

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INVASIVE SPECIES: CHALLENGES FOR AGRICULTURE AND BIODIVERSITY

Legislation · Forestry · Agriculture · Biodiversity · Control

**5–6 November 2026, Belgrade,
Hotel Royal Inn**



PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

DAY 1 Thursday, 5 November 2026		DAY 2 Friday, 6 November 2026	
09:00–10:00	Registration of Participants	10:00–11:35	Section 4 – Challenges for Agriculture and Biodiversity
10:00–10:15	Opening Ceremony and Welcome Address	11:35–11:45	Coffee Break
10:15–11:30	Section 1 – Legislation and Current Status of Invasive Species in the EU, Russia and the Region – Importance of International Organizations and Cross-Border Cooperation	11:45–13:45	Poster Session
11:30–11:50	Coffee Break	13:45–14:30	Lunch Break
11:50–13:35	Section 2 – Invasive Species in Forestry and Green Infrastructure	14:30–15:35	Section 5 – Control of Invasive Species: Challenges and Practice
13:35–14:30	Lunch	15:35–15:50	Closing of the Symposium: Summary and Conclusions
14:30–16:10	Section 3 – Invasive Species in Agriculture: Entomology and Nematology		
16:30–18:00	Welcome Cocktail		

Oral sessions are numbered 1–36; poster presentations P1–P13. Each oral section closes with a moderated discussion.

09:00–10:00 Registration of Participants

10:00–10:15 Opening Ceremony and Welcome Address

SECTION 1
10:15–11:30

Legislation and Current Status of Invasive Species in the EU, Russia and the Region – Importance of International Organizations and Cross-Border Cooperation

Moderators: Rob Tanner, Božena Mitić, Dragana Marisavljević

1 The Role of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) in Ensuring Plant Health in the Region

Rob Tanner, Camille Picard, Dmitrii Musolin

European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

2 Legislation and Current Status of Invasive Alien Plant Species in the EU

Giuseppe Brundu

University of Sassari, Department of Agricultural Sciences, Sassari, Italy

3 Russian Legislation on Invasive Plant Management: Current State and Perspectives

Yuliana Kulkova

All-Russian Plant Quarantine Centre, Moscow, Russia

4 Invasive Alien Species: The Reality, Challenges and Warning

Sanja Radonjić

University of Montenegro, Biotechnical Faculty, Podgorica, Montenegro

5 Invasive Alien Plants in Croatia: Situation and Experiences So Far

Božena Mitić, Dario Hruševar

University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology, Zagreb, Croatia

6 Status and Economic Impacts of Invasive Alien Species in Kenya: Strengthening Phytosanitary Risk Assessment, Surveillance and Early Warning

Asenath A. Koech

Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), Directorate of Phytosanitary and Biosecurity, Nairobi, Kenya

11:15–11:30 Discussion

11:30–11:50 Coffee Break

SECTION 2
11:50–13:35

Invasive Species in Forestry and Green Infrastructure

Moderators: Milka Glavendekić, Mustafa Yaman, Dmitrii Musolin

7 European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO): Recent Developments in Forest Quarantine

Dmitrii Musolin

European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

8 Alien and Invasive Insects in Forestry and Ornamental Horticulture

Milka Glavendekić

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade, Serbia

9 First Record of a Microsporidian Pathogen of the Pine Processionary Moth, *Thaumetopoea* sp. (Lepidoptera: Notodontidae)

Mustafa Yaman, Tuğba Sağlam Güvendik

Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University, Faculty of Arts and Science, Department of Biology, Bolu, Türkiye; Isparta University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Technology, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Isparta, Türkiye

SECTION 2
11:50–13:35

Invasive Species in Forestry and Green Infrastructure

Moderators: Milka Glavendekić, Mustafa Yaman, Dmitrii Musolin

10 Invasive Fungi in Switzerland

Ludwig Beenken

Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Forest Health and Biotic Interactions, Swiss Forest Protection, Birmensdorf, Switzerland

11 Decline and Dieback of European Hornbeam in Serbia Associated with the Emerging Pathogen *Cryphonectria carpinicola*

Ivan Milenković, Dušan Jovanović, Zlatan Radulović, Dragan Karadžić

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade, Serbia; Phytophthora Research Centre, Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic; PE Srbijašume, Forest Enterprise "Rasina", Kruševac, Serbia; Institute of Forestry, Belgrade, Serbia

