUCARPIA** has made considerable contributions to improving international contacts in plant breeding research for almost fifty years. **EUCARPIA** has 10 sections and a number of working groups active in specific fields of interest.

EUCARPIA has individual members (scientists qualified in the field of plant breeding) and corporate members (research institutes, breeding stations, associations, societies etc.). A corporate membership is a collective membership for at most 10 persons.

Membership fees*:	individual members	€ 40.--
	individuals younger than 30 years or retired	€ 30.--
	corporate members	€ 300.--

*Special reduced rates apply for members from some countries

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EUPHYTICA ADVERTISEMENT

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

For EUCARPIA, the year 2004 was marked by the celebration of the XVIIIth General Congress. Prof. Dr. Peter Ruckenbauer (President of EUCARPIA at the time of the Congress), supported by many members of his Institute organized a memorable congress that was a complete success from all points of view. During the General Assembly a part of the Executive Committee was renovated. Dr. George Mackay, Dr. Geert Kleijer and Dr. Johann Vollmann stepped down from their posts of Past-President, Treasurer and Secretary-General. I wish to thank them all for their efficient work and for the time they have devoted to EUCARPIA during these past years. They have been substituted in the Executive Committee by Dr. Zoltán Bedö (Vice-president), Dr. Beat Boller (Treasurer) and Dr. Maria L. Badenes (Secretary General). The transfer of the EUCARPIA secretariat ~~runned~~ ran smoothly, and during the last three months of 2004, and thanks to the patience of former Secretary-General Dr. Vollmann, all activities of the Secretariat have been moved from Vienna (Austria) to Valencia (Spain).

During the General Assembly the presidency of EUCARPIA was ~~moved~~ changed to a four-years term. Accordingly, the General Congress will also take place every four years, instead of every three years. There are several reasons for these changes: meetings of the sections and working groups can be planned so that there is no interference between the General Congress and the other meetings organized by EUCARPIA; also, a four-year term allows the establishment of longer term policies and a better management of the Secretariat.

During the last presidency, a great effort was made by the Executive Committee (but in particular by its President, Treasurer and Secretary-General) to improve the finances of EUCARPIA. Thanks to this effort, now EUCARPIA can support its sections and working groups with subsidies for the organization of events, which guarantees that EUCARPIA members will benefit from a discount of at least 40 € in the registration fee.

One of our policies will be increasing the benefits for our members. ~~At~~ In this respect, the agreements we had with Springer-Kluwer and Blackwell for offering the scientific journals *Euphytica* and *Plant Breeding* at reduced rates to our members have been extended to other

journals. For 2005, EUCARPIA members can also benefit of reduced rates in the subscriptions to the journals *Molecular Breeding* and *Theoretical and Applied Genetics*.

Our web page (<http://www.eucarpia.org>) has proved as a powerful tool for disseminating information on EUCARPIA. An important effort is made to maintain the site updated with the events and news of interest to our members.

During 2004, 69 new members joined our Association, which contributed to a new increase in the number of members affiliated to EUCARPIA. The greater the number of members of EUCARPIA, the stronger will be our association and more benefits could be offered to our members. During these last months of the year we have undertaken some actions to stimulate even further the membership in EUCARPIA, like sending information of EUCARPIA to members from the plant breeding community and inviting them to join us. The first results seem satisfactory, as we are receiving many applications for membership!

In order to cope with the new demands of the society, a new Working Group entitled “Organic breeding” and headed by Dr. Edith Lammerts van Bueren has been created. It is our aim to stimulate the creation of new Sections and Working Groups that cover subjects or crops not included in existing Sections or Working Groups if sufficient critical mass exists.

During 2004, Dr. Hans Hänsel (Austria), Dr. Fernando Nuez-Viñals (Spain) and Dr. Gerhard Röbbelen (Germany) were elected as honorary members of EUCARPIA for their many contributions to plant breeding and to EUCARPIA. For me it is an honour to be the president of an association that counts among its members with such distinguished plant breeders!

Finally, I would like to give a warm greet to all members with the message that I am open to any suggestion, question, proposal or to consult ~~of~~ with any of you. You can reach me at jprohens@btc.upv.es. I also want to thank all people who have been involved in the management of EUCARPIA during these past years.

Valencia, Spain
January 2005

Jaime Prohens
President of EUCARPIA

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E. van Bockstaele	Country Representative	Belgium	2004
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V. Sip	"	Czech Republic	2001
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A. Sliesaravicius	"	Lithuania	2004
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J. Krzymanski	"	Poland	2001
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A.F. Merezhko	"	Russia	1998
D. Skoric	"	Serbia and Montenegro	1998
P.C.G. Weibull	"	Sweden	2001
M. Humphreys	"	United Kingdom	2004

* Members of the Executive Committee

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REPORT OF THE XVIIth EUCARPIA CONGRESS

Tulln, Austria, Sept. 8-11, 2004

For this big event within the structure of EUCARPIA meetings, more than 350 members and participants followed the invitation of the Austrian presidency to come to Tulln, a small but historically interesting city on the Danube, 40 km west of Vienna. They represented breeders and breeding researchers from 49 European and Overseas nations and joined the 2 1/2 days programmes with 38 plenary lectures and 221 poster demonstrations. The topic of this XVIIth General Congress was "Genetic Diversity for Plant Breeding", divided into 3 plenary sessions "Genetic diversity", "Strategies for the use of genetic resources" and "Old and new Goals in Plant Breeding".

The **acting** president, Prof. P. Ruckebauer, opened the congress in the city hall in the centre of Tulln with a welcome address to the participants and the representatives of the Austrian institutions for Agriculture. Among the participants he **could also** welcomed **also** with great pleasure the nestor **?** of the former EUCARPIA -president, F. G. H. Lupton/Cambridge/UK, who led the association from 1968 to 1971.

In the following first session titled "Current availability and use of genetic diversity", B. Le Buanec/Nyon/CH demonstrated the legal aspects and open problems for the use of plant genetic resources (PGR). He mentioned the former free use of this privilege for breeders and the difficulties coming up with national ownerships of genetic resources and farmers privileges. It seems that the "freedom to operate" for breeders will reach severe limits if international negotiations will not be able to solve this problems by a global and utilizable agreement.

K.Hammer/Witzenhausen/D reported **about on** collecting activities for cereal landraces in Southern Italy, A.Börner/Gatersleben demonstrated the use of morphological and SSR markers in gene bank materials for testing genetic stability after repeated cycles of reproduction and J.C.Reeves,Cambridge/UK reported the results of a joint European project about the genetic diversity of varieties of barley, wheat ,maize and potatoes, released in the decennial cycles of the last 50 years of the past century. He and other speakers could demonstrate that the breeding activities in cultivated species did not reduce at all their genetic

diversity as presumed in the public opinion... But it should be clear that the usability of genetic diverse material is not unlimited. This was presented by the example of ryegrass from U.Posselt/Hohenheim/D. His results with ecotypes from the South and the North of Germany led to the conclusion that at present only one genepool ~~does~~ exists for future breeding activities within this species. G.Ramsey/Dundee/GB demonstrated for *Solanum* that the present knowledge of DNA-markers represents only insights for single genome fragments or genes and will not replace the value of morphological marker as tool for statements about biodiversity.

In the second session “Strategies for exploitation of the use of genetic diversity” T.Lübbersted/Flakkebjerg/DK investigated the progress which could be achieved with “functional markers” in maize for the development of new breeding material. After a lecture of epigenic variation in plants from A.Tsaftaris/Thessalonika/GR, 4 contributions followed about the practical value of PGR in plant breeding activities: for polycross designs for *Lolium*, for the resynthesisation of oil-seed rape from its basic species, for the introgression of *Hordeum chilense* in wheat and for the breeding of cotton by using interspecific hybrids between *Gossypium barbadense* x *G. hirsutum*. In the last contribution of this session J.Peleman/Wageningen/NL showed his concept “Breeding by designTM”. Breeders using this system could have full information about the allelic variation of all agronomic traits simultaneously for a faster development of varieties by using molecular markers.

After the general assembly of the EUCARPIA members T. van Hintum/Wageningen/NL offered a public-open lecture about the “Generation Challenge Programm” of the CGIAR, which is designed to share all progresses in molecular biology and biotechnology with developing countries. The aim of this comprehensive program is to improve the traits of modern varieties with genes of old landraces, for example for water use efficiency. Gene bank material should be put together in "core collections", then functional markers developed and finally useable QTL's combined in new varieties by backcrossing techniques. All this was demonstrated with experimental data of *Sorghum* breeding material. The following lively discussion resulted in statements of suspicion about the achievement of faster results for developing countries and the highly sophisticated techniques utilizable for these countries.

The third session of the ~~dense~~ large lecture program was entitled “Old and new goals in plant breeding”. J.Snape/Norwich/UK illustrated the breeding progress in the UK by the example of

wheat breeding. Together with modern production techniques and scientific-based plant breeding methods, the mean yield per hectare wheat in Great Britain ~~could~~ has been raised from 2 to 8 tons within the 60 years of the past century. But since about 1980, the yearly breeding progress does has not reached more than 1 dt? per hectare, so new strategies are necessary for further yield improvements. The speaker discussed therefore the future possibilities, such as QTL-analyses, microarrays, hybridisation techniques and further molecular analysis and demonstrated that, even on ~~that~~ current yield level, great variability for further yield improvements still exists in the British gene pool. This opinion was shared for potatoes also by J. Bradshaw/Dundee/UK. The Commonwealth Potato Collection contains genes for the most important disease resistances, but also enough genetic material for further improvements for quality traits. F. Ordon/Aschersleben/D presented in his lecture the importance of the use of molecular markers for resistance breeding in winter barley, particularly for the great achievements in virus resistances. During this session widely specific traits were tackled such as *Cercospora* and *Rhizoctonia* resistance in sugar beets, flowering biology in faba beans for the improvement of the outcrossing rate, the utilization of amaranth types for better grain yields, the selection success for the choice of tree-types in apple breeding or the selection of onion or barley variety types for biological organic farming. The final lecture was presented by H. Geiger/Hohenheim/D. He reviewed his success in hybrid breeding of rye in the past 20 years starting from the release of the first hybrid variety in 1984 up to the present level of the Hohenheimer hybrid rye varieties. Based on the Pampa -plasma male sterility, these hybrids raised the yield level of rye -in comparison with the hitherto bred population varieties- ~~for~~ by more than 40 % and found enormous acceptance within the farmer communities in Central and Eastern Europe. New aspects were presented also to continue this success story for this open pollinated cereal crop.

