



**International Ragweed Society**

<http://www.internationalragweedsociety.org>

## **Committee meeting minutes**

**Date:** September 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 from 15 to 18.

**Location:** via Spagliardi 19 Parabiago (Milan, Italy)

**Local organizer:** Maira Bonini

**Chairpersons:** Michel THIBAUDON and Sandra CITTERIO

### **Agenda:**

1. Examination and discussion of the different points of the last call
  - Website
  - Membership fees (updated list in attachment)
  - Committee tasks
  - Committee and general assembly (Parabiago, Cordoba, Vodice)
  - EMAPI 75, Prague
  - WAC Lyon
2. Approval of last call minutes
3. Treasurer committee meeting in Paris. Results of bank information in Parma and Paris.
4. ALK project-meeting in Lyon on January 2020
5. IRD 2019
6. Miscellaneous

**Participants:** Michel THIBAUDON, Sandra CITTERIO, Gilles OLIVER, Sevcan CELENK, Maira BONINI, Roberto ALBERTINI, Valentina CERIOTTI (invited)

**Chairperson:** Michel THIBAUDON

**First of all, thanks to Maira Bonini for the hospitality!**

**1. Examination and discussion of the different points of the last call**

• Website

The number of website accesses has been analysed. Attention will be paid to the next accesses to better understand the trend.

Nb visites IRS	2016	2017	2018	2019
January		720	1664	2723
February	426	632	1200	2180
March	526	869	2551	
April	437	814	1638	
May	555	961	1613	
June	1.152	995	2544	2754
July	642	1.951	4561	2435
August	1.124	3.786	4712	2476
September	1.020	3.842	5129	
October	698	1.548	4172	
November	707	1.944	2904	
December	681	1.935	3302	

New proposals to make the website more attractive:

-Anyone who has papers to publish in IRS website please send to Gilles O.

-Maira B. will prepare a list of recent papers about ragweed

-Sevcan C. suggested organizing publications per year reporting the title and the abstract. She will work with Valentina and Gilles

-Maira B. suggested publishing information about next Congresses and IRS meeting (particularly about the next meetings in Cordoba and Vodice)

At this regard Gilles O. will add a specific box with the information about the coming congresses and meetings.

• Membership fees

At the moment the paying members are only 15 + 2 Institutions (RNSA and FREDON).

Proposal to increase membership:

-Michel T. will ask Marilou about the publication of an invitation to join IRS on the last June newsletter of the French ragweed observatory.

- Maira B. will prepare a short newsletter with: (i) the information about ragweed trend in different countries, (ii) the next IRS meeting and (iii) including the link to the IRS website for the fee payment.

The newsletter will be sent to IRS members and to all the people potentially interested in IRS activities.

At this regard Sandra C. will send the already set up emailing list of people potentially interested in IRS activities and Sevcan C. will integrate the emails of authors who published papers about ragweed (not yet inserted in the list).

- Maira B. will ask the producer of the “ Ragweed movie” for Geo&Geo to exploit the previously acquired pictures to develop a short 3 minutes video, free of charge.

-Gilles will try to create an email address specific for IRS i.e.: [irs@irs.com](mailto:irs@irs.com) and [nameusername@irs.com](mailto:nameusername@irs.com)

- Committee tasks

Providing input to the development of the IRS:

-an article will be written about the new committee composition. In addition few sentences about IRS activities will be published on the IAA newsletter, including a short description of those organized in the framework of ICA 2018. Michel T. will prepare them. In addition he will contact the President of European Weed Research Society asking for including the same text prepared for IAA newsletter in their communications.

-About the Roberto A. proposal to write a review about Ambrosia and Health effects for the special issue “Outdoor and Indoor Biological Air Quality and Public Health” of the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, it will be considered in the future given the present low financial availability of IRS.

-About the set up of “Social methods” to increase IRS visibility the following site was created and is working:

<https://www.researchgate.net/project/Join-the-International-Ragweed-Society-lets-talk-about-Ambrosia>

- Committee and general assembly (Parabiago, Cordoba, Vodice) and EMAPI 75, Prague

People will be informed soon (by IRS newsletter and website) about the date of the next IRS congress (September 14th 2020 just before NEOBIOTA meeting) and it will be underlined that the participation will be free of charge.

- WAC Lyon

Michel will promote IRS by distributing flyers with IRS website link

## **2. Approval of last call minutes**

Approved

## **3. Treasurer committee meeting in Paris. Results of bank information in Parma and Paris.**

Michel T. calculated that the cost of the “Banque postale” located in Switzerland is about 100 Euros per year.

Roberto A. referred that to open a bank account in Italy the IRS headquarter must be moved to Italy. Thus for the moment the “Banque postale” will be maintained.

## **4. ALK project-meeting in Lyon on January 2020**

Michel T. and Oliver P. are still speaking with the ALK Company. Probably the idea to develop a book for Lyon national meeting inserting advertising page(s) on charge will be taking into consideration.

## **5. IRD 2019**

Links to Germany activities are on the IRS website. Gilles O. will add a link to visualize all the French activities. No specific activity has been carried out in Italy until now; some activities will be carried out in September and October in the framework of other informative events for citizens

organized by the ATS Città Metropolitana di Milano in collaboration with some Hospitals

## **6. Miscellaneous**

Next committee conference call: February 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 10:00 am (European time)

Michel THIBAUDON  
IRS President

Sandra CITTERIO  
IRS Secretary