12 Biological Control of *Corythucha arcuata*: From Hypothesis and Scientific Evaluation to Implementation Challenges and Regulatory Issues

Milan Pernek

Croatian Forest Research Institute, Division for Forest Protection and Game Management, Jastrebarsko, Croatia

13 Invasive Insect Species in Forest Ecosystems and Urban Greenery of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Distribution, Impacts and Management Challenges

Mirza Dautbašić, Osman Mujezinović

University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Forestry, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

14 Rapid Screening to Determine Potential Invasiveness of Commercial Ornamental Alien Plants

Nejc Jogan, Božena Mitić

Parnassia – raziskave narave, Litija, Slovenia; University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology, Zagreb, Croatia

15 EU-Funded Project FORSAID (Forest Surveillance with Artificial Intelligence and Digital Technologies)

Dmitrii Musolin

European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

13:20–13:35

Discussion

13:35–14:30

Lunch

SECTION 3
14:30–16:10

Invasive Species in Agriculture: Entomology and Nematology

Moderators: Tatjana Cvrković, Ankica Sarajlić

16 From Native Habitat to Invasion: Interactions Between the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (*Halyomorpha halys* Stål), Its Main Parasitoids and Asian Woody Host Plants

Milana Čović, Vojin Puzić, Miloš Nikolić, Aleksandra Konjević

University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Novi Sad, Serbia

17 Natural Populations of Egg Parasitoids Associated with the Invasive Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, *Halyomorpha halys*, and Other Pentatomids in Eastern Croatia

Ankica Sarajlić, Tihomir Validžić, Helena Ereš, Lara Kajan, Nina Cvenić, Francesco Tortorici

Faculty of Agrobiotechnical Sciences Osijek, Osijek, Croatia; Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate for Professional Support to Agricultural Development, Đakovo, Croatia; Agricultural Institute Osijek, Osijek, Croatia; Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Forestali e Alimentari (DISAFA), Entomologia Generale e Applicata, Turin, Italy

18 Alien Auchenorrhyncha (Hemiptera) Species in Serbia: Vector Potential and Implications for Phytoplasma Epidemiology

Tatjana Cvrković, Jelena Jović, Oliver Krstić, Miljana Jakovljević, Milana Mitrović, Slavica Marinković, Ivo Toševski

Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia

19 Invasiveness of Leafhoppers *Erasmoneura vulnerata*, *Arboridia kakogawana* and *Tautoneura polymitusa* and Potential Risks for Viticulture in Serbia

Milana Mitrović, Tatjana Cvrković, Miljana Jakovljević, Slavica Marinković, Oliver Krstić, Ivo Toševski, Jelena Jović

Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia

SECTION 3
14:30–16:10

Invasive Species in Agriculture: Entomology and Nematology

Moderators: **Tatjana Cvrković, Ankica Sarajlić**

- 20** **Alien Species of Aphids: Challenges for Agriculture and Forestry in Serbia**
Olivera Petrović-Obradović, Anđa Radonjić, Ivana Jovičić, Teodora Aksić, Mihajlo Tomić
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia
-
- 21** **The Khapra Beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts): A Critical Review of Its Quarantine Status, Bio-ecology and Management in Europe and Serbia**
Goran Andrić, Marijana Pražić Golić, Petar Kljajić
Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia
-
- 22** **Tiny Worms, Big Problems: The Invasion of Tropical Root-Knot Nematodes**
Barbara Gerič Stare
Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia
-
- 23** **Survey and Occurrence of the Invasive Root-Knot Nematode *Meloidogyne luci* in Serbia**
Jasmina Bačić, Ivana Lalićević, Saša Širca, Nik Susič, Barbara Gerič Stare
Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia; Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia

15:50–16:10

Discussion

16:30–18:00

Welcome Cocktail

SECTION 4
10:00–11:35

Challenges for Agriculture and Biodiversity

Moderators: Predrag Lazarević, Verica Stojanović, Nejc Jogan

24 Challenges in Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Invasive Alien Plant Species in the Republic of Serbia