Additionally to the three sessions, poster demonstrations were organized which offered the great range of breeding activities of the international community of EUCARPIA members. From each poster session 2 outstanding posters were selected by a jury and the authors awarded with a document.

On the last congress day, 3 distinguished EUCARPIA members received the award “Honorary members of EUCARPIA” and were presented to the audience: Prof. Gerhard Röbbelen from Germany, Prof. Fernando Nuez-Vinals from Spain and Prof. Hermann Hänsel from Austria.

Finally, the ~~past retiring~~ president Prof. P. Ruckenbauer introduced the new elected president for the period from 2004 until 2008, Prof. Jaime Prohens, who invited cordially the members in the audience and all other EUCARPIA members for the next general Congress to be held in Valencia in 2008.

The social events and gatherings were warmly taken by the participants, ~~so as was~~ the reception of the governor of Lower Austria in the premises of the former Minster of the Minorites and the visit there of the exhibition of the Austrian painter F. Hundertwasser. The highlight of the social program was a half day steamer ship cruise on the Danube in the famous Wachau landscape to Dürnstein, the visit of the baroque monastery there and the opulent gala-dinner on board of MS Stadt Wien with Austrian specialities and wines of the area.

Many thanks are due to Johann Vollmann, the secretary general for his outstanding work ~~for~~ ~~and~~ the Austrian responsibility for EUCARPIA for the years 2001 to 2004 and for the preparation of this congress, H. Grausgruber for the tedious work of editing all manuscripts into the voluminous congress report, H. Buerstmayr for his engagement for the plenary sessions and its speakers, to all other members of the plant breeding division of the Institute of Agrobiotechnology (IFA-Tulln) for the smooth day-by-day running of the congress and finally to Mrs. Kindler who was the soul of this remarkable event. Without her, the full success of the XVIIth EUCARPIA Congress in Tulln would not have been possible.

P. Ruckenbauer

Past President

January 2005

SECTION REPORTS

SECTION POTATOES

The next meeting of the section will be a joint one with the EAPR Section "Breeding and Varietal Assessment" in Dublin, Ireland in 2006. Initially the plan was to hold the meeting during the first week of August but this would be very close to the meetings in Madison, Wisconsin from 23 to 27 July, 2006. These meetings are the 90th Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America, the VI International Solanaceae Congress and the 3rd Solanaceae Genome Workshop. Hence we are looking at the possibility of holding the joint section meeting at the end of September. It is not too late to send me your views on the date but provisional bookings will soon need to be confirmed. In the meantime, those of us who are also members of EAPR can look forward to the 16th Triennial Conference in Bilbao, Spain from 17 to 22 July 2005. Finally, there is also the 2nd Solanaceae Genome Workshop in Sorrento, Italy in October 2005 when we can look forward to hearing about progress with the Dutch led International "Potato Genome Sequencing Consortium".

John Bradshaw
Section Chairman
December 2004

SECTION CEREALS

During the year 2004 there have been no events organized by the section. Arrangements for the next section meeting (fall 2006) will begin during the first months of this year.

Jose Luis Molina-Cano
Section Chairman
December 2004

SECTION FODDER CROPS AND AMENITY GRASSES

Due to the EUCARPIA Congress at Tulln, no section activities took place in 2004. The next (26th) meeting of the section will be held from September 3 to 7 at Perugia/Italy, jointly with the 16th meeting of the *Medicago* spp. Group. Information: <http://www.eucarpia.org> and <http://www.eucarpia2006.net>

Feldfunk

The Working Group on Disease Resistance under the leadership of Dr. B. Boller and Dr. F.X. Schubiger from Switzerland organised a second series of Multisite Rust Evaluation Trials in the Loliums in 2004 (<http://www.eucarpia.org/01sections/foddercrops/index.html>)

U. K. Posselt
Section Chairman
December 2004

Next section meeting

XXVI meeting of the Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses Section and
XVI meeting of the *Medicago* spp Group
Perugia, Italy, September 3-7, 2006

The title of the meeting is: “Breeding and seed production for conventional and organic agriculture”. Because organic agriculture has become economically relevant in Europe, one session will deal with topics in relation to organic farming, as it affects the work of breeders and seed producers of fodder crops and amenity grasses. Technical visits to research and production sites will be organized.

The Meeting will have an all-electronic communication and registration system. The meeting web site <http://eucarpia2006.net> will provide all the necessary information. Pre-registrations are open.

Feldfunk

SECTION BIOMETRICS IN PLANT BREEDING

The Proceedings of the XIIth EUCARPIA Biometrics in Plant Breeding Conference, held in A Coruña, Spain, 3-5 September 2003 (selected papers) have appeared as a special issue of *Euphytica* (2004), volume 137 No. 1.

Dates for the XIIIth meeting in Croatia have been fixed at Wednesday August 30 – Friday September 1. More information on this meeting can be obtained from Dr. J. Gunjaca, Department of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biometrics, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, Svetosimunska 25, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia. Tel.: +385 1 2393938; Fax: +385 1 2393631; e-mail: jgunjaca@agr.hr.

Fred Van Eeuwijk
Section Chairman
January 2005

SECTION GENETIC RESOURCES

I am pleased to inform that the next section meeting will take place from 30 March to 2 April in Castelsardo (Sardinia) on the subject of “Plant genetic resources of geographical and “other” islands (Conservation, evaluation and use for plant breeding). Local organizer is Dr. Simonetta Bullitta: bullitta@cspm.ss.cnr.it; fax: ++39 079 229354. The second announcement has already appeared.

I look forward to seeing you in Sardinia.

Karl Hammer
Section Chairman
December 2004

Next section meeting

XVII Meeting of the Genetic Resources Section

Castelsardo (Sardinia), Italy, 30 March – 2 April 2005

The meeting will focus on the importance of islands for the conservation of plant genetic resources.

The conservation, evaluation and use for plant breeding of genetic resources from both geographic and non-geographic islands will be considered. The latter will incorporate such 'islands' as areas isolated from intensive farming, traditional cropping areas of neglected landraces, crops related to cultural and ethnic traditions of isolated areas, protected areas and nature reserves.

The meeting will also provide an opportunity to review and update knowledge of this reservoir of under-exploited genetic resources. We therefore invite researchers, scientists, breeders and specialists involved in plant genetic resources either of geographic and non-geographic islands, to participate in the meeting with oral or poster contributions.

PROGRAMME OF THE SECTION MEETING

30 March

15.00 Opening and welcome address

15.15 Session I (invited and voluntary papers)

The importance of islands for the conservation of plant genetic resources

18.00 Poster viewing

31 March

8.30 Session II (invited and voluntary papers)

Case studies of exploitation of plant genetic resources of geographic islands: (*Mediterranean, Atlantic, Nordic, European overseas and exotic islands*)

14.30 Session III (invited and voluntary papers)

Case studies of exploitation of plant genetic resources of non-geographic “islands”: (*areas isolated from intensive farming, traditional cropping areas of neglected landraces, crops related to cultural and ethnic traditions of isolated areas*)

21.00 Social dinner

1 April

Visit to the National Park of La Maddalena archipelago.

2 April

8.30 Session IV (invited and voluntary papers)

Plant genetic resources in protected areas

10.30 Business Meeting of Genetic Resources Section

11.30 Poster Session and general discussion

13.00 Closing ceremony

For applications or further information about the Meeting, please check the website:

<http://www.eucarpia.org>

or contact Dr Simonetta Bullitta

bullitta@cspm.ss.cnr.it fax ++39 079 229354

SECTION MAIZE AND SORGHUM

The organization of the XX International Conference in maize and sorghum is being prepared. We plan to organize the Section meeting in Budapest in 2006 in the middle of June. The contact person in charge of the organization is Prof. Csaba L Marton from Agricultural Research Institut of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Martonvasar Hungary. E-mail: martoncs@mail.mgki.hu

During 2004 members of the section have participated on several international meetings to disseminate the scientific results produced in maize and sorghum.

Dr. Janos Berenji from Institut of Field and Vegetable Crops, Maksima Gorkog, 3021000 Novi Sad, Serbia and Montenegro, E-mail berenji@eunet.yu has been appointed as the new Coordinator of the working group Sorghum .

Feldfunk

Montserrat Pagés
Section Chairwoman
January 2005

SECTION VEGETABLES

The section has enjoyed two working group meetings in 2004, of which the reports are reproduced below. Both were stimulating meetings attracting many colleagues from outside the European Union.

In 2005 the working group on tomato will meet in Bari 20-23 September, and local organizer Prof. Matteo Cirulli is busy with his crew to get a good program together, and a hospitable reception. I wish him all good luck with this effort.

In the spring of 2007 the next meeting of the leafy vegetable working group will be organized at Warwick, United Kingdom, by David Pink and his group. We look forward to this.

For summer/fall 2007 the working group on carrots is tentatively scheduling a meeting in the renewed Research Station for Plant Breeding in Quedlinburg. As events develop the membership will be informed.

Ton den Nijs
Section Chairman
January 2005

Report on the 12th meeting on *Capsicum* and eggplant.

From May 17 to May 19, the XIIth Eucarpia meeting on Capsicum and Eggplant was held in Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands. This event is held every three years ever since 1971 and attracted plant breeders and researchers from 20 countries. On Monday, after the meeting was opened, Prof. Marcel Dicke of Wageningen University gave an invited lecture on the way plants cry for help upon pest attack. Next, oral presentations were given on the fields of Genetic Resources, Breeding Programs and Strategies, and Physiology and Quality. In the afternoon, the posters were viewed, many informal talks and contacts were held during this poster session and the following dinner.

Tuesday morning was taken up by oral presentations on Diseases and Resistances as well as Biotechnology. It is clear that the field of genomics and molecular markers becomes more and more important. Not only more presentations on this specific subject were offered, but also the integration of these topics with other fields as Diseases and Resistances was reported. Tuesday afternoon, a field excursion was held to the nearby important glasshouse production area “de Kring”, including visits to The Greenery, a pepper grower and De Ruiter Seeds. The Greenery is one of the largest vegetable traders in the world and we were the first visitors to their new, automated packing centre in Bleiswijk. At the pepper grower Ies Bos, the international audience could see how a modern Dutch grower strives for maximum production with high quality and minimal pesticide use. To stress this last point, also Koppert, a firm specialized in biological control agents, was represented. At De Ruiter Seeds, the participants were allowed a peek into the kitchen of a modern pepper and eggplant breeding company. The day was also concluded here with a very nice musical dinner.

