



# EAPR Newsletter

Newsletter for the Members of the European Association of Potato Research (EAPR)

Issue 1/2008

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## Message from the President of the Association

Dear member of EAPR,

Potato has been highlighted in many ways in this year. The sudden escalation of food prices created worries about food security and brought potato to the spotlight. As a local commodity, potato prices are less prone to be affected by the world market. Hence, potato is foreseen to play an increasingly important role in food security in the less developed countries. This was also recognized by the journal *New Scientist* (2 August 2008) that illustrated potato on the cover and published an informative article about the potential of the crop. Our secretary, Anton Haverkort, was interviewed, as were also Pamela Anderson, Director General of CIP, and Shelley Jansky who all gave interesting talks in the 17th EAPR Triennial Conference in Romania.

Indeed, many of us met just two months ago in the triennial conference in Brasov. We are indebted to our past President, Sorin Chiru, for all the excellent arrangements and for inviting us to the beautiful city of Brasov, Sorin's hometown. The conference was successful scientifically and in terms of interactions and new friendships born between the participants. The next triennial conference will be organised in Finland in 2011. The Finnish potato sector welcomes you warmly!

Management of our association has undergone many important changes over the past years. The work has started to bear fruit. Our journal, *Potato Research*, is back to the frequent publishing schedule and can again provide a fast avenue for you to publish your important results from potato research. Each council member has been allocated specific responsibilities to make each one's role more apparent. Country representatives are your active contact points who will mediate information. EAPR and The Potato Association of America (PAA) have had good discussions about closer interactions to enhance mutual benefits from the membership to members in both societies. We'll follow up the developments in this Newsletter.

Your own activity and initiatives as a member of EAPR are most welcome! Please do not hesitate to contact your country representative or council members if you have an idea how we as a society could make a better job and enhance potato research and the potato sector.

Sections continue to be an active forum for information change and interactions before the next triennial conference. Invite also your colleagues at the section meetings to join EAPR if you'll find that some are not yet members.

You are reading the first EAPR Newsletter, a new instrument established to increase your possibilities to reach other members of EAPR and to hear frequently about matters being discussed in our association. Our past-past President, Enrique Ritter, has kindly offered to edit the Newsletter. It will be published quarterly but additional newsletters may be sent as needs arise.

All the best for the continuation of the Year of Potato!

Jari Valkonen  
President of EAPR

### **Minutes of the 18th General Meeting of the EAPR** **Aro Palace, Brasov Romania**

1. Opening by President Sorin Chiru at 18:30. 74 Member/attendees were present and signed the designated distributed forms. Council members present: Anton Haverkort, Jari Valkonen, Romke Wustman, Mike Storey, Norbert Haase, Enrique Ritter, Johan Haarhuis, Paul Struik
2. During the previous three years the Council was notified of the passing away of EAPR Niel Theron from South Africa. The meeting observes a moment of silence.
3. The Secretary reads the list of decisions taken at the 16<sup>th</sup> general meeting. This is agreed by the meeting.

The president reads the report of the council (**Annex 1**). This is agreed by the meeting after some discussion.

4. Report of the Editor-in-Chief . The report (which the association can be proud of) is summarized and discussed as shown below and was accepted as presented.

#### Decisions taken:

- As of 2006 (Volume 49) Springer publishes Potato Research
- Editor-in-chief: Paul C. Struik
- Co-ordinating editor on behalf of EAPR: Willemien J.M. Lommen
- Managing staff Springer: Jacco Flipsen and his team
- 35 members of editorial board, increase of geo-scope

#### Record of appearance:

- Volume 46 (2003/4) issues 1-2 published in 2005, before Bilbao
- Volume 46 (2003/4) issues 3-4 published in 2005, after Bilbao
- Volume 47 (2004/5) issues 1-2, published
- Volume 47 (2004/5) issues 3-4, published
- Volume 48 (2005) issues 1-2, published
- Volume 48 (2005) issues 3-4, published
- Volume 49 (2006), 4 issues including special issue on Bilbao papers and letters from publisher and editor
- Volume 50 (2007), including special double issue The Canon of Potato Science with 50 contributions\*
- Volume 51 (2008) issue 1, special issue on late blight and genetic modification (on the web)\*

