

IIRB News 7/2015

This summer IIRB newsletter will give you a brief overview on IIRB study group meetings held in spring 2015, as well as an outlook on events to come.

Study group meetings

SG Beet Quality & Storage

(28-29/4/2015, Tulln, A)

The group met at AGRANA Research & Innovation Center (ARIC). Next to reports on beet quality analysis, results from storage trials in Austria, the Netherlands and Denmark were presented and discussed. The trials aim at evaluating the storability of registered varieties as well as varieties still in official testing programmes. In view of increasingly longer campaigns, these results may allow improved storage management. To reduce storage losses due to root rots, the French programme Silobet models the optimal duration of storage on the basis of climatic data. Recommendations for beet storage trials not done in clamps established by the group will be presented at the 2016 IIRB congress.

SG Agricultural Engineering, SG Weed Control

(22/5/2015, Lyons-la-Fôret, F)

The meetings of both groups were linked to the French demonstration on mechanical weed control Dés herb'Avenir IV held at Tourny 21/5/2015. The groups attended the demonstration and discussed the efficacy and potential of mechanical weed control, its contribution to a reduction of herbicide input versus a possible influence on sugar beet development.

The Agricultural Engineering group additionally focussed on the analysis and improvement of the performance of harvest machinery, and ways to determine and avoid harvest losses. An amendment of the 'IIRB standard on test procedures of measuring the quality in sugar beet production' is under way.

The Weed Control meeting was useful for members to exchange information on the weed control situation in each of the countries, particularly with regard to restrictions and legal requirements in pesticide application.



Finger weeder in action: IIRB experts in Agricultural Engineering and Weed Control attended Dés herb'Avenir IV to experience and discuss the potential of mechanical weed control

SG Plant & Soil

(28-29/5/2015, Ferrara, I)

The group met at the sugar beet institute BETA in Ferrara. Main topics of interest at this meeting were plant-soil interactions, nutrient availability and supply, and regulations on maximum fertilization as well as the effect of organic fertilizers on soil fertility. A field visit to the Emilia Romagna-channel area gave insight into different irrigation methods used to sustain agriculture in the Po valley area.

2015 IIRB Seminar 'Resistance management'

(10-11/9/2015, Frauenkirchen, A)

Preparations for the IIRB seminar 'Resistance management' are well under way. The four sessions of this seminar will cover aspects of resistance management in fungicides, insecticides and herbicides, as well as resistance issues in rhizomania. Key note speakers will contribute to the two-day programme. The afternoon of 10th September will be dedicated to trial visits in the surrounding area.

You can still register online for the seminar by 20/7/2015.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet colleagues and get updated on resistance management.

75th IIRB Congress

(16-17/2/2016, Hotel Radisson Blu Royal, Brussels, B)

We are pleased to announce the next IIRB Congress taking place in Brussels in February 2016. The two-day congress will open with a session on the potential yield of sugar beet, analysing what increase in sugar beet yield could already be achieved in practice today. Scientists, breeders, and growers together will discuss opportunities to narrow the yield gap and to increase the efficiency of future sugar beet production.

Paper proposals for the technical sessions are welcome and can be submitted at www.iirb.org by 15/09/2015.

You will receive congress invitations in November 2015.

Please find further information on all future events on our website at www.iirb.org.

IIRB Meetings agenda 2015

SG Communication Techniques	27/8/2015, online meeting
IIRB Seminar 'Resistance management'	10-11/9/2015, Frauenkirchen (A)
Joint SG meeting Genetics & Breeding / Seed Quality & Testing	24-25/9/2015, Bergen op Zoom (NL)
75 th IIRB Congress	16-17/2/2016, Brussels (B)