On Wednesday, the invited lecture of Dr. F. Hospital unfortunately was cancelled due to illness of the speaker. Many of us had looked forward to this lecture as an opportunity to update our knowledge on the theory of the use of markers in breeding, a field which is rapidly evolving. The morning was completed by oral presentations on the field of Genome Analysis, stressing the development on this field. In the afternoon, we had lunch at the Dutch Variety registration office, NAK-T in Roelofarendsveen, followed by a site visit. The participants learned how registration of varieties operates in The Netherlands and how breeders’ rights are implemented. The meeting was concluded by an excursion to the famous Keukenhof, the largest bulb flower exhibition in the world. After we enjoyed the beauty of the varieties

created by the world famous Dutch bulb flower breeders, we wrapped up our meeting with a dinner. In all, we can look back on a very successful meeting, in which a nice balance has been found in good quality presentations and excursions, as well as in plenty of opportunities for informal contacts between participants.

We thank the local organizers of this meeting which was a close cooperation between the Dutch pepper/eggplant breeding companies united in Plantum NL, and the Dutch GeneBank and Plant Research International, assisted by an international scientific committee.

The next meeting will be held in 2007 in Waszawa, Poland, organized by Katarzyna Niemirowicz-Szcytt and her colleagues. We wish them very good luck.

Ton den Nijs

and

Jair Haanstra

Chairman section vegetables

Chairman organizing committee

Report on the 8th EUCARPIA meeting Cucurbitaceae: Cucurbitaceae 2004

From July 12 to July 16, the XIIIth EUCARPIA Meeting on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding, Cucurbitaceae 2004, was held in Olomouc, Czech Republic. The organizing institution was Palacký University in Olomouc, Faculty of Science, Department of Botany, and the Organizer and President of the Meeting was Prof. Aleš Lebeda.

The EUCARPIA Meetings on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding, instituted in 1977, have been held since 1980 every four years. Over the past decade, these Meetings have been alternated with meetings on cucurbit breeding and germplasm held in North America, so that collectively meetings on Cucurbitaceae breeding, genetics, and germplasm have been held on a regular basis in even-numbered years, alternately on the two sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

This 8th EUCARPIA Meeting on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding attracted 162 researchers, plant breeders, and growers from 25 countries on four continents and was held in the recently renovated historical complex of old Olomouc University buildings named “Konvikt”, dating from 1667. On Tuesday, after the opening ceremony, Prof. Aleš Lebeda gave an introductory lecture on the history of growing and breeding of cucurbitaceous vegetables in Czech Lands. This was followed by oral contributions concerning culture and management. Exciting progress was reported from Israel in research and practical application of melon grafting. In

the afternoon, the program was continued with lectures on Germplasm. These included new, interesting descriptions concerning diversity of *Cucurbita moschata* (T.C.Andres, U.S.A.); development of descriptor lists of *Cucumis* and *Cucurbita* spp. (E. Křístková, Czech Republic); management, conservation and evaluation of melon germplasm (e.g. M.L. Gomez-Guillamón, Spain; V. Carnide, Portugal); and the genetic basis of fruit-flesh pigmentation of watermelon (Y. Tadmor, Israel). Many discussions, informal talks and contacts were held during the first (Tuesday) and second (Wednesday) poster sessions and following Welcome Dinner held at the historical University Rector building.

Wednesday morning was devoted to two oral sessions, one on Diseases and Pests, and the other on Disease Resistances. New results included information on viral, bacterial, and fungal diseases and pest biology, distribution, pathogenicity and variation, including resistance aspects. The presentations were focused on classical plant pathology, however, physiological, genetic, and molecular aspects of host-pathogen interaction, including genomics and resistance mapping, were also covered. There were presentations on specific subjects as well as consideration of broader integration. Presentations included genetics of melon resistance to *Fusarium* wilt (M. Pitrat, France); response of cucumber to the broad mite (R. Perl-Treves, Israel); melon resistance to aphid colonization and transmission of several viruses (C. Dogimont, France); resistance to zucchini yellow mosaic virus in watermelon (T.C. Wehner, U.S.A.) and pumpkin (T. Lelley, Austria); and screening or breeding melons for resistance to regionally important viruses (B.S. Daryono, Indonesia; J.D. McCreight, U.S.A.).

It is evident that the field of resistance is considered very important and characterised with new problems, such as occurrence of new highly virulent pathotypes and races in cucurbit downy and powdery mildews (A. Lebeda, Czech Republic). On Wednesday afternoon, presentations were divided into two sessions, Breeding and Genetics, and the first part of Tissue Culture, Biotechnology, Molecular Genetics and Mapping. In Breeding and Genetics, substantial progress in melon was reported from U.S.A. in genetic analysis of branching (J.E. Zalapa) and in selection for lateral branch number (J.E. Staub). New data were presented on assortment of gene loci in squash (H.S. Paris, Israel). Presentations concerning tissue culture included new results on cucumber haploid development (K. Niemirowicz-Szczytt, Poland) and somatic embryogenesis in melon (H.Ezura, Japan). Other reports concerned results on protoplast culture as well as regeneration and transformation of cucurbitaceous vegetables.

On Wednesday evening was held a roundtable discussion on oil-seed pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*), chaired by T. Lelley (Austria). The list of participants was comprised of 19 Cucurbitaceae-EUCARPIA-conference attendees, each of whom gave a short introduction of him/herself and his/her interest in oil pumpkin. These introductions ignited short discussions of general interest on oil pumpkins. A lecture presentation concerning the inheritance of the hull-less seed character and the problem of seeds with residual lignification was contributed by A. Zraidi (Austria). Based on the lively discussion that followed, the organizers expressed their hope that, when enough new information accumulates, a second international oil pumpkin conference could be organized.

On Thursday, attendees were taken on a field excursion to South Moravia. First there was a visit to the J.G. Mendel Museum and the Old Monastery in Brno where Mendel worked; this visit included the viewing of Mendel's manuscripts and an original copy of his landmark 1866 publication on the results of his experiments in plant hybridization, which founded the science of genetics. The next stop on the excursion was at Moravoseed Ltd., a seed production and breeding company in Mikulov, and cucurbit field exhibitions and trials at the Mendeleum in Lednice na Moravě. Later, as a social program, there was a visit to the historical gardens and castle in Lednice na Moravě. The evening was spent in Lednice castle by tasting Moravian wines, and, as late afternoon-evening progressed, it became evident that many participants enjoyed and were pleasantly surprised by the fine quality of the wines.

On Friday morning, there were oral contributions concerning Molecular Genetics and Mapping. Focus was on molecular genetics of fruit quality in melon (N. Katzir, Israel) and mapping in melon (Y. Brotman, Israel; N. Fukino, Japan), pumpkin (A. Zraidi, Austria), and watermelon (A. Levi, U.S.A.). It is clear that, in the field of genomics and molecular mapping, substantial progress was made in cucurbits over the past four years and this field is becoming more and more important in the practical breeding of cucurbits.

The lectures and most of the posters, 76 contributions in all, were published in the book of proceedings edited by A. Lebeda and H.S. Paris, which was issued on the first day of the Meeting, 12 July 2004. Reference: A. Lebeda and H.S. Paris (Eds.): Progress in Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding Research. Proceedings of Cucurbitaceae 2004, the 8th EUCARPIA Meeting on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding. Palacký University in Olomouc, Olomouc

(Czech Republic), 2004, 566 pp. (ISBN 80-86636-04-6). The book is available from Prof. A. Lebeda for 50.-- EURO (lebeda@prfholnt.upol.cz).

The meeting was concluded with a Farewell Dinner at the Atrium and surrounding area of Konvikt. In all, we can look back on a very successful meeting, in which a nice balance was found of good quality presentations, excursions, and plenty of opportunity for informal discussions among participants. The meeting was held in the very friendly, even “family”, atmosphere that has become so characteristic of the cucurbit genetics meetings, and has strengthened the mutual bonds among us even further, and should sustain us well until the next meeting, to be held in North America in 2006.

At the closing ceremony, it was decided that the IXth EUCARPIA Meeting on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding will be held in Avignon (France), in 2008, to be organized by M. Pitrat and his colleagues at INRA. We wish them good luck and look forward to it.

Ales Lebeda	and	Harry S. Paris
President of the Meeting		Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee

SECTION FRUIT

The next Section Meeting will take place in Spain. The dates of the Meeting have not been decided yet, but probably it will take place during the second quarter of September 2007.

Rafael Socias
Organizer of the Meeting
January 2005

SECTION ORNAMENTALS

The XXII meeting of the EUCARPIA Section Ornamentals will take place in Sanremo, Italy, from September 11 to 15, 2006.

The general title is: "Breeding for beauty". No other scientific session may afford this heading. Reasons are solid: flower as inspiration subject can not be less than perfect. So, beauty means perfection and for us, as pragmatic researchers, faultless quality, results a more manageable concept.

The actual task for the applied research is to choose the right combination of methods (strategy) and plant material to get an innovative product for the customer. That means to have a deep knowledge of the genetic features of plant material and of course to properly manage the method to express its best potential.

Plant material in ornamentals is often recalcitrant to accept sophisticated approaches and the customer acceptance is sometimes unpredictable. For this reason the basic strategy, after the biotechnology impact, remains unchanged. The exploitation of genetic variability must concern the production of continuous flow of original new genotypes able to appeal the customer interest. Molecular methods offer a series of matchless application to deal with targets interacting in a more complicated way with so large genomes. If interspecific crosses produce large variability, molecular methods represent another universe for novel interaction.

Beauty is essential not only for the customers, but for us too: flower is the best, matchless ambassador to introduce the final customer inside of the charming molecular universe, new frontier not only for flowers.

During the meeting, we will discuss these and other issues through key note and invited speakers and posters. Technical visits to research and production sites will be organized.

Session topics will be:

Exploitation of existing genetic variability

In vitro plant manipulation for genetic improvement

Genome, proteome, metabolome analysis

Genetic transformation for agronomical and commercial features

New entries in ornamental assortment

Patents: problems and chances

Please visit the meeting web site

<http://www.istflori.it/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabindex=8&tabid=8076>

where you will find all the relevant information. We invite you to bookmark and visit it periodically to stay updated about the meeting.

Your participation can contribute to an interesting programme, so we look forward to seeing you in Sanremo.

Tito Schiva

Section Chairman

Chairman of the meeting

January 2005

Fluorescent flowers...the follow up

The development of the potential of GFP remains a leading topic of our activity. The extraordinary features of *gfp* gene were recently applied to mark the *Fusarium oxisporum* f.s. Dianthy “pathotype 2”. The fluorescent *Fusarium* results in fact clearly visible inside the host living tissue, permitting to monitor the development of the fungus in different genotypes, and this way checking the different sensibility/resistance behavior. This will permit a more fast and effective screening of resistant genotypes during the first phase of carnation breeding, saving time and money. Of course, this technique could be used in other different combination fungus/host, allowing a more effective procedure to study the specific interaction host/parasite and the effect of the chemicals and antagonists in the control of parasite.