#### Planning

- Volume 51 (2008), (2), regular issue (partly in galley proof stage)
- Volume 51 (2008), (3), Brasov papers (partly received)
- Volume 51 (2008), (4), Bioexploit special (partly received)
- Volume 52 (2009), (1), regular issue
- Volume 52 (2009), (2), mini-reviews (mostly received)
- Volume 52 (2009), (3), regular issue
- Volume 52 (2009), (4), regular issue

Note: regular issues (when completed) will get priority above special issues

Turn around time (days from submission to	EiC assignment	Reviewer invitation	First decision
2006	1.9	32.6	123.3
2007	1.7	29.7	112.5
2008 YTD	2.5	25.8	90.3

- Remark: to receive more manuscripts the Journal needs more confidence. If an author submits now the paper could be on-line within 100 days if it does not need revision. If too many papers come we could also move to 6 issues per year which, however, is not likely in near future.

#### Additional points raised:

- The journal needs papers so the meeting is asked to send in as many as possible

- Until the present editorial board was formed, the Council was the editorial board, the Council will review its role during the next council meeting in January 2009.

5. Election of new Council.

The 2005-2008 council proposed the following composition of the 2008-2011 council:

President	Jari Valkonen
Past President	Sorin Chiru
Vice president	Mike Storey
Secretary	Anton Haverkort
Treasurer	Romke Wustman
Councilor	Norbert Haase (coordinator of country representatives)
Councilor	Serge Duvauchelle (coordinator of scientific cooperation)
Councilor	Katrin Kotkas (coordinator of section chairs)
Councilor	Louise Cooke (coordinator of cooperation with other societies)
President Elect	Jean-Pierre Goffart (the Council proposes Belgium to host the 18 <sup>th</sup> Triennial in (2014)
Non executive	Editor-in-chief (Paul Struik)
Non executive	Representative of the EAPR administrative office

The new council composition is approved by acclamation.

New members introduce themselves:

Serge Duvauchelle, France

Katrin Kotkas : Estonia

Louise Cooke, UK

Jean-Pierre Goffart, Belgium (also introduces Marc Goeminne of PCA)

8. Venues of forthcoming triennial meetings

The 18<sup>th</sup> triennial will be hosted by Finland chaired by Jari Valkonen. Belgium has offered to host the 19<sup>th</sup> Triennial in 2014 meaning that Jean-Pierre Goffart will become president elect as of 2008 and president of the Association as of 2011.

9. The council has nominated two honorary members that will be announced at the conference dinner.

10. Jari Valkonen shows the 2011 convention site Oulu in Finland, the northernmost spot in Europe where potato is grown.

11. The President thanks the members present and closes the meeting at 20:00 hrs.

**Draft**

**European Association for Potato Research**

**List of agreements, decisions and proposals of  
the 18th General Meeting of the EAPR,  
held at Aro Palace ,  
on Monday July 7 2008**

1. The List of Agreements, proposals and decisions relating to the 16<sup>th</sup> Triennial General Meeting of the EAPR are approved by the General Meeting as read.

2. The Report of the Treasurer is approved as read.

3. The Report of the Editors is accepted as read.

4. The council has nominated the following councilors:

President	Jari Valkonen
Past President	Sorin Chiru
Vice president	Mike Storey
Secretary	Anton Haverkort
Treasurer	Romke Wustman
Councilor	Norbert Haase (coordinator of country representatives)
Councilor	Serge Duvauchelle (coordinator of scientific cooperation)
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President Elect	Jean-Pierre Goffart (the Council proposes Belgium to host the 18 <sup>th</sup> Triennial in (2014)
Non executive	Editor-in-chief (Paul Struik)
Non executive	Representative of the EAPR administrative office

5. Jari Valkonen invites all participants of the Brasov conference to attend the next conference in Oulu, Finland by showing a power point slide show.

