



COST ACTION FA1203

Sustainable Management of Ambrosia artemisiifolia in Europe (SMARTER)

Call for a Training School in 2016

In the frame of Task 5 on 'Training, knowledge and technology transfer', SMARTER launched a call for a training school on:

Classical biological control of ragweed and other invasive weeds

Location: CABI Switzerland Centre, Delémont, Switzerland

Organizer: Dr. Urs Schaffner and Benno Augustinus, CABI Switzerland, together with Prof. Heinz Müller-Schärer, University of Fribourg

Date: August, 22nd - 26th 2016

Applicants: young scientists (ESR) and representatives of stakeholders involved in SMARTER and other interested persons

Achievements: profound knowledge in the history of and current methodologies and regulations in classical biological control (CBC) of weeds, short introduction in CBC of arthropod pests, group work to design host-range studies of biocontrol agents against common ragweed, practical training in ongoing CBC projects at the CABI Centre

Application: by sending a motivation letter explaining the interest in and use of the training school and whether you would like to receive an individual grant (see below), along with a CV and SMARTER-questionnaire (to be downloaded from <http://ragweed.eu/wanna-join/>) to Benno Augustinus (b.augustinus@cabi.org) until March, 31st 2016. Persons who are interested to attend should consult the SMARTER homepage to become familiar with the aims and activities of SMARTER.

Selection and preliminary acceptance of applicants by the organizers via e-mail sent by April, 8th 2016. Maximum number of participants: 10.



Costs: Based on acceptance and eligibility (www.cost.eu/Vademecum) the participants will receive an **individual grant** by the COST-Action SMARTER at an amount of EURO 1,200 each **after attending the course**. The participants have to pay the following costs themselves:

- travel to and from Delémont
- registration fee of 250 CHF: to be paid beforehand (see below)
- accommodation at the Youth Hostel (double room approx. 40 CHF/night and person) or hotel (single room approx. 80 CHF/night) (to be paid at the place)
- meals of approx. 40 CHF/day (to be paid at the place)

The registration includes the local transport in Delémont during the course. Reservation in the Youth Hostel and hotel will be organized by the organizers. Please indicate in the motivation letter if you prefer single room or accept room sharing with another participant.

Registration fee: To **get finally accepted** the provisionally accepted participants have to pay a registration fee of CHF 250 to the organizer (see bank details below) by bank transfer until April, 30th 2016.

Owner: CABI Switzerland

Bank: Banque Cantonale du Jura, Place de la Poste 2, CH-2800 Delémont, Switzerland

IBAN: CH11 0078 9016 2575 0108 2

Swift: BCJUCH22

Subject matter: „SMARTER-Training-School“

Programme:

Day 1:

- Introduction to the topic of biological invasions
- Lecture on CBC of weeds: concept, history, success stories
- Lecture on CBC of arthropods

Day 2:

- Lecture on risk assessment in Classical Biological Control (CBC): host-range, impact, indirect non-target effects, international regulations
- Group work focusing on CBC of ragweed

Day 3:

- Practical work in a CBC project at CABI

Day 4:

- Practical work in a CBC project at CABI

Day 5:

- Literature Club
- Feedback from participants regarding their practical work
- Summary and wrap-up

All participants will have to read three papers on CBC prior to the course.



Details of procedure:

Arrival: Sunday, August, 21st, 18:00 at latest

End: Saturday, August, 27th, in the morning

Accommodation is at the Youth Hostel or in a hotel in Delémont. If you agree to share a room with another participant, please indicate this in your motivation letter. Of course shared rooms are less expensive. We will keep you informed about these details.

We propose to fly either to Basel or Zürich airport. From Zürich airport you should take the train to Basel, and from Basel there are direct trains to Delémont every half an hour. The flights and the train ride to Delémont must be organized by the participants. All other activities (accommodation, local transport) will be prepared by the organizer. The participants are asked to pay the registration fee beforehand and accommodation and meals during the training school on their own. The individual grant provided by SMARTER will cover +/- all expenses because we try to accommodate at fair prices.