Molecular Markers is another technology of great impact in our activity. The large genetic variability, very often of unknown origin, of major species in ornamental plant germplasm, need to be investigated to have a more clear “geographical map” of the genome to identifying really accomplishable goals. At present a large sample of Carnation germplasm is worked out to clear the range of genetic diversity and to investigate the molecular basis of the low “ethylene producing” genotypes: long vase-life, linked to the low ethylene production, is one of the basic quest of the Carnation customer.

Finally, our recent success in *Lilium longiflorum* genetic transformation mediated by *A. tumefaciens*, opened new breeding goals in this popular specie. The *ans* gene (anthocyanidin

synthase) will be inserted in *L. longiflorum* genome, aiming to get new and original colored flowers (red). The specie is “pure white” and no colored mutants exist.

The continuous quest of new products in ornamentals presents a huge field of options for the advanced methods applications and our germplasm offer great chances for new achievements.

Tito Schiva.

Director of the C.R.A. Experimental Institute for Floriculture, Sanremo

SECTION OIL AND PROTEIN CROPS

The European Association for Grain Legume Research (AEP) organized the 5th European Conference on Grain Legumes and the 2nd International Conference on Legume Genomics and Genetics (Dijon, France, 7-11 June 2004). Both covered 84 plenary presentations at 16 sessions, 70 oral presentations at 17 workshops and 310 posters. 470 participants of 42 nationalities met in Dijon. The EUCARPIA Oil and Protein Crops Section was the organizer of the Plant Breeding Session.

The Proceedings, refereed by an international committee is available at the AEP Secretariat (aep@prolea.com).

Both conferences strengthened the bridge between fundamental research on genomic models and research directed at improving legumes and their products. It seems particularly important for plant breeding as the conference shown its place among other crop sciences. For example the past decade created new expectations of legume end users but also increased the distance between applied breeding and molecular genetics. The European Commission supports research on these crops financing the Integrated Project entitled “New strategies to improve grain legumes for food and feed” (2004-2008). This approach will be based on the most recent genomic findings and on scientific skills ranging from plant improvement and crop systems management to the transformation and use of grains for animal feed.

Considering the above and suggestions given in the Bulletin 2004 it is a suitable time to organize our own Section meeting (2006?). Volunteers are greatly welcome.

W. Świącicki
Section Chairman
January 2005

WORKING GROUP ORGANIC PLANT BREEDING

As the organic food production is increasing, there is also a need for varieties adapted to organic farming systems. At the General Assembly of September 2004 it was proposed and accepted to start a Working Group Organic Plant Breeding, to be lead by Dr. Edith Lammerts van Bueren, section leader Organic Plant Breeding at the Louis Bolk Institute in the Netherlands. As she is also chairman of the European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB, see www.eco-pb.org) she hopes that the two networks of both Eucarpia and ECO-PB will strengthen each other, and can organise combined meetings in the coming years.

There will be a workshop on *Organic breeding strategies and the use of molecular markers*, from 17-19 January 2005 in Driebergen-NL, organised by ECO-PB and the COST Action 860 Project on Sustainable low-input cereal production: required varietal characteristics and crop diversity (SUSVAR) in co-operation with COST Action 851. Contact details of the chairwoman of this New Working Group are: Edith Lammerts van Bueren: email: e.lammerts@louisbolk.nl. Tel: 0031 343 523 869; Fax: 0031 343 515611.

E. Lammerts van Bueren
Working Group Chairwoman
December 2004

Feldfunk

NEW EUCARPIA HONORARY MEMBERS

The General Assembly of Tulln, Austria on XX September of 2004, elected three new honorary members of EUCARPIA for their contributions to the development of plant breeding and to our Society. These three new honorary members are: Prof. Dr. Hermann Hänsel (Austria), Prof. Dr. Fernando Nuez-Viñals (Spain) and Prof. Dr. Gerhard Röbbelen (Germany). During the Congress, a eulogy for each of them was delivered by Prof. Dr. Peter Ruckenbauer, Prof. Dr. Jaime Prohens, and Prof. Dr. Hartwig G. Geiger, respectively. A short summary of the curriculum vitae of each of these new honorary members is presented below.

Prof. Dr. Hermann Hänsel

The Board of EUCARPIA decided on the 6th of September 2004 with common consent to propose Professor H. Hänsel as Honorary Member to the general assembly of the XVII Congress. This distinction was then fully supported by acclamation .

This rare award is given exceptionally to personalities with an outstanding lifework in the field of plant breeding or plant breeding research. E.v. Tschermak-Seysenegg, the Austrian rediscoverer of the Mendelian laws was the first person who received this award in 1956, six more followed up to this XVIIth Congress 2004, the last one was given 1989 in Göttingen to Prof. Bojanowski from Poland.

Hermann Hänsel is Austrian, born in Vienna in 1918, started his professional career after studying languages and finally agriculture at the University of Agricultural Sciences (Bodenkultur) in Vienna and terminated these studies with a PhD in plant breeding in 1948. After several post-doctoral studies in Cambridge/UK and Wageningen/NL he decided to work as a practical plant breeder in the Probstdorfer Saatzucht, located in the cereal growing area east of Vienna in Lower Austria.

Breeding winter wheat, spring durum and barley became his passion, but plant breeding science still remained his love... So he never lost contact to his former University and

received in 1954 a D.Sc. promotion as a lecturer and later as an external professor of plant breeding science. For More than 33 years he offered lectures of specific topics such as mutation breeding, breeding methodology and developmental physiology of cereals species. Hänsel and received several calls for University chairs and research institutions -Hohenheim, Göttingen, Cologne and Bukarest- but he faithfully remained in his home country and realized outstanding achievements as a cereal breeder and scientist. To all his students, colleagues and agronomists he represents the rare personified combination between a successful breeder and a highly acknowledged scientist.

His successful scientific lifework consists of more than 140 peer-reviewed papers cited world wide. The spectrum of his experimental results comprises an impressive range of fields, from mutation initiation, developmental and yield physiology until breeding methodology and inventing new breeding methods, such as his “Intercross method” for self-pollinating cereal species. The importance of his scientific contribution towards plant breeding sciences was more than scientifically underlined by his outstanding result in the breeding of cereal varieties. More than 55 varieties, among them a dozen of Central European importance, are a lifework which seeks her kind! In wheat breeding he was able to combine -even for our dry cereal growing areas- high yielding performance with superior baking qualities in varieties such as Probstdorfer Extrem, Perlo and finally Capo, his last top performer! Some of his varieties covered sometimes 75 % of the wheat production areas in Austria of about 225.000 hectares. His spring barley Adora and Viva combined excellent yield stabilities with durable resistances; in durum wheat breeding his varieties are cultivated now in Italy, France and Spain. No other breeder personality has dominated for the last 45 years the Austrian breeding scenery to such extent as H. Hänsel.

Above all that he remained a silent and humble man, his physical endurance in the breeding nurseries the year round and in all weather conditions, his self discipline and straight forwardness are still shining examples for all of us EUCARPIA members.

Many awards and decorations accompanied his life work, in 1977 he received the highest award Austria can give to his scientists. But his varieties have been and are the basis of our welfare in agricultural production. Some see his success in his ability to scrutinize targeted crosses to an extreme extent, but others a man, blessed with the famous “breeders eye” .All participants of this XVIIth Congress are thankful and happy to have such personality now as

an Honorary Member within their Association for Research in Plant Breeding-EUCARPIA. We wish him for the future health and happiness and god's blessing! Ad multos annos Hermann Hänsel !

Peter Ruckenbauer

Prof. Dr. Fernando Nuez Viñals

Professor Dr. Fernando Nuez was born just after the Spanish civil war, in Alzira, an agricultural village surrounded by vegetable crops, citrus trees and rice fields. After obtaining his degree of Engineer in Agronomy, he began his research work on genetics and plant breeding with nothing else than a table and some basic equipment of a classroom laboratory. His initial work mainly dealt with vegetable crops breeding and quantitative genetics in plant breeding, a subject in which was one of the pioneers in the computer simulation of response to selection.

From the Chair of Genetics and Plant Breeding of the Polytechnical University of Valencia he promoted the creation of the Germplasm Bank of Valencia, which now holds more than 20.000 accessions, most of them of vegetable crops and wild relatives, many of them product of collecting expeditions in Spain and South America led by Dr. Nuez. His great effort in the conservation, characterization, evaluation, and documentation of genetic resources has not only consisted in the preservation of this diversity. By using the genetic resources of vegetable crops he has made many contributions to vegetable crops breeding, mainly in the fields of tolerance and resistance to abiotic and biotic stresses and the improvement of quality in, especially in the *Solanaceae* and *Cucurbitaceae* families.

His research in plant breeding has been innovative, ground-breaking, and sustained. Over his career, he has been author of more than 800 publications, of which more than 150 are papers in high-quality refereed journals, and 35 correspond to books. But his interest is not only in research, but also in bringing the latest developments in plant breeding to researchers and students. An example of this, are his three latest books, which are entitled “Molecular markers in plant breeding”, “Genomics and plant breeding” and “The genetic resistance to plant

pathogens". His work is described by peers as "meticulous," "pioneering and outstanding," and "carefully documented". Important as it has been his research work it has always been devoted to the ultimate objective of bringing the results of research to the field. At this respect he has obtained almost 20 varieties of vegetable crops.

Although he began from zero, with barely any facilities for research, his effort and achievements have helped his long life struggle to get more facilities and staff for the development of plant breeding research in Spain. The culmination of this effort has been the establishment in 2000 of an internationally reputed institute for vegetable crop breeding and conservation of genetic resources (the Institute for Conservation and Improvement of Agricultural Diversity; COMAV) which was promoted by Prof. Nuez. This Institute counts among its scientific staff with more than 25 researchers holding a PhD degree and many PhD students, technicians and other personnel, all of them devoted to vegetable crops breeding and conservation in order to give a genetic solution to the problems of Spanish vegetable crop production.

During his career he has ~~been advising supervised~~ 31 PhD Thesis. His PhD students know him for being a man extremely exigent, but this exigence is reflected in their excellent formation, with the result that many of his students have gone on to highly successful careers, indications of the solid training and mentoring he gave them. This is reflected by the fact that 17 of his PhD students are professors or lecturers of plant breeding in many faculties of agronomy in Spain and 9 of them work in plant breeding research in public centers or seed companies, demonstrating that Prof. Nuez has left a "genetic imprinting" in the research and teaching in plant breeding in Spain.