Signed	President Jari Valkonen	Secretary Anton Haverkort
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## **Annex 1**

### **Report of the Council 2005-2008**

During the last three years the council compositions was as follows:

Sorin Chiru	President
Enrique Ritter	Past president
Mike Storey	Vice President
Anton Haverkort	Secretary
Romke Wustman	Treasurer
Norbert Haase	Councilor (country representatives)
Jari Valkonen	Councilor (section chairs)
Didier Andrivon	Councilor
Kazimira Zgorska	Councilor
Paul Struik	Editor-in-Chief
Johan Haarhuis	non-executive, represents the secretarial office of the EAPR

The council had three ordinary meetings in Wageningen in January 2006, 2007 and 2008. During this period the Association and a number of very serious issues: the continuity of the journal *Potato Research* was at great risk and the number of members declined dramatically. The following subjects were addressed and/or decisions taken:

#### **Secretarial support**

We took leave from Wampie van Schouwenburg who ran the secretarial office for some decades and was thanked for the considerable amount of work she did for the society. A contract with Europoint was renewed till the end of 2008.

As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 the International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS) in Leuven (Belgium) will carry out the secretarial duties such as contacts with members, web-site and financial affairs. The council is grateful for the considerable amount of work Europoint did over the last six years; the decision to go to ISHS had to do with aspects of costs and continuity.

#### **Potato Research**

We ended the contract with the printing company Veenman and stopped publishing *Potato Research* ourselves as a Society. We successfully negotiated a contract with Springer Academic Publishers, who publishes *Potato Research* as of 2006. The flow of manuscripts and articles will be shown by the editor-in-chief Paul Struik

#### **Special Events**

In 2007 the EAPR celebrated its 50 years of existence. The sections Virology, Utilization and Pathology had meetings in 2007 specifically commemorating this event. Their efforts are really appreciated. *Potato Research* dedicated 2 issues of Volume 50 to the event: The canon of Potato Science.

2008 is the United Nations International Year of the potato (UN IYP). The present 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial is especially dedicated to this commemoration.

#### **Membership and Finances**

The Council decided to clean up the membership list, by removing ordinary or sustaining members who had not paid their dues for 2006. This resulted in about halving the membership, going down from above 500 to less than 250 members over the last six months. As many members had not unsubscribed before 2007 and many had not paid dues for years, the clean-up reflects not a real recent decline in membership but that over a period of about 5 years. Regaining new members now is a priority for all (remaining) members of the EAPR.

There now is a balance between income and expenses. Treasurer Romke Wustman will highlight this in his forthcoming presentation.

#### **Website and flyer**

The website was renewed and now is modern, informative and attractive. We also produced a flyer that can be mailed, downloaded from the website and be handed out at potato events to attract more members and subscribers to the Journal.

#### **Cooperation with the PAA**

The Potato Association of America decided to publish their journal *American Journal of Potato Research* through Springer as of 2008. Discussions about merging the two journals are now postponed until the end of the Springer-PAA contract period in four years.

Joint meetings starting as of the next triennial (Finland 2011) are being discussed but have not yielded an outcome. The council welcomes suggestions as to the desirability of such joint meetings.

#### **Preparation of the Brasov Triennial programme and general meeting**

The Council assisted the national organizing committee in Romania in setting up the programme and identifying topics and speakers. Gheorghe Olteanu – to this end – attended the 2007 and 2008 council meetings. We also decided on the proposition of two lifelong honorary members of the EAPR. Finally we prepared the proposition of the new council and future venues.

#### **Country representatives**

The Council updated and expanded the list of Country Representatives. EAPR has now a local contact in many countries. This makes it easier to come in touch with individual members and to promote EAPR activities. The Council is still busy to extend the number of CR's.

