

Spring 2021  
Issue 1/2021



# EAPR Newsletter

## HEADLINES

Dear all,

Welcome to the spring 2021 EAPR newsletter. In this issue we have details of the Triennial in Kraków, Poland due to take place this summer (12-16th July 2021). It has been a strange year for all of us with COVID-19 and several lockdowns but with mass vaccination programmes well underway, we are optimistic that at last we will be able to spend time together and learn about the latest potato developments. However, we do continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely and will let you know if anything is likely to change.

Unfortunately, the Section meetings have been postponed until at least 2022 so we'll keep you informed about the details of those meetings in due course. For the Triennial and Section meetings, we have put money aside to help students with their fees so look out for this information when you register.

Finally, we wish you all a great start to 2021 and look forward to meeting you soon. Please don't forget to pay your membership fees (it's easy with our new online system!) and remember to visit our website and follow us on Twitter for further updates. If you have anything you would like us to consider for inclusion in future newsletters please get in touch with our secretary at:

Email: [chatot.catherine@gmail.com](mailto:chatot.catherine@gmail.com)



Follow us on Twitter @EAPR\_potato

For more information on EAPR and to renew membership go to:

<https://www.eapr.net>

*Image: Opposite: Kraków, Poland.*

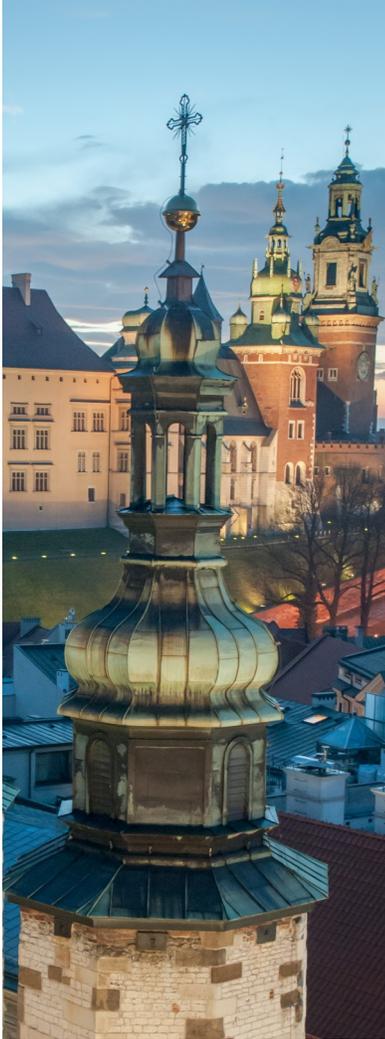


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## Points of interest

- Potato conferences 2022
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## 21ST EAPR TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Once again, on behalf of the Organising Committee, we would like to remind you that the 21st Triennial Conference of the European Association for Potato Research (EAPR) has been moved to a new date, **12-16 July 2021**. The new place of the conference is Kraków, the former capital of Poland and a city of rich history, culture and science. The Conference will be organised in the International Exhibition and Convention Centre EXPO Kraków, with excellent access to all means of transport.

We are convinced that conference participants will be delighted with the city located in the south of Poland.

At the same time, we would like to remind all interested participants about the upcoming **deadline for submitting abstracts: 1 March, 2021**.

The **early bird registration closing date** is also coming: **1 April 2021**.

<https://eapr2020.pl/gb/registration-and-abstracts.html>

*Image: Left—Kraków, Poland. Right—President of EAPR Jadwiga Śliwka*

We look forward to meeting you in Kraków in July!

Jadwiga Śliwka (President of EAPR)

For more information visit:

[eapr2020.pl/gb/](https://eapr2020.pl/gb/)

[@eapr2020](https://twitter.com/eapr2020)



*“The 21st EAPR Triennial Conference will be held in Kraków, Poland on 12th—16th July 2021”*

### POTATO CONFERENCES

**World Potato Congress** will now take place 30th May – 2nd June 2022 in Dublin, Ireland.

The event will also host the Europatat Congress, which is the annual congress of the European Association of the Potato Trade.