Because of his interest in the development of plant breeding he has always supported the activities of EUCARPIA. Through his post of president of the Plant Breeding Section of the Spanish Society for Horticultural Sciences, he has always supported and encouraged all the events of EUCARPIA in our country. He became very excited when Spain was proposed to hold the 2008 General Congress of EUCARPIA and he proposed that Valencia would be the right place to organize it. Since then, I, as vice-president of EUCARPIA, have approached him for guidance, which has always been extremely opportune, and I, undoubtedly, will continue to do so during the next years of Spanish presidency of EUCARPIA.

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Röbbelen

Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Gerhard Röbbelen studied Agricultural Sciences at Göttingen and Biology at Freiburg. His doctoral thesis, under the advisorship of Prof. F. Oehlkers (Freiburg), dealt with the inheritance of induced colour mutations in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. In his subsequent “habilitation” work at Göttingen he studied the effects of X-rays on different cell types of the same model plant. From 1966 to 1967 he joined the famous cytogenetics lab of Prof. E. R. Sears at Columbia/Missouri. Thereafter he became responsible for the cytogenetic research of the plant breeding institute at Göttingen headed by Prof. A. Scheibe. In 1970 he succeeded Prof. Scheibe on the chair of Applied Genetics and Plant Breeding and stayed in this position till his retirement in 1994.

Although Prof. Röbbelen’s early cytogenetic research was already internationally recognized, his present reputation is undoubtedly based on his achievements in oilseed rape research and breeding. In close collaboration with breeding companies, food industry, and colleagues from neighbouring disciplines, he developed the genetic and technological basis of modern oilseed rape breeding. The tremendous increase of the oilseed rape acreage in Europe during the last 3 decades most convincingly demonstrates the great success of these endeavours.

Prof. Röbbelen also spent much energy in promoting scientific communication and strengthening the links between research and practice. He was the founding president of the German Genetics Society (1968-70) and the German Plant Breeding Society (1991-96). From 1989-92 he acted as president of the German Fat Science Society and from 1991-1994 he served on the Federal German Committee for Biological Safety. Last but not least, he was EUCARPIA president from 1986-1989. In this period fell the XII. EUCARPIA Conference which was held at Göttingen and attracted more than 1200 participants from 49 countries. A decade earlier he had founded the Oil and Protein Crops Section of EUCARPIA and served as its first chairman. During many years he successfully acted as editor-in-chief of the international journal PLANT BREEDING.

Prof. Röbbelen also holds great achievements in teaching and advising students and young researchers. His great merits in this respect may best be demonstrated by the fact that 99 doctorates and 4 habilitations were finished under his scientific guidance.

After his retirement (1994) Prof. Röbbelen has been committed to various national and international high-level committees related to plant breeding research and development. In 2003 a scientific colloquium was held on the occasion of his 75th birthday at Göttingen. The meeting impressively demonstrated the broad scope and great impact of Prof. Röbbelen's scientific achievements in applied genetics and plant breeding. Many scientists in Europe and abroad have been collaborating with him and esteem him as a knowledgeable, cooperative, and amiable colleague.

Hartwig H. Geiger

NEW BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Some new Board and Executive Committee members have been appointed during 2004. Below there is a brief summary on each of them.

Prof. Dr. Zoltán Bedő (Vice-president)

Dr. Zoltán Bedő has been the director of the Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Martonvásár, Hungary since 1992. He has 27 years' experience in small grain cereal adaptability and quality research. With the support of a USAID project he established a molecular breeding laboratory in 1992 and his colleagues have been involved in the genome mapping of barley. He initiated the biochemical and molecular genetic characterization of old Hungarian wheat populations. He is co-author of 117 scientific articles in refereed journals. He has managed World Bank and FAO projects aimed at reforming the agricultural research and seed improvement in Eastern Europe. The last year he was elected as a corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and was awarded the Justus Liebig Prize by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation in Hamburg, Germany.

Dr. Beat Boller (Treasurer)

Dr. Beat Boller is the new country representative of Switzerland and replaces Geërt Kleijer who is retiring from the Board after 6 years of service. Beat Boller continues the long standing tradition of Swiss treasurers of EUCARPIA. He is fodder crop breeder at the Swiss Federal Research Station for Agroecology and Agriculture (FAL), Zurich-Reckenholz, and responsible for its successful grass and clover breeding programmes. FAL Reckenholz is part of Agroscope, the network of Swiss agricultural research stations, and covers various aspects of grassland and environmental research. Beat Boller is also an active member of the Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses Section of EUCARPIA. In 1997, he organised a memorable Section Meeting at Kartause Ittingen in Switzerland. Since 2000, he leads a working group on disease resistance and co-ordinates a Europe-wide multi-site rust evaluation for *Lolium multiflorum*.

Dr. María Luisa Badenes (Secretary-General)

Dr. Maria Luisa Badenes is affiliated with the Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias (IVIA), a research centre included in a network of institutes focused on Agriculture which are located in different areas and regions of Spain. The IVIA is mostly focused in those crops important in the Valencia area for instance, citrus, fruit trees, rice and vegetable crops. The research carried out by Dr. Badenes group is focused on fruit tree breeding, mainly *Prunus* and other *Rosaceae*. Most of the breeding activities are aimed at improving cultivars adapted to sustainable agricultural practices, which includes resistance to diseases, reducing costs of management and improving fruit quality.

Besides the conventional breeding, the department is involved in genetic studies and development of molecular markers for MAS. The activities involved are construction of linkage maps, BACs libraries, germplasm studies by molecular markers and several collaborations with the Genome Rosaceous consortium.

Genetic resources studies, as an important part of improvement of plant material, represent other important research lines in her group. The Department hosts the European germplasm bank of loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) and has collaborations on genetic resources on ‘under-utilized fruit crops’ with other groups that host germplasm collections across Europe and the Mediterranean basin countries.

Dr. E. van Bockstaele (Belgium Representative)

Prof. dr. ir. Erik Van Bockstaele is now director of the Flemish Centre of Agricultural Research (CLO) in Merelbeke. Before he was head of the CLO department Plant Genetics and Breeding (DvP/RvP) in Melle. He is also professor (part time) for applied plant breeding at Ghent University – Faculty of Bioscience Engineering. He was co-organiser of Eucarpia section meetings in Belgium and chairman of the Eucarpia Ornamental Section.

CLO carries out genetic and breeding research on grasses, fodder crops, vegetables and ornamentals. Molecular biology and different plant biotechnology techniques are used in creating varieties for a sustainable agriculture and horticulture.

Dr. Mervyn Humphreys (United Kingdom Representative)

Prof. Mervyn Humphreys replaces George Mackay who is retiring from the Board after 14 years. Mervyn Humphreys is Head of Plant Genetics and Breeding at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER) based in Aberystwyth, Wales, UK. IGER carries out a broad range of research associated with grassland-based agriculture and its interactions with the environment. This includes well established breeding programmes in forage and turf grasses, forage legumes (clovers and lotus) and oats. Research is also carried out on genetics in forage maize and work has recently commenced on biomass crops such as miscanthus and willows and also lupins as a source of plant protein. IGER manages to bring different basic, strategic and applied funding sources together to ensure that basic research in plant molecular genetics, biochemistry and physiology, as well as animal and soil science, is developed into improved crops and managements for public good benefits in terms of sustainable agriculture, the environment and consumer needs.

NEWS FROM THE EUCARPIA SECRETARIATE

New EUCARPIA members

The executive committee is pleased to welcome the following new members (since January 2004) in our association:

List of new individuals:

AUSTRIA	SALIHU S.	Vienna
	SCHWEIGER J.	Linz
BELARUS	SVIRSHCHEVSKAYA A. Mrs.	Minsk
CROATIA	GRLJUŠIĆ Mrs. S.	Osijek
	GUBERAC V.	Osijek
CZECH REPUBLIC	KUCERA L.	Pragur (Ruzyne)
	OUESNA Mrs. J.	Pragur (Ruzyne)
FRANCE	CHAMBON Mrs C.	Gap
	CHATRE S.	Rodez
	JACK P.	Rodez
	SUMMERS R.	Rodez
GERMANY	BAUER MRS. E.	Stuttgart
	BEIMLER M.	Steinach
	BOTHE R.	Wetze
	DEBENER T.	Ahrensburg
	ECKARDT T.	Steinach
	EICKMEYER F.	Steinach
	ENGEL F.	Münster
	FRESE L.	Braunschweig
	HAAG F.	Bocksee
	JACOBI A.	Leopoldshöhe
	KUHLMANN J.	Bocksee
	LÜHS W.	Giessen
	MIEDANER T.	Stuttgart
	OUZUNOVA MRS. M.	Einbeck
	PETERKA H.	Quedlinburg
	SCHÖN MRS. C.-C.	Stuttgart
	SCHULZE S.	Bocksee
HUNGARY	SONNTAG MRS. K.	Groß Lüsewitz
INDIA	KISS Mrs. E.	Gödöllő
	KUMAR D.	Rajasthan
	SEHGAL D. Mrs.	Delhi
	SHARMA R.	Delhi
IRAN	SHIRAN B.	Shahrekord
IRELAND	MILBOURNE D.	Carlow
ITALY	CIAVARRELLA M.	Lessina (Foggia)
	CIRULLI M.	Bari
	TUBEROSA R.	Bologna
JAPAN	AZHAGUVEL P.	Ibaraki
KOSOVO	ALIU S.	Prishtina
	FETAHU S.	Prishtina
LATVIA	BEBRE, G.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	GABERE, A.	Priekuli (Cesis)

	KOKARE, A.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	KRONBERGA, A.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	MIGLAVS, U.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	OSA, M.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	SKRABULE, I	Priekuli (Cesis)
	VITJAZKOVA, M.	Priekuli (Cesis)
	ZARINA, L.	Priekuli (Cesis)
NETHERLANDS	HERR R.F DE.	Rilland
	PERTIJS J.H.	Rilland
NIGERIA	ADENIRAN F.Y.	Lagos
ROMANIA	BOERIU H.	Brasow
RUSSIA	TARAKANOV I.	Moscow
SLOVENIA	CERENAK Mrs. A.	Zalec
	MEGLIC V.	Ljubljana
SPAIN	BARRO-LOSADA F.	Córdoba
	ELIA M. Mrs.	Lleida
	ELLUL P.	Valencia
	HERNÁNDEZ P.	Córdoba
	SOCIAS I COMPANY R.	Zaragoza
	NAVAL MERINO M.D.M.	Puzol (Valencia)
	SALCES-JALON R.	Alcalá de Henares (Madrid)
	SANCHEZ-BELL E.	Barcelona
	VIRUEL M.A.	Algarrobo-Costa (Málaga)
SUDAN	ABU ASSAR A.	Wad Medani
UNITED KINGDOM	WERNER K.	Bristol

New corporate member:

LATVIA	PRIEKULI PLANT BREEDING STATION	Priekuli (Cesis)
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Deceased members

Germany: A. SOLDATI, Lindau, Switzerland

Membership fees

During the 9 September 2004 General Assembly in Tulln, Austria, it was approved to raise the subscription rate for individual members ~~at~~ € 40 for members of Western Europe and from elsewhere outside Europe, € 30 for EU members of Eastern Europe and € 20 for members of other Eastern Europe countries. The fee of corporate members will remain the same (€ 300). The Subsidy for members from former East bloc countries will be continued (during this year?). The reasons for increasing the membership fee are several: Membership fees ~~did~~ have not increase for several years, EUCARPIA is returning to the policy of giving subsidies to sections for organizing meetings, additional advantages to members (web page, reduced rates for subscription to journals, etc.) represent an increased amount of work and expenses for the secretariat.