## Membership summer 2008

The council decided to review our membership list after lengthy discussion. The matter was also discussed in the General Meeting during our 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference in Brasov. The main reason for the review was the increasing amount of outstanding membership fees. The table shows the present number of members specified per country and continent.

EAPR is a truly international association as we have ordinary members in 34 countries: our 249 members reside in each continent. Europe boast the highest number of members (87.1 %), North America is second best with 8.4 %. Besides we have 15 sustaining members in Europe.

Our country representatives and section chairpersons are actively involved in promoting EAPR with the aim to acquire more members. A task which should be taken up by each of us being members of the European Association for Potato Research. The membership application document is available on our website [www.eapr.net / membership](http://www.eapr.net/membership).

Romke Wustman, Treasurer of EAPR

Country	Continent	Member(s) per country	Continent	Member(s) per continent	[%]
MOROCCO	Africa	1			
SOUTH AFRICA	Africa	1			
SUDAN	Africa	1	Africa	3	1,2
ISRAEL	Asia	3			
JAPAN	Asia	1	Asia	4	1,6
AUSTRALIA	Australia	2			
NEW ZEALAND	Australia	1	Australia	3	1,2
AUSTRIA	Europe	3			
BELGIUM	Europe	3			
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Europe	1			
CZECH REPUBLIC	Europe	5			
DENMARK	Europe	12			
ESTONIA	Europe	4			
FINLAND	Europe	10			
FRANCE	Europe	21			
GERMANY	Europe	36			
HUNGARY	Europe	5			
ITALY	Europe	6			
LATVIA	Europe	1			
NEDERLAND	Europe	30			
NORWAY	Europe	11			
POLAND	Europe	8			
ROMANIA	Europe	2			
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Europe	2			
SLOVAKIA	Europe	1			
SLOVENIA	Europe	2			
SPAIN	Europe	7			
SWEDEN	Europe	5			
SWITZERLAND	Europe	9			
TURKEY	Europe	1			
UNITED KINGDOM	Europe	32	Europe	217	87,1
BRAZIL	Latin America	1	Latin America	1	0,4
CANADA	North America	2			
USA	North America	19	North America	21	8,4
<b>Total C: 34</b>	<b>Total M:</b>	<b>249</b>			

## **The 17th Triennial Conference of the European Association for Potato Research**

On July 6 to July 10, 2008 in Brasov took place the 17th Triennial Conference of the European Association for Potato Research (EAPR) with the general theme "Potato in a Changing World".

The Conference has been organized under the aegis of the International Potato Year, declared by the ONU and EAPR and the National Institute of Research and Development for Potato and Sugar Beet, Brasov, with the accordance of the Agricultural Ministry and Rural Development, Ministry of Education and Research, the Agricultural and Forestry Science Academy "Gheorghe Ionescu Sisesti" and with support through the MAKIS project, implemented by the Agricultural Ministry and Rural Development. Representatives from national and local authorities' have been present to plenary sessions.

The Conference had 325 participants including specialists, researchers and farmers from 42 countries from all continents. They presented 15 plenary lectures, 72 oral presentations in sections of the programme and 145 posters. Among the participants there were also the Director General of the CIP (International Potato Center) from Lima, Peru, and the Peruvian Ambassador at Bucharest, his excellency Elard Escala, who represented one of the centers of origin of the potato.

Besides the scientific sessions, there were 4 working sessions on different subjects, 3 scientific excursions and business meetings. They all took place at the ARO-Palace and Transylvania University Aula.

The main subjects of the Conference were focused on actual themes of great interest at European and global level such as re-establishment of potato in the category of indispensable foods for its health-beneficial substances, the achievements on genetics and breeding of potato, seed potato production, organic potato production systems, disease and pest control, management of the potato crop under the changing climatic conditions, and new processing technologies required in the more sophisticated European and American markets. It was brought to attention that the potato crop has great opportunities for development and expansion in the context of solving the global food crisis context, which offers also new possibilities for the scientific community in terms of regional and global collaboration.