[potatocongress.org/](https://potatocongress.org/)

## DEADLINES FOR EAPR TRIENNIAL

Abstracts 1st March 2021

### Registration

Early before 1st April 2021

Regular after 1st April 2021

For more information visit the conference website:

[eapr2020.pl/gb/registration-and-abstracts.html](https://eapr2020.pl/gb/registration-and-abstracts.html)



## BECOME AN EAPR COUNCILLOR

According to the EAPR Constitution and Bye-Laws (article X), new Councillors are required for election at the next Triennial Conference in Kraków, July 2021. We invite each member interested in participating in Council activities to declare your intention before the **end of March 2021** by sending a motivation letter with CV, including your activities in the field of potato research, to our secretary Catherine Chatot. A number of you have already expressed an interest.

EAPR members interested in becoming Councillors are welcome to discuss with us the work carried out within the Council. Any ideas for future Council discussions are always welcome to ensure we remain as relevant to our members as possible, with a desire to progress and develop in Europe and the world!

Thank you for sending your letter and CV in due course to our secretary Catherine Chatot.

Email: [chatot.catherine@gmail.com](mailto:chatot.catherine@gmail.com)

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*“We invite each member interested in participating in Council activities to declare your intention before the end of March 2021”*

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## EAPR STUDENT SUPPORT

We are happy to announce that the EAPR will financially support 10 PhD students to attend the 21st Triennial Conference EAPR2021.

The support will not exceed 800 EUR and will reimburse registration fee, and travel and accommodation costs.

**Application deadline is 1st March 2021.**

To apply:

Submit an abstract for a poster or an oral presentation through the application system.

Write an application e-mail in 250 words describing why you are applying, attach a short CV and a proof of your PhD status and send it to:

Email: [eapr2020@targi.krakow.pl](mailto:eapr2020@targi.krakow.pl)

Only the abstracts accepted by the Scientific Committee will be considered. The Evaluation Committee will select 10 applications on the basis of scientific excellence with a preference for students from countries with low GDP per capita.

Recipients of the EAPR support will be required to write a short report about their participation in the EAPR2020 conference by 31st July 2021. Expenses will be reimbursed after the Conference on the basis of the report, proof of payment and invoices.

Apply now!

[eapr2020.pl/gb/eapr-student-support.html](https://eapr2020.pl/gb/eapr-student-support.html)

*Image: Potato field. Credit—Katkin from Pixabay.*

# 2021 EAPR COUNCIL MEETING

The EAPR Council meeting took place online on 21st January 2021. The meeting started, inevitably, with a discussion on the timing of the Triennial Conference. As mass vaccinations are helping to control the spread of COVID-19, we remain optimistic that the conference can take place in Kraków 12-16 July this year and we look forward to receiving abstracts and registrations by the deadlines (see page 2). Over 130 abstracts have already been received! A decision was also made that future Triennials would be held in 2024 (Norway) and 2027 (to be determined).

Besides the Triennial, a number of legal matters were discussed including the need for insurance, the timing of general assembly meetings and changes to some of our bylaws to reflect new rule changes. A new agreement with ISHS has also been reached to reduce payments to them for their membership services, which is reflective of the new online membership and payment systems set up by the Association through our new website.

As our finances are looking quite healthy this year, we have put aside money for both the Triennial and Section meetings to help students to attend (so please look out for this when registering).

Our journal Potato Research is looking healthier than ever with 36 papers accepted in 2020. To help to maintain this effort, new and enthusiastic editors are always welcome, as are more papers on phytopathology, which is lacking compared to other areas.

In terms of Section meetings, it is very unlikely that any will take place this year but some have been planned for 2022 and others are likely to also happen then, so look out for more information on these and check our website regularly.

*Images: Right—Image from the 2016 EAPR Pathology and Pests section meeting. Below — EAPR online Council meeting 2021 [left to right: Top - Jadwiga Śliwka (President), Ilze Skrabule, Kürt Demeulemeester (Vice-President); Middle — Thilo Hammann, Ian Toth, Leah Tsrer, Zsolt Polgar; Bottom —Catherine Chatot, Paul Struik, Vincent César, Håvard Eikemo (President-Elect)].*



# POTATO RESEARCH

Our members may have noticed that Potato Research is thriving. There is a gradual increase in the number of papers submitted at a constant rate of acceptance of about one third, a reduction in average handling time, and an increase in the number of papers and pages per volume.