In face of increasing bank costs, payment of membership fees by credit card (Visa/JCB, Eurocard/Mastercard, Diners Club) is strongly encouraged, as this is cheapest both for members and for EUCARPIA. Since July 2003, bank transfer within the EURO zone member countries is possible at a lower rate, if IBAN (international bank account number) and BIC (bank identifier code) are given. Please, use the following details for bank transfers to the EUCARPIA account in Spain: **IBAN:** ES67 2013 1122 0802 0019 9729 **BIC:** CESCESBBXXX

EUCARPIA Bulletin

The EUCARPIA Bulletin No. 33 will probably be printed in the 4th quarter of 2005. If you would like to publish information about congresses, meetings, publications, section news or any other information relevant to other members, please send in your contribution to the Secretariate by **October 1, 2004.**

Scientific journals at reduced rates for individual members of EUCARPIA

Agreements between EUCARPIA and three publishers (Springer, Blackwell and CABI) have been reached offering individual members of EUCARPIA a personal subscription to the scientific journals *Euphytica*, *Plant Breeding*, *Molecular Breeding*, *Theoretical and Applied Genetics*, and *Plant Genetic Resources: Characterization and Utilization* at very special reduced rates. Subscription prices of these journals for 2005 for EUCARPIA members are the following:

Euphytica: 90 €

Plant Breeding: 70 €

Molecular Breeding: 100 €

Theoretical and Applied Genetics: 264 €

Subscription forms can be obtained from our web page (<http://www.eucarpia.org>) or from the EUCARPIA Secretariat

<http://www.eucarpia.org>

The web-site of EUCARPIA has been transferred from the former EUCARPIA Secretariate (Tulln, Austria) to the new EUCARPIA Secretariat in Valencia (Spain). For contributions, updates, suggestions or comments please contact the Secretariat (E-mail:

eucarpia.secretariat@ivia.es). The web-site is the most cost-efficient tool to deliver up-to-date information about EUCARPIA both to members as well as to non-members of the association.

New address of EUCARPIA Secretariat

A greater efficiency in the management of EUCARPIA is achieved if the President and the Secretary General are situated in close locations. As the new president (Dr. Jaime Prohens) is located in Valencia, a new Secretary General (Dr. María L. Badenes), located also in Valencia was chosen as new Secretary General. The new address of the EUCARPIA Secretariat is: Dr. María L. Badenes, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias, Apartado Oficial, E-46113 Moncada (Valencia), Spain (Tel.: +34 963424049; Fax: +34 963424106; e-mail: eucarpia.secretariat@ivia.es).

María L. Badenes

EUCARPIA Secretary General

NEW REGULATIONS FOR EUCARPIA SUBSIDIES TO SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

EUCARPIA Secretariate, January 2005. (Based on the decisions adopted in the XVIIth General Assembly of EUCARPIA, Tulln, Austria, 9 September 2004; Meeting of the Board with Country Representatives and Section Chairpersons, Tulln, Austria, 8 September 2004)

(These regulations replace the REGULATIONS FOR SECTIONS, approved at the XVI th General Assembly of EUCARPIA, Edinburgh, September 2001; Executive Committee Meeting, Vienna, March 2002)

- (a) For financial support by EUCARPIA, the organisers of a section/working group meeting have to submit a budget proposal. This shall be done preferably one year before the meeting to allow the Board or the Executive Committee to examine the request and to take a decision. The maximum financial support (subsidy) for a section meeting is currently EUR 2500.-, for a working group meeting EUR 1250.-. Within a 4-year~~s~~ term, each section or working group is entitled to receive those subsidies ~~2-times-at a~~ maximum of twice.
- (b) EUCARPIA subsidies are to be used for the benefit of EUCARPIA members. ~~At~~In this respect, there should be a significant difference between the registration fees for members of EUCARPIA and non-members participating in a section or working group meeting. The minimal difference should be EUR 40.- per person. No money from the EUCARPIA subsidies is to be used for providing grants to non-EUCARPIA members.
- (c) The Board will not allot extra subsidies for printing proceedings.
- (d) The Organizing Committee is expected to encourage non-EUCARPIA members participating in the event to become EUCARPIA members. The EUCARPIA Secretariat can provide the organizers with Application forms for EUCARPIA membership and leaflets with General Information about EUCARPIA.
- (e) Two copies of all publications resulting from the event will be sent to the EUCARPIA Secretariat so that they can be included in the EUCARPIA archives.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Vienna, Austria, 4 April 2004

Participants: P. Ruckebauer, E. Jacobsen, G.R. Mackay, G. Kleijer, J. Prohens-Tomas and J. Vollmann

Section activities

During the last two years, there have been many section activities. Sometimes, there was an overlap with other Eucarpia activities. In the future, the overlaps should be prevented by active communication with the secretariat of Eucarpia about meeting dates. It is recognized that September is popular for scientific meetings, as this is in many countries just before university lectures start. In recent years the president visited many section and workshop meetings. He often discussed the need of new sections. It appears that important subjects like Biotechnology and Genomics at present are covered by EPSO-meetings. In all meetings it was also discussed that members of Eucarpia must have an advantage in terms of lower registration fees than non-members.

Financial Affairs

The financial situation has improved so that we can change our financing system from a loan into a subsidy again. At present we can spend about 30.000 EUR per year. From an e-mail questionnaire sent to section chairmen, it became clear that the section/workshop meetings are Eucarpia's most important activities. The raising of the membership-fee from 30 to 40 EUR in the old EU-countries and other western European countries and to 30 EUR in the new EU-countries (this means that for the other eastern European countries the fee remains the same!) was also discussed. This would bring us more in line with other scientific organisations. In addition members are benefiting from the reduced Euphytica-subscription. It was agreed that the fee of 300 EUR for corporate members does not have to be changed. Another proposal which came out of our e-mail contact with section chairmen was to change to a 4 year term instead of a three year term. This would bring many advantages such as, to have more money available for section meetings, much better synchronisation of sections meetings will be possible, as well as the movement of the secretariat every 4 years instead of three. Based on the above mentioned ideas, we may provide per section twice in a 4 year term subsidies up to a maximum of 2500 EUR per meeting and the same rule for working groups who could meet also twice in 4 years with a maximum of 1250 EUR per meeting. All these

proposals will be discussed and put to the board meeting and to the general assembly in September.

The 17th EUCARPIA/COST Congress in Tulln (7-11 September 2004)

The preparation of both congresses is going on well. The COST-meeting will be held before the EUCARPIA congress on the Tuesday with 4 sessions. There is good contact with the organizers of this congress. The programme of the EUCARPIA congress was thoroughly discussed. It appeared that there was still some space for one or two additional keynote lectures. Suggestions have been made to close the gap between basic knowledge about genetic variation present in a model plant and in crop plants needed for practical plant breeding. It was agreed that the keynote lectures should be published in a special issue of *Euphytica*. It was agreed with *Euphytica* that members of the scientific committee will be the referee committee.

For Eastern bloc participants it was decided that a loan of 4000 Euro will be offered to the organizers to reduce the registration-fee of EUCARPIA members when they have a scientific contribution such as a poster or an oral contribution.

Future of EUCARPIA

It was discussed that the 19th congress should be organized in one of the eastern EU countries. It was proposed that Hungary should be invited and contact shall be made with Dr. Bedö. However in the meantime, a few days after the executive meeting, it appears that Poland is also interested in organizing the next congress after Spain. This means that perhaps a choice can be made during the assembly in Tulln.

Secretariat business

New members and cancels were discussed. It appears that a special arrangement for young scientists with Germany could be made via Prof. Röbbelen and the corporate member GPZ. The list of Eucarpia members is available on request from the Secretariat. The USA and some other countries now have over 10 members. It was decided that these members can identify country representatives. Potential affiliations with other publishers are under discussion. The outcome could also result in special prices for books and/or journals for members. Registration of the domain name www.eucarpia.org for the Eucarpia web site has to be renewed in 2008 with Networks Solutions/Verisign.

New Secretary General

Dr M.L. Badenes from Moncada Spain will be the next Secretary General. She will be introduced at the congress next September. The physical transfer of the secretariat will be made after the congress. A list of items to be transferred will be made. In September, during the congress, part of the administration documents and proceedings will be shifted to Wageningen.

Participation of EUCARPIA in the EU-programs

In the last three years Eucarpia has been better positioned in Brussels (DG-12). The legal status of EUCARPIA in the commission is important for the Applied Breeding research. We are providing experts and are available for workshops of IP programs related to breeding.

New honorary members

Several different names were discussed for this honor and decisions were made. Three members will be honored during the general assembly.

Fifty years EUCARPIA in 2006

Two ideas were discussed to celebrate. A special issue of Euphytica on an overview of "modern developments in plant breeding" and a selection of EUCARPIA papers as "landmarks in plant breeding" received support.

