



NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MUSHROOM SCIENCE

December 2007 Issue - No 107

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NEW EDITOR FOR 2008



I'm very pleased to announce that we've found a new Mushroom International Editor! Dr Krystian Szudyga, has agreed to take over for the February 2008 edition. Krystian is well known to many of you and has had a long and distinguished career as a mushroom researcher in Poland. He is currently the President of the Polish Mushroom Industry Association and is constantly involved in research, technical, and industry matters in Europe and elsewhere round the world.

I'm sure Krystian will introduce himself more fully in his first edition but the photo below gives you a picture of the man who will be informing us of future happenings in the mushroom world (and his celebrity status on Polish TV).

Being editor of a newsletter is a tough job so I'd appreciate if members would support Krystian by providing him with articles for publication and information requests from time to time.

Mushrooms International is the Newsletter of the International Society for Mushroom Science and is published 4 times a year. It aims to include news and views from around the world (concerning mushroom biology, business, trade and growing practices) and a list of forthcoming events. We welcome articles, news items and suggestions for topics of general interest to our readers.

Please send material for inclusion in Mushrooms International to

Greg Seymour
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Windsor NSW 2756
Australia
president@isms.biz

MEMBERSHIP:

The International Society for Mushroom Science (ISMS) has an open membership policy. Any individual person wishing to join should send a cheque for €45 (euros) to the Treasurer at the address on the last page.

The Society is not responsible for individual opinions expressed in Mushrooms International. Editorials do not necessarily express the views of ISMS Council.



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Seasons Greetings from the ISMS President



2007 has been a very busy year and 2008 is shaping up as an even busier one for the mushroom industry and ISMS. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and happy Christmas and an exciting and rewarding New Year. For those of you who have a holiday period, I trust you get to enjoy time with your families and recharge your personal batteries for the year ahead.

Cheers, Greg Seymour

ISMS Congress- May 2008

Things are coming together nicely for the 17th ISMS Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. This event will be the highlight for the mushroom industry internationally in 2008. Check out the details on the web at www.isms2008.co.za/ The committee has put together an exhilarating scientific program, a stimulating growers program, a comprehensive commercial exhibit, and a brilliant social program. This an event not to be missed so get it in your diary and register your attendance and accommodation as soon as you can to ensure you get the facilities your desire.

Mushrooms and Health Global Initiative

An exciting international collaborative project to communicate the health and well-being benefits of including mushrooms in your diet has commenced. A brief overview is included in a report of a presentation on the project at IMMC4 later in the newsletter.

Using science and scientists to assist in creating demand and increasing consumption of mushrooms is an exciting concept. ISMS has had an important role in bringing the major players from around the globe together to generate the necessary resources to make the project happen. The US, Australia, Canada, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Germany, Italy and Poland (via

GEPC) are the initial corporate partners with over a hundred scientists already on our communications register.

A more detailed project update will appear in the next edition of Mushrooms International. If anyone, or any business, would like to join the communications register after reading about the project in Mary Jo's summary, send an email to president@isms.biz and I'll forward it on to the project team.

Conference Summary – IMMC4, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The attached article has been kindly submitted by Mary Jo Feeney, the Operations Coordinator for the Mushrooms and Health Global Initiative who attended and presented at the recent International Medicinal Mushrooms Conference 4 in Slovenia.

This report is divided into two parts. Part one describes the open meeting “Mushrooms and Health Global PR Initiative – Increasing Mushroom Consumption Around the World” held Sunday, September 23 immediately prior to the conference. Part two identifies some of the key scientific presentations during the conference pertinent to the global initiative. [Click here to download a copy of the report.](#)

Scholarship Winners - 2008 Congress, Cape Town

ISMS is pleased to announce that the following scientists have been awarded scholarships to present their work at the XVII ISMS Congress to be held in Cape Town, South Africa in May, 2008. Congratulations to all of the winners and we look forward to their presentations at the Congress.