From the scientific point of view the Conference was a success thanks to the quality of plenary sessions, oral presentations and posters, and also from the informational point of view through the discussions on work-shops, demo-fields and the visited farmers. One of the most important issues was the identification of possibilities for collaborations and common research projects within European Union and elsewhere.

The appreciations regarding the Conference organization as well as the Romanian activity via the EAPR presidency (2005-2008) hold by dr. Sorin Chiru were positive and unanimous, and they were concretized by distinction of Mr. Gheorghe Olteanu, researcher at NIRDPSB Brasov, as an Honorary Member of EAPR.

Sorin Chiru  
Past President EAPR



## News from the Editor of *Potato Research*

As most of you have noticed, the EAPR's scientific journal *Potato Research* is making good progress in catching up with the large delays from the past.

The following achievements were realized during the period 2005-2008:

- \* Invitation of 35 processing editors from all over the world.
- \* Setting up the electronic manuscript handling system, making decisions on style and format of the journal, and realizing new instructions for authors.
- \* Production of all the three outstanding volumes (volumes 46-48) that were left to be produced under the old regime.
- \* Putting all the back volumes on the internet.
- \* Production of two complete volumes (volumes 49 and 50) by Springer, including a double issue containing the Canon of Potato Science.
- \* The production of the first issue of volume 51 (2008) in June / July 2008 (a special issue on late blight and genetic modification).

Meanwhile (end of August 2008) the second issue of volume 51 (containing regular original papers and the report of a virology section meeting) is almost finished and the special double issue containing the plenary papers of the Brasov conference is in preparation. We expect it to be published before the end of 2008, which will bring us back on schedule. The preparations of the first issue of volume 52 (2009) are also well under way.

The Brasov conference was a perfect opportunity for the editors of the journal to meet. The journal manager of Springer came over to Romania to chair the meeting. The issues raised during this meeting have meanwhile been discussed and implemented (for example a written guide for processing editors on how to use the manuscript submission system).

For the near future we plan to make the turn around time shorter, to become listed in ISI and to elicit more original papers and reviews from all over the world and of high quality.

Your support in submitting excellent papers to our journal is highly appreciated.

Paul C. Struik

## News from the Section Chairmen

*Contributions from Section Chairmen will be presented in the following issues.*

## News from the Country representatives

### Information from the Country Representative of Spain:

The production of potato in Spain takes place almost throughout the whole year due to climatic diversity of the different areas of cultivation from Canary Islands, Andalucia to Galicia or The Basque Country. Therefore, I will refer only to the northern area where potatoes are grown from April-May to September-October.

The season of potato production in Northern Spain is very unusual due to heavy and continuous rains occurred during six weeks at planting time. Some plots were planted and potatoes were born. Others were flooded before emerge and others could not be planted until the end of the rains in the second week of June. This delayed cultivation season and it was possible to see many fields in bloom late August.

The weather also affected the dynamics of aphids during the summer. This year was detected the lower aphids level in the past 20 years. The surveys conducted so far indicate that the level of virus in the seed potato crop remains very low. Moreover, after several years in which late blight was virtually non-existent, this year our farmers have had to multiply its applications of fungicide to keep it under control.

Until the end of the year, it is not possible to make a definitive assessment of the impact this campaign will have on crop yield and potato quality.

Raquel Marquinez  
Plant Health Laboratory  
E+C Unit  
Neiker-Tecnalia

## News from the Association Members

### Information on the EU Concerted Action 'EuroCrop'

A presentation on EU concerted action 'EuroCrop' at the International Year of the Potato conference at SCRI called 'Improving International Potato Production' is available at: <http://www.scri.ac.uk/scri/files/IIPP%20presentations/MikeStorey.pdf> for the EuroCrop presentation and at <http://www.scri.ac.uk/events/pastevents/iipp2008> for the conference.