Evert Jacobsen

Scientific Secretary

The minutes of the April 2004 Executive Committee Meeting were approved by E-mail in May 2004.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD WITH COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AND SECTION CHAIRPERSONS

Tulln, Austria, 8 September 2004

Present:

P. Ruckenbauer	President
J. Vollmann	Secretary General
G. Kleijer	Treasurer
J. Prohens Tomas	Vice president
G.R. Mackay	Past-president
E. Jacobsen	Scientific Secretary
V. Sip	Czech Republic
A. Sliesaravicius	Lithuania
M. Humphreys	UK
C. Marton	Hungary
M.L. Badenes	Spain
J Bradshaw	Scotland
H.H. Geiger	Germany
E. van Bockstaele	Belgium
G. Butnaru	Romania
B. Boller	Switzerland
H. Guedes-Pinto	Portugal
U.K. Posselt	Germany
D.G. Roupaxios	Greece
K. Hammer	Germany
W. Swiecicki	Poland

1. Opening and welcome by the president. Twenty-one persons ~~are~~ attending the meeting.
2. Minutes of the Board Meeting with Section Chairpersons of 13.09.2001 in Edinburgh ~~are~~ were shortly discussed and approved.
3. Report on the 17th EUCARPIA Congress. The subject of the 17th EUCARPIA Congress in Tulln on “Genetic Variation for Plant Breeding” is shortly discussed. Expectation is that a positive financial result will be obtained. It is agreed that the proposal to the General

Assembly will be that Hungary will be the organising country of the General Congress after Spain.

4. Overview of the financial situation. The balances of 2002, 2003 and the expected one of 2004 are positive. The capital of EUCARPIA is growing well, up to 130K Keuro in 2003. The main reason ~~is being~~ that the potential financial losses of the General Congress in Edinburgh, UK did not ~~comematerialise~~ because of the tremendous input of the past-president ~~DrGeorge~~ Mackay to solve this problem. The positive accountants report is discussed, partly cited and approved by the board.
5. The bad financial situation ~~is being~~ overcome ~~and~~ the EUCARPIA policy ~~abouton~~ finances ~~hw~~as ~~been~~ discussed. The heart of Eucarpia is found in the section - and working group meetings. ~~For T~~the last 3 years only a loan could be ~~deliveredoffered~~ as financial support instead of a subsidy ~~for these meetings~~. After discussion it ~~iswas~~ agreed that, a. subsidies will be ~~givenreinstated~~ to section meetings (2500 Euro) and working group meetings (1250 Euro) and, that b. the ~~full~~ individual membership fee will be increased from 30 to 40 Euro, for new EU state members will be increased to 30 Euro and for the members of the other Eastern European countries it will be increased from 15 Euro to 20 Euro. It means for scientific section meetings and working group meetings that a discount of the participation fee for EUCARPIA members ~~has toshould~~ be ~~givenfrom~~ at least 40 Euro. The positive development about discounts, to order journals for a highly reduced rate, which are already agreed on Euphytica and Plant Breeding are also under discussion with Springer about journals like Theoretical and Applied Genetics and Molecular Breeding. This is a very important additional reason to be a member of EUCARPIA.
6. Dr Marisa Badenes will be the new Secretary General in Valencia, Spain and introduced herself during the meeting. The archive items will be transferred to Wageningen. There will also be a replacement of Dr Kleijer our treasurer by Dr Beat Boller. He was also introduced during this meeting.
7. New Vice President and New Country Representatives. There was a short discussion about the candidate countries for the General Congress after Spain. It was agreed that Hungary will be proposed during the General Assembly to be the candidate country delivering the vice president.
8. The experiences of the Secretariat connected with the President ~~turned-outsuggested~~ that a four years period would be preferred to move from country to country instead of every three years. Another reason to change from a 3 to a 4 years period ~~iswill be~~ the better planning of the activities at the section and working group level because of the fact that in

the year of the ~~g~~General ~~e~~Congress no meetings can be scheduled. The ~~general~~unanimous conclusion was to recommend to the General Assembly to change the schedule from a 3 years period into four years.

9. Appointment of Honorary Members of EUCARPIA. The ~~to~~awarding of honorary membership ~~is~~has ~~not~~been well used in EUCARPIA and has to be improved. The discussion about this issue is clear. It is proposed that 3 honorary members will be announced by the General Assembly.
10. 50 Year anniversary of EUCARPIA. In 2006 it is 50 years ago that EUCARPIA was founded. This is a good occasion to raise the profile our organisation in Europe. Several possibilities are discussed, such as: a. publication about the history and the role of EUCARPIA, b. what ~~was~~were the major developments of plant breeding during the ~~past~~sed 50 years, perspectives of EUCARPIA in the future, d. selection of EUCARPIA papers and a few invited writers for the future aspects, e. preparation of a Memorandum on Plant Breeding and our position in this field including societal aspects. This Memorandum should be released at a press conference in Brussels. At least the last mentioned possibility should be discussed in the General Assembly.
11. Agenda for the General Assembly is discussed and adjusted.
12. Other business and closing. There was a short discussion ~~to~~ come on setting up ~~to~~ a working group on “organic plant breeding”. The board gave ~~a~~ positive advicesupport for this idea.

Evert Jacobsen
Scientific Secretary

The minutes of the September 2004 meeting of the Board with Country Representatives and Section Chairpersons were approved by E-mail in October 2004.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF EUCARPIA

Tulln, Austria, 9 September 2004

1. Opening by the president and approval of the agenda. Ca. 120 persons are present.
2. Minutes of the General Assembly in Edinburgh, 12 September 2001 are approved
3. Report of the Board 2001-2004 by the scientific secretary Evert Jacobsen. The board in its present composition and the president-ship of Prof Peter Ruckebauer started its activities from the General Assembly in Edinburgh in September 2001. The General Secretariat was moved to Vienna and will also in the future stay in close connection with the **acting** president. It means that this year it will be translocated to Spain, just after the General Congress. The archive of EUCARPIA will stay in Wageningen and will be held complete at this location. A first evaluation says that the General Secretariat worked well in Vienna and that this **facilitated** ~~was~~ **actively** collaboration **ing** with the president.

The question came up whether it will be wise to change the location of the General Secretariat every 4 years instead of every 3 years or not. This brings more establishment and stability in the secretariat and also more flexibility for the organisation of scientific section and working group meetings. They can be organised in 3 years instead of 2, as is the existing schedule. It means that the General Congress will be organised every 4 years. This proposal will be made later in this meeting.

The acting president visited many scientific section and working group meetings in which he was stimulating **the** ~~is~~ **kind** of activities, being the real heart of EUCARPIA. Despite the minimal financial support by the board, there were many scientific meetings organised under the umbrella of EUCARPIA. As you will hear later, time will improve.

The number of meetings of the Executive Committee was restricted to a minimum. We came out of a bad financial situation and did not like to spend money on travelling and meetings. Only two meetings in 2002 and 2004 were held in Vienna and one in May 2003 by e-mail. One of the most important issues in these meetings and with section leaders was the new policy on subsidies, which will be discussed again during this meeting. Our policy was first to come to financial consolidation. During the past period two Board meetings were organised. The first one just after the General Assembly in Edinburgh and one just before this General Assembly in Tulln. A number of outcomes of the meeting from yesterday will be discussed here.

Besides the great number of section and working group meetings, EUCARPIA was also better positioned in the 6th Frame Work of the EU by the nomination of experts and by

assistance in providing addresses for scientific meetings in Integrated Projects. For example, the new IP on BioExploit does have connections with EUCARPIA. Another outcome was the special arrangement with Kluwer about a special discount to order Euphytica and on Plant Breeding with Blackwell Publishers. In the meantime the same discussion has been started with Springer about their journals related to plant breeding.

The website of EUCARPIA is functioning very well for members and non-members. The most important aspect is to keep it updated which is a task of all of us. The word “plant breeding” is directly connected with EUCARPIA. Sometimes 5000 hits a day are counted. The last 3 years, 3 bulletins came out with a lot of useful information. During this year the new list of Eucarpia members became available for us.

As a conclusion, it has to be said that we had a very fruitful period under the presidency of Prof Ruckebauer. We hope and expect that the next period will be as fruitful as well under the leadership of Prof Prohens Tomas with Dr Badenes as Secretary General

4. Report of the treasurer. The year income is about 15.000 Euro per year. Thanks to ~~Dr~~George Mackay the financial affairs from the last congress were solved. The capital rose because of that solution ~~until~~to 130.000 Euro in 2003 and it is expected that at the end of 2004 it ~~is will~~ increased ~~until~~to 160.000 Euro. The report of the audit of Waterhouse Cooper has been discussed. The result is in compliance with the goal of EUCARPIA. After discussion of this result in the meeting the Board of EUCARPIA is discharged.
5. The membership fee. The board proposes a raise of the membership fee of individual members. After a short discussion this has been agreed by the Assembly. The fees will be 40 Euro for members of Western Europe and from elsewhere outside Europe, 30 Euro for EU members of Eastern Europe and 20 Euro for members of other Eastern European countries. The fee of corporate members will stay the same.
6. Subsidy regulations. After a short discussion it was agreed that subsidies will be available for scientific meetings again. For section meetings 2500 Euro and for working group meetings 1250 Euro will be available. There are per period of 4 years per section or working group maximally 2 subsidies available. The exact regulation will be published in the bulletin of 2005.
7. Period of presidency. This period has been raised to 4 years after a short discussion in which several arguments in favour were mentioned.
8. New President. By acclamation, prof Prohens Tomas was elected to be the new president for the coming 4 years. He accepted this position by a short speech in which he ~~was~~ explained ~~ing~~ed his plans for the future.

9. Election of the Secretary General and the Treasurer. Dr Badenes from Spain was elected to be the new Secretary General and Dr Boller from Switzerland the new treasurer.
10. New Vice President. It was decided that in 2012 the 19th general Congress of EUCARPIA will be held in Hungary. For that reason Prof Bedo from Hungary was elected to be the vice president.
11. New board members. Three new board members were elected.
12. The board has been discharged for all ~~herits~~ activities during the last 3 years.
13. 50 years anniversary. A few ideas about specific activities have been discussed. The idea of a Memorandum on Plant Breeding connected with a high ranged press conference in Brussels was generally accepted. In addition it was concluded that ties with other federations like those in Russia and other countries have to be strengthened.
14. Honorary members. By acclamation, three members were elected to be honorary member of EUCARPIA, based on the judicium presented by a country representative, being Prof. Fernando Nuez Vinals, Spain; Prof. Röbbelen, Germany; and Prof. Hänsel from Austria.
15. Other topics. A small discussion came up about the period of the year that the General Congress has to be organised without coming to consensus. It was decided that a new working group on “organic plant breeding” will be started. The first chair-person will be Dr Lammerts van Bueren from the Netherlands.
16. ~~DrGeorge~~ Mackay was ~~honored~~thanked by the president because of his major input in Eucarpia.

Evert Jacobsen
Scientific Secretary

The minutes of the September 2004 meeting of the General Assembly were approved by E-mail in October 2004.

EUCARPIA MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2005 AND LATER

Potatoes The next meeting will probably take place in Dublin, Ireland in 2006.

Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses **XXVI Meeting of the Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses Section and XVI Meeting of the Medicago spp. Working Group. Perugia, Italy**
3 - 7 September 2006
Info: Daniele Rosellini
Secretary Organizing Committee
info@eucarpia2006.net
www.eucarpia2006.net

Biometrics in Plant Breeding **XIIIth Meeting of the Biometrics in Plant Breeding Section. Croatia**
30 August - 1 September 1.
Info: J. Gunjaca
Department of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biometrics
Faculty of Agriculture
University of Zagreb
Svetosimunska 25
10000 Zagreb
Croatia.
Tel.: +385 1 2393938
Fax: +385 1 2393631
e-mail: jgunjaca@agr.hr.

Vegetables **15th Tomato Working Group Meeting**
20 - 23 September 2005
Info: C. Colella
University of Bari
Dept. Biol and Plant Pathol.
via Amendola, 165/A
70126 Bari, Italy
Tel.: +39-0805442926 Fax: +39-0805442906
E-mail: c.colella@agr.uniba.it

The next meeting of the Leafy Vegetables working group is planned for the spring of 2007 and will be organized by Dr. David Pink at Warwick, United Kingdom.

For summer/fall 2007 the working group on carrots is tentatively scheduling a meeting in the renewed Research Station for Plant Breeding in Quedlinburg. As events develop the membership will be informed.

Fruit The next meeting will take place in Spain in September 2007.

Ornamentals **Section Meeting. Sanremo / Bordighera, Italy**
"Breeding for Beauty"

11 - 15 September 2006

Topics will include exploitation of existing genetic variability, in vitro manipulation, genome, proteome, metabolome analysis, genetic transformation for agronomic and commercial features, new entries in ornamental assortment, patents etc.

Info: Dr. Antonio Mercuri

Secretary Organizing Committee

a.mercuri@istflori.it

www.istflori.it

Feldfunk

Feldfunk

Oil and Protein Crops The next meeting probably will take place in 2006

General EUCARPIA Congress **XVIIIth General EUCARPIA Congress. Valencia, Spain**

The dates and general subject of the Congress have not been fixed yet.

More detail information will follow at a later stage.

Information: eucarpia@upvnet.upv.es

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES OF RELATED ORGANISATIONS

20th Grassland Congress, Dublin, Ireland

Grasslands – a global resource

3-7 July 2005

The Congress theme reflects the concept of grassland as a vital resource in most of the agro-climatic zones of the world. Grasslands offer the possibility of increasing food supplies and income generation, while at the same time, they service the soils/crops/animal interface which is basic to sustainable farming systems.

Further information: jgc2005@ucd.ie

Web-site: <http://www.igc2005.com>

Feldfunk

1st International Conference on Crop Wild Relative Conservation and Use, Agrigento, Sicily, Italy

14-17 September 2005

The Conference will bring together the international community to address the current status and future of crop wild relatives (CWR) as a vital resource for improving agricultural production, increasing food security, and sustaining the environment. The Conference will be a landmark in PGR conservation, highlighting CWR as critical but neglected resources.

Further information: organizing.secretariat@pgrforum.org

Web-site: <http://www.pgrforum.org/conference.htm>

2nd International Conference on Integrated Approaches to Sustain and Improve Plant Production Under Drought Stress (InterDrought II), Rome, Italy

26-30 September 2005

INTERDROUGHT-II follows the first INTERDROUGHT symposium held in Montpellier France in 1995, which in the opinion of many of those who attended it, provided an excellent platform for presenting, discussing and integrating results of both basic and applied research towards the development of solutions to crop production under drought-prone conditions. Despite the importance of drought as a major constraint in food production world-wide, there has, surprisingly, been no other major and dedicated international symposium since that first INTERDROUGHT meeting which has brought together such a wide range of world class expertise to identify practical avenues for improving crop performance under drought-prone conditions.

Further information: congressi@avenuemedia.it

Web-site: <http://www.plantstress.com/id2/>

7th International Wheat Conference (7IWC), Mar del Plata, Argentina

27 November-2 December 2005

The urgent need of technological developments to improve and stabilize yields and quality in order to cope with the increasing world population and wealth makes this 7th International Wheat Conference an excellent opportunity for wheat researchers to exchange recent achievements from the last decade and imagine new strategies to solve technological bottlenecks in wheat.

Further information: info@7iwc.com.ar

Web-site: <http://www.7iwc.com.ar/>

Feldfunk

RECENT EUCARPIA PUBLICATIONS

General

Genetic Variation for Plant Breeding

Proceedings of the 17th EUCARPIA Congress, Tulln, Austria, 8-11 September, 2004

ISBN 3-900962-56-1

Editors: J. Vollmann, H. Grausgruber and P. Ruckenbauer

Published: 2004 by BOKU – University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Price: € 45.- (EUCARPIA members) or € 65.- (non-EUCARPIA members)

Obtainable from: Johann Vollmann

BOKU / Pflanzenbau und Pflanzenzuechtung

Gregor Mendel Strasse 33

A-1180 Vienna, Austria

Fax: +43 1 47654-3342

e-mail: hans.vollmann@iname.com

Potatoes

Breeding Research for Resistance to Pathogens and for Quality Traits.

Abstracts of the Joint Conference of the EAPR Section Breeding and Varietal Assessment and the EUCARPIA Section Potatoes, Warsaw, Poland, 3-7 July, 2000

ISBN 83-87109-47-9

Editor: **Barbara Czech**

Published: IHAR, Młochów Research Center, Poland

Obtainable from: Barbara Czech

Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute (IHAR)

Młochów, PL 05-831 Młochów, Poland

Fax: +48 22 729947

E-mail: b.czech@ihar.edu.pl

Cereals

From Biodiversity to Genomics: Breeding Strategies for Small Grain Cereals in the Third Millennium

Proceedings, EUCARPIA Cereal Section Meeting, Salsomaggiore, Italy, 21-25 November 2002

Publisher: Experimental Institute for Cereal Research, Fiorenzuola d'Arda (PC), Italy

Editors: C. Marè, P. Faccioli and A.M. Stanca

Published: December 2003

Proceedings of the 5th International Triticale Symposium Radzików, Poland, 30 June - 5 July 2002

Volume 1 (ISBN 83-89172-01-1), Volume 2 (ISBN 83-89172-02-X), Supplement (ISBN 83-89172-03-8)

Editor: **E. Arseniuk**

Published: June 2002

Total price: EUR 50.--

Obtainable from: Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute, Radzików
05-870 Blonie, Poland

Fax: +48 22 7254714

E-mail: e.arseniuk@ihar.edu.pl

Proceedings of the EUCARPIA Rye Meeting Radzików, Poland, 4-7 July 2001

ISBN 83-89172-00-3

Editor: **Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute**

Published: March 2002

Obtainable from: Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute, Radzików
05-870 Blonie, Poland

Fax: +48 22 7254714

E-mail: postbox@ihar.edu.pl

Feldfunk

**Fodder
Crops and
Amenity
Grasses**

International Symposium on Grass Breeding

Meeting of the EUCARPIA Section Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses, 22-25 September 2002, Bundesforschungsanstalt für Landwirtschaft (FAL) Braunschweig, Germany.

Editors: **U.K. Posselt and J.M. Greef**

Published in: *Vorträge für Pflanzenzüchtung*, Issue 59 (ISSN 0723-7812), 2003.

**Breeding for Stress Tolerance in Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses,
Proceedings of the 23rd Meeting of the Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses Section of
EUCARPIA, Azores, Portugal, 1-4 October 2000**

ISBN 972-8612-05-2

Editors: **P. Monjardino, A. da Camara and V. Carnide**

Published: Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Azores,
Terceira Island, Azores, Portugal, 2001

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**New Approaches and Techniques in Breeding Sustainable Fodder Crops and Amenity
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Proceedings of the 22nd EUCARPIA Fodder Crops and Amenity Grasses Section Meeting,
St.Petersburg, Russia, 17-21 October, 1999

Editors: N.A. Provorov, I.A. Tikhonovich and F. Veronesi

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**Proceedings of the XII EUCARPIA Biometrics in Plant Breeding Conference, held in A
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**XVIth EUCARPIA Section Genetic Resources Workshop Poznan, Poland, 16-20 May
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ISBN 83-88518-47-X

Editors: **W. Swiecicki, B. Naganowska and B. Wolko**

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Maize and Sorghum

Maize and Sorghum Breeding at the End of 21st Century, Proceedings of the 18th Conference, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, 4-9 June, 2000
YU ISSN 0534-012

Editors: **J. Dumanovic, K. Konstantinov and J. van Waes**

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Vegetables

EUCARPIA Cucurbitaceae 2004.

Progress in Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding Research. Proceedings of Cucurbitaceae 2004, the 8th EUCARPIA Meeting on Cucurbit Genetics and Breeding.

Olomouc, Czech Republic, 12-17 July, 2004

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EUCARPIA Capsicum and eggplant 2004

Proceedings of the XIIth Meeting on Genetics and Breeding of Capsicum and Eggplant

Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands, 17-19 May, 2004

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EUCARPIA Leafy Vegetables 2003.

Proceedings of the EUCARPIA Meeting on Leafy Vegetables Genetics and Breeding,

Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands, 19-21 March 2003

Editors: Th.J.L. van Hintum, A. Lebeda, D.A. Pink and J.W. Schut

Published: Centre for Genetic Resources, The Netherlands (CGN), Wageningen, The Netherlands

Online-access of full papers: <http://www.leafyvegetables.nl/papers.htm>

Proceedings of the XIth Meeting on Genetics and Breeding of Capsicum and Eggplant, Antalya, Turkey, 9-13 April, 2001

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Editors: **K. Abak, S. Büyükalaca and Y. Dasgan**

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EUCARPIA Tomato '2000.

Proceedings of the XIVth Meeting of the EUCARPIA Tomato Working Group, Warsaw, Poland, 20-24 August, 2000

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Fruit

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Orna- mentals

Classical versus Molecular Breeding of Ornamentals.

Proceedings of the 21st International Symposium on Classical versus Molecular Breeding of Ornamentals, EUCARPIA Section Ornamentals, ISHS Section Ornamental Plants, München, Germany, 25-29 August 2003

Editors: **G. Forkmann, B. Hauser & S. Michaelis**

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Proceedings of the Twentieth International Symposium Section Ornamentals, Melle, Belgium, 3-6 July, 2001

Editors: **J. Van Huylenbroeck, E. Van Bockstaele and P. Debergh**

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**Oil and
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**International Symposium on Breeding of Protein and Oil Crops.
Proceedings of the Meeting of the Section Oil and Protein Crops, Pontevedra, Spain, 1-4
April, 1998**

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