IUFRO Division 7 Report 2017-2018

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Contents

News, acitivities and prominent topics in IUFRO Division 7 in 2017-18.................................................................1
Publications produced with input of Division 7 ...........................................................................................................5
List of Activities and Meetings of Division 7 units since July 2017 ...........................................................................6
Upcoming meetings and conferences of Division 7 units ........................................................................................6

News, activities and prominent topics in IUFRO Division 7 in 2017-18

All-Division 7 conference and post-congress tour in September 2017

The last 12 months included a special event for Div. 7 (Forest Health): the first All-Division 7 conference with contributions across all three research groups (Air Pollution and Climate Change, Pathology, and Entomology). Initially this was planned to take place in Istanbul (Turkey), but regrettably we had to relocate the conference due to security concerns at the time. Instead it took place within the 125th Anniversary Congress in Freiburg (Germany) in Sept. 2017. The conference was very successful and attended by ca. 300 Div.-7 delegates. It concluded with a 2-day forest health post-congress tour to the Black Forest (Germany) and Vosges Mountains (France).

Coordinator & deputies at Div. 7 Conference opening

Participants of the 2-day post-125th-Anniversary-Congress tour to sites of forest health interest in the Black Forest (Germany) and the Vosges Mountains (France) in Sept. 2017, coordinated by Horst Delb (FVA-BW Freiburg), Hervé Jactel (INRA, Bordeaux) and others.
RG 7.01 Impacts of air pollution and climate change on forest ecosystems

Highlights were the 28th RG 7.01 conference for Specialists in Air Pollution and Climate Change Impacts on Forest Ecosystems in October 2017 in Tokyo, Japan, which was themed “Actions for Sustainable Forest Ecosystems under Air Pollution and Climate Change” (attended by 72 participants from 16 countries), and the “International Conference on Ozone and Plant Ecosystems” (of RG 7.01, WP 7.01.02 and WP 7.01.05) in May 2018 in Florence, Italy. In addition, WP 7.01.03 organised a Session at the General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union in April 2018 in Vienna, Austria.

Participants of the 28th IUFRO RG 7.01 conference for Specialists in “Air Pollution and Climate Change Impacts on Forest Ecosystems” in Fuchu, Tokyo, Japan, 22-26 October 2017.

Visit at the ozone FACE facility in Florence, Italy, during the ‘International conference on Ozone and Plant Ecosystems’, 21-25 May 2018, of RG 7.01, WP 7.01.02, WP 7.01.05.
Research Group 7.02 – Forest Pathology

Jolanda Roux resigned as coordinator of Research Group 7.02 (Pathology) in April 2017, after serving in that role since 2010. Jolanda was an outstanding coordinator and we are most grateful for her contributions and leadership (see our longer story about Jolanda’s service in the 2017 newsletter). In September 2017 the IUFRO Board approved Tod Ramsfield as the new coordinator of RG 7.02, with Beccy Ganley (Scion, New Zealand) and Julio Diez Casero (University of Valladolid, Spain) serving as new 7.02 deputies. The new 7.02 leadership team is happy to report that WP 7.02.03 ‘Vascular Wilt Diseases’ has been revived with a new coordinator and deputies. They will be holding a joint meeting with WP 7.02.02 ‘Foliage, shoot and stem diseases’ in Italy in 2019. WP 7.02.13 – ‘Forest Health in Southern Hemisphere Commercial Plantations’ held its inaugural meeting in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in March 2018.

Tod Ramsfield, Beccy Ganley and Julio Diez Casero produced a RG 7.02 newsletter in December 2017 that was circulated on the Forpath listserv and is available on the website of RG 7.02 at www.iufro.org/download/file/27905/2760/nl70200-171221_pdf


Research Group 7.03 - Forest Entomology

Working parties in the Entomology Research Group organised three successful conferences since July 2017 as well as numerous sessions at the 125th Anniversary Congress in Freiburg. WP 7.03.05 “Ecology and management of bark and wood boring insects” and WP 7.03.10 “Methodology of forest insect and disease survey” jointly organised a very well-attended conference themed “Forest Insects and Pathogens in a Changing Environment: Ecology, Monitoring & Genetics” in September 2017 in Thessaloniki, Greece. Contact: Dimitrios Avtzis, dimitrios.avtzis(at)gmail.com. WP 7.03.02 co-organised the ‘7th International Symposium of Cecidology: Ecology and evolution of gall-inducing arthropods’ that took place in China-Taipei. Contact: György Csóka, csokagy(at)erti.hu. “The 6th International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions - Tree Resistance to Insects and Diseases: Putting Promise into Practice” took place in August 2018 in Mt. Sterling, Ohio, USA. This was a joint meeting of WPs 7.03.11 & 2.02.15. Contact: Richard Sniezko, rsniezko(at)fs.fed.us
Participants of the conference “Forest Insects and Pathogens in a Changing Environment: Ecology, Monitoring & Genetics” of working parties 7.03.05 and 7.03.10 in Thessaloniki, Greece, September 2017.

Jean-Claude Grégoire, of the Université libre de Bruxelles, was the 2017 recipient of the “George Varley award for excellence in Forest Entomology”.

The award to Jean-Claude Grégoire (left) was presented by Sandy Liebhold (right) during the forest entomology conference in Thessaloniki, Greece, in September 2017.

Participants of the “7th International Symposium of Cecidology: Ecology and evolution of gall-inducing arthropods” (WP 7.03.02) in March 2018 in Nantou County, China-Taipei.