The presentation covers the potato issues for future research and the link that can be used for the newsletter is that **members of the EAPR council were very closely involved in the potato sector report**. It shows also how as an association we are seeking to influence the European research agenda.

The EuroCrop project as a whole is nearly completed and there is an EuroCrop document for public consultation available on their project website. See <http://www.eurocrop.cetiom.fr/> and a dissemination conference in Brussels on 17<sup>th</sup> October

Mike Storey

### Meeting of the Italian Society of Agricultural Genetics

From September 14 to September 17 2008 the Italian Society of Agricultural Genetics will organize its annual meeting in Padoa. A special session on potato (Potato: The hidden treasure) will be arranged, with presentations by G. Bryan (Status and utilization of potato genetic resources in the Year of the Potato), D. Carputo (Deployment of incongruent tuber-bearing *Solanum* species: integrated strategies of potential breeding value), L. Lovatti (New concepts in the retail and processing potato market and new targets in potato breeding), P. Rocculi (Key factors for fresh-cut potatoes quality and stability), and P. Ranalli (New potato varieties for off-season production: a success of Italian breeding). For more information [www.siga.unina.it](http://www.siga.unina.it). -- Domenico Carputo

## Other News

### DEDICATION TO STAN PELOQUIN

*Domenico Carputo and Luigi Frusciante*  
University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Stanley J. Peloquin, one of the greatest authorities worldwide in the field of genetics and cytogenetics applied to potato breeding, passed away in Madison (WI), on July 27, at the age of 87. He was born in Barron (WI) in 1921. After graduating in chemistry, he studied at Marquette University, where he received his Master in Biology, and at University of Wisconsin-Madison where he was awarded a Ph.D in Genetics. From 1951 to 1956 he taught at Marquette University and then at the University of Madison. During his long and productive career, Dr. Peloquin received many prestigious awards and honours. In 1983 he was named the Campbell Bascom Professorship by the University of Wisconsin. In 1984 he was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Science and in 2002 he received a *Laurea Honoris Causa* from the University of Naples Federico II (Italy).

Stan Peloquin's research achievements are the result of fundamental, ingenious scientific insight. Using potato genetics as the focal point of his research, he integrated his efforts with a broad range of other activities, founding a world-famous "school". His intense research has had a great impact not only on basic knowledge, but also considerable applicative and practical implications for genetic enhancement. Starting from research efforts to broaden basic knowledge on potato genetics and cytogenetics, Stan Peloquin attained exceptional results that allowed him to set up methods to manipulate ploidy levels and design appropriate breeding schemes for the potato. The discovery of mechanisms that underlie the production of haploid plants, the incompatibility barriers and the formation of gametes with parental chromosome number, established Professor Peloquin's international reputation, and still represents today one of the most impressive and exciting applications of genetics, cytogenetics and reproductive biology to breeding.

Stan Peloquin was a warm, considerate, sympathetic and easily approached person, with a completely genuine and sincere approach to everything he did and everyone he knew. His enthusiasm and broad interests have always been stimulating for his students and colleagues. His fiercely loyal and personally sacrificing devotion to the "students' best interest" has been a consistent feature during his career. He has trained more researchers than any other professor in the history of the University of Wisconsin. We believe that men of his vision, talent and enthusiasm occur only rarely. The potato community and the whole scientific world will grievously miss him.

## Calendar of Events:

- **Different conferences and events of the IYP2008 until the end of the year:**

see: <http://www.potato2008.org/en/events/index.html> for details

- **5th Solanaceae Genome Workshop (SOL 2008), October 12-16, Cologne (Germany)**

<http://www.sol2008.org/>

### **Symposium "The potato in the world: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"**

On behalf of the Organizing Committee it is my pleasure to invite you to the Symposium: **"The potato in the world: yesterday, today, tomorrow"**.