Predrag Lazarević, Vera Stanković, Eva Kabaš, Verica Stojanović

*Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade, Serbia; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden "Jevremovac", Belgrade, Serbia***25 Invasive Alien Plants and Their Impacts on Biodiversity in the Mediterranean Region**

Giuseppe Brundu

*University of Sassari, Department of Agricultural Sciences, Sassari, Italy***26 Invasive Weeds in Serbian Agroecosystems: Diversity, Distribution and Management Challenges**

Dragana Božić, Sava Vrbničanin

*University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade-Zemun, Serbia***27 AI-Assisted Monitoring and Management of Invasive Plant Species in Obedska Bara Special Nature Reserve**

Marko Marković, Ivana Vasić, Aleksandra Nikolić, Bojan Tubić

*Vojvodinašume, Novi Sad, Serbia***28 Supercell Storm Aftermath and Invasive Plant Invasion in Begečka Jama Nature Park**

Goran Tmušić, Slobodan Bojičić

*Invagard – Environmental Consulting and Services, Subotica, Serbia; Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia***29 Rhizome-Based Indicators for Optimising Multi-Stress Management Strategies in the *Reynoutria japonica* Complex (Polygonaceae)**

A. Jousson, G. Maspoli, M. Conedera, R. Morisoli, I. Sasu, S. Peduzzi, G. B. Pezzatti

*Agroscope, Neobiota Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland; Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL, Insubric Ecosystems Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland; Dipartimento del Territorio, Ufficio della Natura e del Paesaggio del Canton Ticino, Bellinzona, Switzerland; Consultati SA, Taverne, Switzerland***30 Weighing the Usefulness of Black Locust: Habitat Disturbance Matters**

Vera Stanković, Predrag Lazarević, Ivana Stevanoski, Eva Kabaš

*Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade, Serbia; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden "Jevremovac", Belgrade, Serbia***31 From Field Surveys to Citizen Science: Advancing Invasive Alien Plants Research at the Department of Weed Research (IPPE) in Belgrade, Serbia**

Ana Anđelković, Danijela Šikuljak, Dragana Marisavljević

Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia

11:10–11:35

Discussion

11:35–11:45

Coffee Break

POSTERS
11:45–13:45

Poster Presentations

Moderators: Dragana Božić, Vera Stanković, Ana Anđelković

P1 Variation in Seed Germination and Early Seedling Development in *Cuscuta campestris* Yunck.: Effects of Environmental, Host and Seed Traits

Marija Sarić-Krsmanović, Lyuben Zagorchev, Jelena Gajić Umičević, Ljiljana Radivojević, Dragana Božić, Sava Vrbničanin

Institute of Pesticides and Environmental Protection, Belgrade, Serbia; Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Biology, Sofia, Bulgaria; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade-Zemun, Serbia