		NAME		Country	Document Title
1	FULL	Ivana Potocnik	MSc student	Serbia	Sensitivity of Verticillium fungicola var. fungicola, Mycogone perniciosa and Cladobotrym spp to fungicides in Serbia Poster
2	FULL	Olutayo Adedokun	PhD student	Nigeria	Degradation of crude oil by Pleurotus pulmonarius, Pleurotus tuber-regium and Lentinus squarrosulus
3	FULL	Alma Rodriguez	PhD student	Penn State	Nucleotide sequence polymorphisms of the partial B-tubulin gene in varieties of Pleurotus eryngii
4	FULL	Nazareth A. Siyoum	PhD student	SA	Microbial dynamics of different casing materials in the production of button mushrooms (Agaricus bisporus)
5	FULL	Lorant Hatvani	PhD student	Hungary	Pleurotus Green Mould Disease: A PCR-based Diagnostic Test for the Rapid Detection of the Causative Agents, Trichoderma Pleurotophilum and T. Fulvidum, and Its Use in Practice
6	REG ONLY	Susanna Badalyan	Prof	Armenia	Current Situation in Mushroom Growing Industry in Armenia. Paper
					New Pleurotus stains for local spawn production in Armenia Poster

Mushroom Cultivation in Ethiopia

A very big thanks to Dawit Abate for contributing an excellent article on mushroom cultivation in Ethiopia. Dawit is Associate Professor of Mycology at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

Mushroom cultivation is a very recent activity in Ethiopia. The first small scale mushroom farm, started in 1997 by the cultivation of the oyster (Pleurotus ostreatus) mushroom. Later, the button (Agaricus bisporus) followed by the shiitake (Lentinula edodes) mushroom were introduced to the local market. [Click here for a complete copy of the article.](#)

Scholarship Report - International Medicinal Mushroom Conference 4

ISMS provided several scholarships for young scientists to attend IMMC4 in Slovenia. The reports from three scholarship winners, Jelena Stosic, Lóránt Hatvani, and Petra Avanzo are included below to provide an insight into the value ISMS financial support has for the up and coming scientists that will underpin our industry in the future.

"My name is Jelena Stosic (ex Zivanovic). I am employed in the Institute for Biological Research "Sinisa Stankovic", Belgrade, Serbia. Thanks to your scholarship, I attended The 4th International Medicinal Mushroom Conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 23-27, 2007. I presented my study: "Modulation of neutrophilic inflammation in vivo by Coprinus comatus proteoglycans". My presentation was very successful. I had the opportunity to discuss with many great scientists who were interested in my work. They were also interested in our future cooperation. I think attendance at IMMC4 was very successful and useful for my present and future work. I would like to express my thankfulness to ISMS for grant which enabled my participation in IMMC4 and development of my professional career."

Also the following response from **Lóránt Hatvani**

Dear ISMS Committee, I am a third year Ph. D. student from Hungary, I am involved in studying Trichoderma isolates causing the green mould disease of cultivated Agaricus bisporus and Pleurotus ostreatus at Hungarian mushroom farms.

With the aid of the scholarship of ISMS I had the chance to attend the 4th International Medicinal Mushroom Conference held in Ljubljana, Slovenia between 23th and 27th September, 2007. Apart from having a good time in a beautiful ambience I heard several interesting presentations in connection with edible and medicinally important mushrooms and I have gained useful pieces of information. These will significantly contribute to writing my Ph. D. thesis, which I am preparing currently.

I had an oral and a poster presentation at the conference about the green mould disease of Pleurotus ostreatus, and I considered both of them as very successful. I have never experienced this scale of interest in my topic, I have got interesting questions, comments and suggestions. I have got acquainted with a lot of scientists from abroad resulting in new friendships and professional connections and we have planned some future cooperations.

I consider the conference as an important step of my scientific career and I honestly acknowledge the student grant I have been awarded by ISMS, since without this financial support I would have not had the chance to attend the event.

*Sincerely Yours,
Lóránt Hatvani
Szeged, Hungary
21st October 2007*

And finally the response from **Petra Avanzo**.

At first, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend the IMMC4 congress, that took place in Ljubljana, Slovenija. Over this five days I learned a lot about medicinal value and pharmacology of mushroom active compounds, about medicinal mushroom species, fungal physiology, biochemistry, genetics and about mycotechnology and mushroom cultivation. This scholarship has certainly been a great benefit to my scientific development. I also presented my work at the conference with a poster, »Isolation, characterization and cloning of CnSPI, a serine protease inhibitor from Clitocybe nebularis.

I also got to know new colleagues whose work is similar to mine. We discussed new aspects of improving certain scientific questions. Poster sessions and lectures have been very educative. I specially remember invited speakers who gave an interesting presentation on their research work. At poster sessions people got together and discussed our work in more details. On behalf of your financial support and my attendance at the congress my knowledge improved very much and I

am sure that will help me a lot with my future research work.

*Best regards,
Petra Avanzo
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