

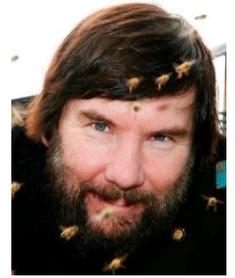
NEWSLETTER December 2020



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XXVI International
Congress of Entomology
HELSINKI, FINLAND, JULY 18–23, 2021



The world of entomology meets in Helsinki, Finland, in July 2021

over 230 scientific symposia

1871 oral presentations

461 poster presentations

SCIENCE!

The world of entomology meets in Helsinki, Finland, in July 2021 for the 26th International Congress of Entomology! We have scheduled a total of 2332 scientific presentations taking place during the six days of the congress. The number of specific scientific symposia is currently at 230. Symposia based on presentation abstracts submitted to the open call have yet to be formed, contributing an additional 20-30 symposia to the program.

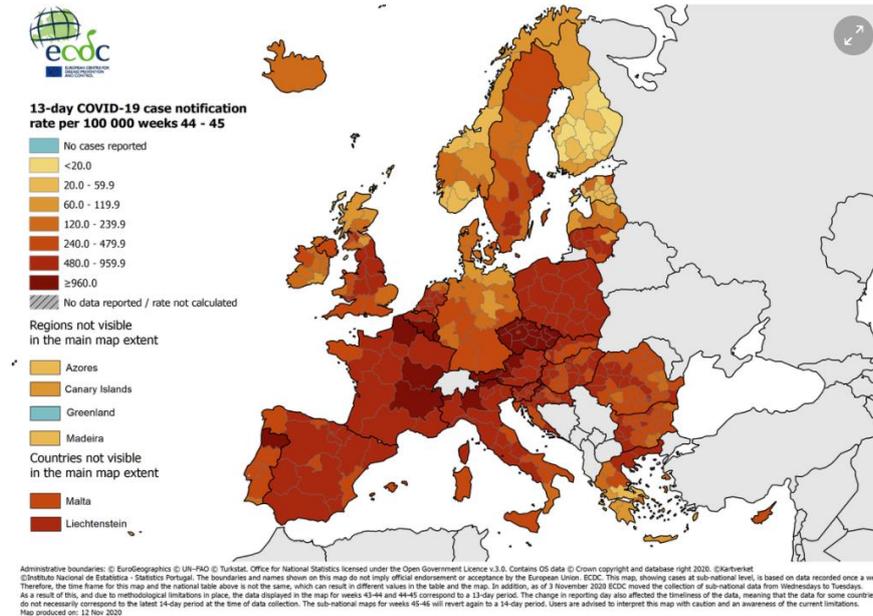
New contributions are still accepted. Submit via the congress website www.ice2020helsinki.fi. Join this exciting event and present your work to the world of entomology!

Explore the symposia at https://submit.peeraageofscience.org/conference/ICE_2020. Click on your section of interest, and you will see the full list of symposia under that section. Many symposia are already full, or by invitation only. SYMPOSIA WHERE THERE IS SPACE ARE INDICATED. If you do not find a suitable symposium for yourself, please submit to the Open Call.

Coping with the covid-19 pandemic - implications for ICE2021

Countries have widely differing strategies to cope with the covid-19 pandemic, along with their eco-climatic and demographic settings. This leads to a patchwork of outcomes in the struggle against covid-19. As an illustration, below is a recent map of Western and Central Europe showing the number of new covid cases per 100'000 inhabitants during two weeks. Notice the situation in Finland (and parts of Norway), which differ from all the other European countries.

13-day COVID-19 case notification rate per 100 000, weeks 44-45



<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/cases-2019-ncov-eueea>

We expect the situation to be under control during the coming months, due to encouraging developments concerning vaccines: on 2 December 2020 the UK became the first Western country to approve a covid-19 vaccine, with capacity to vaccinate 800'000 persons during the next week (<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/dec/02/pfizer-biontech-covid-vaccine-wins-licence-for-use-in-the-uk>). This is highly encouraging. Therefore, we are optimistic that next July will be fine for ICE2021 Helsinki to take place as a physical meeting, instead of an all virtual meeting.

The ICE2021 Local Organizing Committee continues to carefully monitor the covid-19 pandemic situation around the world, and the possibilities of entomologists physically to attend the congress in Helsinki. We are aware that travel restrictions by countries and institutions – if still in effect next summer - may prevent delegates to physically participate in ICE2021, even when Finland as the host country allows such congresses to take place. The LOC has no influence on such restrictions, nor can it be held accountable for their consequences, but we are investigating various options available. News concerning such options will be communicated in future newsletters, and at our website.

Link to the situation in Finland: <https://thl.fi/en/web/infectious-diseases-and-vaccinations/what-s-new/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-updates/situation-update-on-coronavirus>

Transferring the registration to a colleague

As explained in our previous Newsletter, and at our website, we will allow a transfer of your paid registration to another person at no additional cost to you, in case you will not be able to attend the ICE2021 in Helsinki by yourself. You can also “sell” your registration to another person. This may be attractive, because all new registrations at the regular rate will be more expensive than what the lower early rates have been.

To request a transfer of your registration to another person, please contact our service provider, Peerage of Science: support@peerageofscience.org Please tell them:

(i) your name and (ii) email address currently associated with your registration (ideally, send your request email from that account – you'll need to show you have access to that account anyway). For the person to whom your registration should be transferred, please give their: (i) name, and (ii) email address. The new delegate will be contacted by Peerage of Science at that email address, and provided their personal registration link. The new delegate must then complete the other required information into that already-paid registration.

Updated information concerning accommodation in Helsinki

All our partner hotels agreed to significantly lower their room prices for ICE2021 delegates. This is excellent news for our participants! The prices have been lowered by about 30-40%, sometimes even more. Please check the updated accommodation information at our website.

Please remain aware of predatory service-offers concerning hotel accommodation (as detailed in our previous newsletter). See the instructions at our website. **AVOID the PEDATORS!**

One of the several SOKOS hotels (Original Sokos Hotel Helsinki) will be closed for renovation during summer 2021. There remains a wide variety of excellent hotels at a real bargain price for the ICE2021 delegates to choose from – please explore and make reservations in time. Unfortunately the “Both Helsinki hostel” is not operating during summer 2021. In addition, the Cultural Center SOFIA has shifted emphasis away from accommodation services and is not offering housing to ICE2021 participants any more.

FOR MORE NEWS and information about the ICE2021Helsinki congress please visit regularly our website www.ice2020helsinki.fi and facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/ICE2020Helsinki/> and follow tweets at #ice2020helsinki.

You still can submit presentation proposals to the ICE2021Helsinki congress (oral, quick oral and posters), and reserve exhibition space. Please encourage colleagues and friends to join you to this culmination of world entomology in 2021, and to visit Helsinki and Finland next summer. Please stay healthy and make your travel arrangements well in advance. **We look forward to welcoming you next year in July to Helsinki, and extend our warmest Season's Greetings to you all!**

Sincerely yours, Heikki Hokkanen,
President of the ICE2020Helsinki Organizing Committee



Insect photos © Jarmo Holopainen, prof. emer., University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio Campus. Three complimentary postcards will be included in the ICE2021 registration materials: **pick them up during registration** at the Finlandia Hall, July 2021.

We thank members of ICE Council and our Scientific Advisory Board for comments and suggestions on an earlier draft of this Newsletter.