

INTERNATIONAL PHYTOPLASMOLOGIST WORKING GROUP



Welcome by the organizers

We are pleased to welcome you to the “Second International Phytoplasma Working Group Meeting” in Neustadt an der Weinstraße.

After the great success of the first meeting which took place in Bologna, Italy, in 2007 it is a great honour for us to organize the second meeting. We like to continue the tradition established by the first IPWG meeting to bring together researchers from entomology, molecular biology, and plant pathology to increase and expand knowledge about phytoplasma diseases worldwide. This second meeting provides an overview over the ongoing phytoplasma research and, therefore, all topics dealing with new advances in phytoplasma research will be treated. Knowledge about phytoplasmas and their interaction with their plant and insect host has increased dramatically in the recent years. Despite this, phytoplasma diseases continue to cause important damage to agriculture worldwide and control of these diseases remains a challenge. Therefore, this meeting offers the great opportunity to bring together newest basic research data with the needs of applied research and we hope this will be of benefit for both sides.

The need for the transfer of research data to practical application will be emphasised by the integration of working group meetings of the COST action FA0807 “Integrated Management of Phytoplasma Epidemics in Different Crop Systems” into this second IPWG meeting.

We thank all participants for their numerous contributions and we wish them a pleasant and fruitful time in Neustadt an der Weinstraße

On behalf of the local organizers

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