Most papers published are within the area of agro-physiology, utilisation and breeding. We could use many more papers on phytopathology.

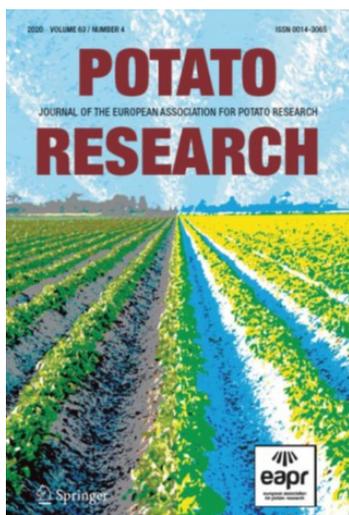
We are currently in the process of rejuvenating our team of processing editors. Many prominent potato experts have served Potato Research in an excellent way for many years but have indicated that they have passed retirement age and would like to pass on the baton to a younger generation. Fortunately, we were able to recruit some new processing editors. More processing editors are still welcome to spread the workload as much as possible. Please volunteer by sending a short e-mail to the undersigned.

Please also keep submitting your papers to Potato Research!

On behalf of the team of editors,

Paul C. Struik (Editor-in-chief)

Email: [paul.struik@wur.nl](mailto:paul.struik@wur.nl)



## NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

Due to COVID-19 and delays to the Triennial Conference (now planned to take place in Kraków in July 2021) Section meetings have been delayed to at least 2022.

**Breeding and Varietal Assessment** will hold its 20th joint meeting together with EUCARPIA Section 'Potatoes' in 2022 in Nidge Province, Capadoccia in Turkey.

**Virology** is to hold its meeting at Agroscope in Switzerland in summer 2022.

**Agronomy and Physiology, Pathology and Pests and Post Harvest** have no meetings planned to date but we will keep you informed when things have been arranged.

Jean-Pierre Goffart will step down as Section Chair for **Agronomy and Physiology** following the Triennial Conference. If you are interested in taking over this role from July 2021, please get in touch directly with Jean-Pierre at:

Email: [j.goffart@cra.wallonie.be](mailto:j.goffart@cra.wallonie.be)

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

We are still looking for bids to organise for the 23rd Triennial Conference of the EAPR, 2027. We hope that you will consider this opportunity and send your proposals to President Jadwiga Śliwka by the **end of March 2021**.

Proposals should contain:  
Declaration of intention;  
Name of the proposed President Elect / chief conference organiser; Curriculum vitae.

We await your responses!

Email: [j.sliwka@ihar.edu.pl](mailto:j.sliwka@ihar.edu.pl)

## POTATO NEWS

### British Potato Industry Award 2020

Congratulations to our Council Member Prof Ian Toth on receiving the lifetime achievement 'British Potato Industry Award 2020' for his contribution to the potato industry through his work on blackleg disease and other pests and diseases.

Read more at :

<https://ahdb.org.uk/news/potato-industry-award-winners-2020>

## MEMBERSHIP—JOIN NOW!

Memberships are now due for 2021. The Association has three membership categories: Ordinary, Sustaining and Honorary membership. Although membership is open to both European and non-European individuals or organisations, only Europeans can hold official office, such as membership of the EAPR-Council. At present the Association has over 170 Ordinary members, 12 Sustaining members and 9 Honorary members. Membership is drawn from many countries in five continents.

For more information on membership and to renew or join using our new easy-to-use electronic system visit:

[eapr.net/membership](http://eapr.net/membership)



“Congratulations to Council member Ian Toth on receiving the British Potato Industry Award”

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## WEB SITE AND TWITTER

There is only so much we can put in a newsletter so for more information on our activities please visit the web site ([www.eapr.net](http://www.eapr.net)) or follow us on Twitter.

The screenshot shows the EAPR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Manage', 'Go to', 'Content', 'Council Documents', 'Structure', 'Configuration', 'Help', and 'People'. Below this is a header section with the EAPR logo and a search bar. The main content area includes a 'Welcome to EAPR' message, a brief description of the association's mission, and a call to action for members to update their passwords. A 'Potato Research' newsletter preview is also visible. The footer contains three columns with icons and text: 'Upcoming Conferences', 'Upcoming Meetings', and 'Latest News'.