We are most delighted to announce the program with renowned speakers in the field. Professor Dr. **Carlos Ochoa Nieves**, Peruvian scientist, who is well known as "the person who knows potatoes more than anybody in the world". He will be accompanied by potato specialists from Belgium, France, Germany, and The Netherlands.

The symposium is organized in four round tables which cover different fundamental and applied aspects of this plant with its social, geographic and economical impact, all around the world.

**I. - Native potatoes.**

**II. - Potato crop and the climatic changes.**

**III. - Potato production and the commercialization, transformation, innovation.**

**IV. - Solanaceae and the future.**

This symposium is organized by DISOP, under the auspices of FAO, IPBO-Gent, the Embassy of Peru, CRA-W, PUC and Belgapom.

It will be held at the Egmont Palace in Brussels, from 9 hrs. to 18 hrs., October 7, 2008.

You are warmly invited to participate in this forum; the registration fee of 75 Euros includes attendance to the expositions, coffee breaks, walking-lunch and special invitation for a reception after the closing of the Symposium.

The number of participants is limited. With your registration by telephone (+32 2 2302925) or by e-mail: [ana.perez@disop.be](mailto:ana.perez@disop.be), Bank N° 430-0836951-26 (IBAN: BE59 4300 8369 5126; BIC: KREDBEBB), with mention: **Potato symposium**. You will receive the documentation and the details of the program with the confirmation of your payment. Deadline for registration: September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

We hope this meeting sounds attractive to you all. Please feel free to forward this announcement to your collaborators or to anyone who might be interested in the meeting.

With my best regards,

Aimé F. Caekelbergh

President of the Organizing Committee

#### **Organizing Committee**

Aimé Caekelbergh  
Ana María Hinostroza  
Jean-Pierre Goffart  
Jean Kummert  
Leo Hendrix  
Jean-Pierre Lekeu  
Pedro Puig  
Marc Janssens

#### **Honour Committee**

Carlos Ochoa Nieves  
Marc van Montagu  
Jorge Valdez

#### **International Committee**

Jean-Eric Chauvin-France  
Anton Haverkort-The Netherlands  
Romain Cools-Belgium  
Roberto García-Spain  
Marc Janssens-Germany  
N.B. Lutaladio-Italy  
Eric Keuneman-Belgium  
Jean-Louis Rolot-Belgium  
Javier Romero-Peru

#### **Scientific Committee**

Ana María Hinostroza  
Jean-Pierre Goffart  
Jean-Pierre Lekeu  
Jean Kummert  
Marc Janssens  
Jean-Eric Chauvin  
Jean-Louis Rolot

## EDITORIAL

Dear EAPR members

This is the first issue of the EAPR Newsletter. Our main objective was to launch quickly this new instrument for improving communication between council, section chairman, country representatives and members.

I am sure that we will improve style, format and contents in the following newsletters with your suggestions and contributions.

For the moment we consider the following sections and contents for the EAPR Newsletter:

**- News from the Council**

*In this section council member will contribute periodically some news according to his assigned tasks*

**- News from the Editor of Potato research**

**- News from the Section Chairmen**

*All Section Chairmen are invited to contribute periodically with some section news.*

**- News from the Country representatives**

*All Country Representatives are invited to contribute periodically with some country news (Examples: country news with respect to the potato sector, activities in member recruitments, local relevant events, harvest forecasting, climatic disasters, ....)*

**- News from the Association Members**

*The newsletter should be interactive. So the members are also invited to post some news (Examples: presentation of new members, new appointments and nominations of members, passing away of members, local events, projects)*

**- Other News**

*(Examples: News from other potato organisations, relevant Project Calls, Funding Opportunities, Jobs, Scientific break throughs, Information on relevant Potato Projects, Press releases about EAPR, ...)*

**- Calendar of Events**

I am looking forward to a fruitful collaboration and particularly to your suggestions and numerous contributions.

Best Regards

Enrique Ritter

Editor of the EAPR Newsletter