- P2 Plant Invasions Along Roads: Disentangling Spread Across Environmental Gradients in Mediterranean Ecosystems**
Pablo González-Moreno, Sara Navarro López, Jessica Bernal Borrego, Claudio A. Bracho-Estévez, Ricardo Hernández-Lambraño
University of Córdoba, Department of Forest Engineering, IISTA, Córdoba, Spain
-
- P3 Effect of Different Hydrolates on Germination and Early Growth of Johnsongrass**
Bojan Konstantinović, Milena Popov, Nataša Mandić, Tijana Stojanović, Milica Aćimović
University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Environmental and Plant Protection, Novi Sad, Serbia
-
- P4 Sensitivity of *Xanthium orientale* subsp. *italicum* (Moretti) Greuter to Herbicides**
Biljana Kelečević, Siniša Mitrić, Zlatan Kovačević, Sava Vrbničanin
University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Agriculture, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade-Zemun, Serbia
-
- P5 Effect of Changes in *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* and *Ambrosia trifida* Mixture Composition on Weed Community Development**
Aleksandra Savić
Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia
-
- P6 Germination Dynamics and Chemical Control of Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca* L.)**
Jelena Gajić Umiljendić, Marija Sarić-Krsmanović, Ljiljana Šantrić, Ljiljana Radivojević
Institute of Pesticides and Environmental Protection, Belgrade, Serbia
-
- P7 From Root Ecology to Control Strategies: Improving Management of *Asclepias syriaca* (Apocynaceae) Through Belowground Assessments**
A. Jousson, V. Fehr, R. Maggini, L. Bernasconi, M. Durini, S. Peduzzi, G. B. Pezzatti
Agroscope, Neobiota Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland; Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL, Insubric Ecosystems Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland
-
- P8 From Biology to Management: An Integrated Workflow for Invasive Plant Research at the Cadenazzo Neobiota Research Campus (Switzerland)**
A. Jousson, G. B. Pezzatti, R. Maggini, M. Durini, P. F. Alberto, A. Rizzoli, S. Peduzzi, D. Mazzi
Agroscope, Neobiota Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland; Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL, Insubric Ecosystems Research Group, Cadenazzo, Switzerland
-
- P9 Efficiency of Removal of the Invasive Species *Asclepias syriaca* L. on the Valjevac Pasture within SNR Zasavica by the Flail Mowing Method**
Mihajlo Stanković, Vera Stanković
Organisation of Sremska Mitrovica Highlanders, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia; Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade, Serbia
-
- P10 Plant Diversity and Invasive Alien Plants in City Parks: A Case Study of Maksimir Park (City of Zagreb)**
Dario Hruševar, Suzana Buzjak, Renata Šošćarić, Mirjana Vrbek, Biljana Janev, Irina Zupan, Sven Jelaska, Sarah Legvard, Božena Mitić
University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology, Zagreb, Croatia; Croatian Natural History Museum, Zagreb, Croatia; Javna ustanova za upravljanje prirodnim vrijednostima Grada Zagreba „Priroda grada Zagreba“, Zagreb, Croatia
-
- P11 Mapping the Invasive Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) in Fruška Gora National Park: A Distribution Survey**
Goran Tmušić, Slobodan Bojičić
Invagard – Environmental Consulting and Services, Subotica, Serbia; Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia
-
- P12 Managing the Invasive Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) in the “Titelski Breg” Special Nature Reserve: Control and Eradication Measures**
Goran Tmušić, Slobodan Bojičić
Invagard – Environmental Consulting and Services, Subotica, Serbia; Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia
-

POSTERS
11:45–13:45

Poster Presentations

Moderators: Dragana Božić, Vera Stanković, Ana Anđelković

P13 From EU Regulation to National Implementation: Integrating Legal and Scientific Evidence in Serbia's Invasive Alien Species Framework

Zorana Miletić, Natalija Radulović, Anita Simonović, Snežana Jarić, Dimitrije Sekulić, Olga Kostić, Ksenija Jakovljević

Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković" – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, Department of Ecology, Belgrade, Serbia; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Belgrade, Serbia

13:45–14:30

Lunch Break

SECTION 5
14:30–15:35

Control of Invasive Species: Challenges and Practice

Moderators: Dragana Marisavljević, Sava Vrbničanin, Mihaela Kavran

32 Current Status of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L. in Serbia

Sava Vrbničanin

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade-Zemun, Serbia

33 *Heracleum sosnowskyi* Manden. In Pančevački rit – can its spread be prevented?

Dragana Marisavljević, Ivana Jelić, Milena Tabašević, Nikola Mandić, Borislav Savovski, Vera Stanković, Verica Stojanović

Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Belgrade, Serbia; Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia; Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade, Serbia; Natural History Museum, Belgrade, Serbia

34 Weed Control on Non-Agricultural Areas in Light of Invasive Weeds

Nebojša Dević

Visan DDD Services, Serbia

35 *Aedes albopictus* in Serbia: An Old Threat with Emerging Public Health Implications and Innovative Tools for Its Sustainable Control

Mihaela Kavran, Nađa Kukić, Sara Šiljegović, Aleksandar Jurišić, Aleksandra Ignjatović Čupina

University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Environmental and Plant Protection; Centre of Excellence – One Health, Novi Sad, Serbia

36 Mosquito Control in Urban Areas in Light of Invasive Species

Ekosan DDD Services, Serbia

15:20–15:35

Discussion

15:35–15:50

Closing of the Symposium: Summary and Conclusions