Participants of the “6th International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions - Tree Resistance to Insects and Diseases” in Aug. 2018 in Mt. Sterling, Ohio, USA (WP 7.03.11 & WP 2.02.15)
A special issue of the ‘Forestry Chronicle’ (Volume 94(2)) was published in April 2018 with conference papers of the Meeting of WP 7.02.02 – ‘Foliage, Shoot and Stem Diseases of Forest Trees’ (7-11 May 2017, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada).

For details and reprints contact Tod Ramsfield, Tod.Ramsfield(at)canada.ca

Several Division 7 participants contributed to a special issue of the journal ‘Biological Invasions’ that was coordinated by the IUFRO Task Force on ‘Biological Invasions in Forests’. This is the first major compilation of papers on invasions of forests across a wide range of taxa (for details see https://link.springer.com/journal/10530/19/11/page/1). Special issue editors were Sandy Liebhold (Coordinator of the Task Force and of RG 7.03 – Entomology), Ecki Brockerhoff (Div. 7 coordinator) and Martin Nuñez (an Argentine expert in invasions of non-native tree species).

A special issue of the journal ‘Biodiversity and Conservation’ was produced on the topic of ‘Forest biodiversity and ecosystem services’ which included a number of papers that covered forest health issues. This was a project of the IUFRO Task Force ‘Contribution of Biodiversity to Ecosystem Services in Managed Forests’. The special issue was coordinated by Ecki Brockerhoff, Hervé Jactel and Ian Thompson.

For contents, including a review and synthesis paper, see https://link.springer.com/journal/10531/26/13/page/1

For queries and reprint (pdf) requests contact Ecki Brockerhoff, eckehard.brockerhoff(at)scionresearch.com
List of Activities and Meetings of Division 7 units since July 2017


18-22 Sept. 2017, Freiburg, Germany: All-Div. 7 Conference within the IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress. Division 7 units and associates organised 25 oral sessions and 19 poster sessions. Contact: Ecki Brockerhoff, eckehard.brockerhoff(at)scionresearch.com

22-26 October 2017, Fuchu, Tokyo, Japan: 28th IUFRO RG 7.01 conference for Specialists in Air Pollution and Climate Change Impacts on Forest Ecosystems: "Actions for Sustainable Forest Ecosystems under Air Pollution and Climate Change". Contact: Makoto Watanabe, iufro.tokyo2017(at)gmail.com

3-8 March 2018, Nantou County, China-Taipei: WP 7.03.02, ‘7th International Symposium of Cecidology: Ecology and evolution of gall-inducing arthropods’. Huisun Experimental Forest Station, Nantou County, China-Taipei. Contact: György Csóka, csokagy(at)erti.hu

21-23 March 2018, Punta del Este, Uruguay: WP 7.02.13 “Forest Health in Southern Hemisphere Commercial Plantations”. Contact: rebecca.ganley(at)scionresearch.com


21-25 May 2018, Florence, Italy: "International Conference on Ozone and Plant Ecosystems". Units involved: RG 7.01.00, WP 7.01.02, WP 7.01.05. Contact: Elena Paoletti, elena.paoletti(at)cnr.it

Upcoming meetings and conferences of Division 7 units

18-21 September 2018, Bucharest, Romania: WP 7.01.01 ‘Forest Science for a Sustainable Forestry and Human Wellbeing in a Changing World’  Contact: Ovidiu Badea, badea63(at)yahoo.com

21-26 October 2018, Kuşadası, Turkey: WP 7.03.04 ‘Diseases and Insects in Forest Nurseries Working Party Meeting’, Conference website: www.iufroturkey2018.org  Contact: Audrius Menkis, audrius.menkis(at)sdu.edu.tr or iufroturkey2018(at)sdu.edu.tr
7-12 April 2019, Vienna, Austria: WP 7.01.03, WP 10.03.01 and TF30, ‘Biomass in future energy and resource systems: impact on land use, climate and environmental services - Session at the General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union (EGU) 2019’. Contact: Viktor Bruckman, Viktor.Bruckman@oeaw.ac.at

6-10 May 2019, Florence, Italy: WP 7.02.02 ‘Foliage, Shoot and Stem Diseases’ and WP 7.02.03 ‘Vascular Wilt Diseases’). More details to come. Contact: Alberto Santini, alberto.santini@cnr.it

13-17 May 2019, Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China: RG7.01 ‘Impacts of air pollution and climate change on forest ecosystems’ “Harmonized Growth, Cleaner Environment and Sustainable Forests”. Guangxi Forestry Research Institute, Nanning. Contacts: Elena Paoletti, elena.paoletti@cnr.it; and He Shang, iufronanning2019@vip.163.com Conference website: http://iufronanning2019.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/1

8-11 July 2019, Quebec, Canada: Joint meeting of WP 7.03.06 ‘Integrated management of forest defoliating insects’ and WP 7.03.07 ‘Population dynamics of forest insects’. More details to come. Contact: Andrea Battisti, andrea.battisti@unipd.it, and Deepa Pureswaran, deepa.pureswaran@canada.ca

16-20 September 2019, Suceava, Romania: WP 7.03.10 ‘Methodology of forest insect and disease survey’ Conference theme: ‘Recent Changes in Forest Insects and Pathogens Significance’ contact: Miloš Knížek knizek(at)vulhm.cz, Mihai-Leonard Duduman mduduman(at)usv.ro

29 September – 5 October, 2019, Curitiba, Brazil: XXV IUFRO World Congress. Many session proposals have been submitted by Division 7 participants which will result in excellent representation of forest health content at the World Congress. Congress website: www.iufro2019.com Call for abstracts: 15 September 2018; abstract submission deadline: 15 Dec. 2018

Late October 2019, Sardinia, Italy: WP 7.02.09 ‘Phytophthora diseases on forest trees’. More details to come. Contact: Giles Hardy, G.Hardy@murdoch.edu.au