

The Congress horticulturists cannot afford to miss

Science and Horticulture for People

Lisbon receives the most prestigious international event in the field of horticulture, from 22 to 27 August 2010. At the 28th International Congress of Horticulture are expected more than 2,000 participants from around 80 countries to discuss the theme *Science and Horticulture for People*. Colloquia, symposia, seminars, workshops and thematic sessions focus on the scientific component of horticulture but also the interaction between scientists, producers, consumers and society-at-large.

The **IHC** is a world conference on horticultural sciences, which takes place only every four years, under the patronage of the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS). The **IHC Lisboa 2010** is organized by Portugal (**Portuguese Horticultural Association**) and Spain (**Spanish Society of Horticultural Science**), in Lisboa Congress Center.

"We have prepared a **stimulating scientific programme** and ensure a welcoming atmosphere during the Congress and the opportunity for building beneficial relations with the vibrant horticulture industry. **This is the Congress horticulturists cannot afford to miss!**", says **António Monteiro, Portuguese co-president of IHC Lisboa 2010**. "Participate in the Congress is a **unique opportunity to know the latest techniques and scientific advances** and to engage with the best world experts in the various cultures and areas of activity", notes **Víctor Galán Saúco, Spanish co-president**.

In the six days of Congress all will certainly find specific topics that are of interest. Beyond the eight **colloquia** (plenary lectures on a topic of general interest by invited personalities) and the several **thematic sessions** (of oral or poster presentations, based on the abstracts submitted) there will be also 18 **symposia** (two-to three day meetings on a special topic under the responsibility of

conveners) and 14 **seminars** (one day meetings, who resemble 'mini symposia', run by a convener).

The IHC Lisboa 2010 still includes **workshops** (informal evening meetings focusing on novel topics with an emphasis on round-table discussion), as well as **technical tours** and **post-Congress activities** in Portugal and Spain. An opportunity to discover the dynamic and innovative Iberian horticultural industry.

The Congress organization is based on several **Committees** – Executive, Scientific and Programme, International Advisory, Industry and Local Organising – with members from universities and institutes but also from growers associations and horticultural industries. The IHC Lisboa 2010 will be therefore **much more than a meeting of scientists**, because it will involve the various sectors that contribute for the **dynamism of horticulture**.

Horticulture has a **large scope**, including an enormous number of plants and many different uses. **Fruit and vegetable** production is the best known and most important horticulture activity, but horticulture is also **grapes for wine-making**, and many non-food activities such **aromatic and medicinal plants, ornamentals, landscaping, and turf grass management**.

The IHC Lisboa 2010 programme will be, in part, responsibility of participants. **Call for abstracts**, oral or poster, is open. Abstracts can be submitted online until **December 31st, 2009**. Participants can submit abstracts to **symposia, seminars** or to the Congress at-general (**thematic sessions**). "But who wants to attend only the presentations are also welcome to Congress," notes António Monteiro. **Registrations open on October 2009**, to the beginning of the Congress, but **registration at reduced fee ends on April 2010**.

Alongside IHC Lisboa 2010's works, the outstanding Rio Hall will devoted to the **Spanish Pavilion** – an exhibition of horticultural industry, research and innovation in Spain. The Rio Hall will also be used for poster displays and coffee breaks. In Lisboa Congress Center, in an adjacent area to the conference rooms and poster display zones, will be the **Exhibition** – a showcase of products and services in the field of horticulture.

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