

ISPA participation during the European Conference of Precision Agriculture



The 14th European Conference on Precision Agriculture (ECPA) took place in Bologna during the week of July 2-6, 2023. Members of ISPA attended the conference and engaged with more than 400 participants that traveled to Bologna from Africa, Asia, South and North America, and of course Europe. During the conference opening session, Brenda Ortiz, current ISPA Board Secretary, gave introductory and welcome remarks highlighting the role of Precision Agriculture to increase crop productivity as well as to strengthen environmental sustainability. She emphasized the need to accelerate the innovation process and stressed that aspect as one of the biggest challenges for scientists and practitioners. She also highlighted the need to work together and build up on our strengths to produce solutions with people and for the people. Participants to the conference were invited to an ISPA business meeting on Monday, July 3rd, where Brenda Ortiz and ISPA Board Treasurer, Ruth Kerry, provided an update on the proposed changes in the ISPA Bylaws. Participants in the business meeting learned more about the increase in the number of ISPA country representatives and their roles, and the proposed expansion of the board of directors from 5 to 9 people including representatives from 5 regions of the world (Africa, Asia/Oceania, Europe, Latin American and the Caribbean, North America).





Those who stopped by the ISPA booth got information regarding the benefits of becoming an ISPA member, the upcoming 16th ICPA 21-24 July 2024 in Manhattan, KS, the role of country representatives, and more. ISPA T-shirts with the new ISPA logo were displayed as well and ECPA participants who renewed their ISPA membership or became new members received a free T-shirt. ISPA country representatives also received a T-shirt. We want to acknowledge the support of the Valmont company, manufacturer of the Valley[®], for sponsoring the T-shirts.



During the closing ECPA ceremony, awards for the best Oral and Poster presentations were announced. The three winners received a 1-yr free ISPA membership and a T-shirt with our new logo. Before departure, Brenda Ortiz invited everyone to submit abstracts and attend the 16th ICPA 21-24 July 2024 in Manhattan, KS.

Pictured from left to right: Simon Futerman, from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, one of the winners of the best Oral presentation at the ECPA conference; Brenda V. Ortiz, ISPA Board Secretary; and Simon's PhD mentor, Yafit Cohen from the Volcani Institute, Rishon Le'Zion, Israel.

