

# ISPA Newsletter 13(4): ISPA Website Update, Board Treasurer, Jobs, Events and More

Apr 30, 2025



International Society of Precision Agriculture

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



### Updates to the ISPA Website

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the updated ISPA website!

Designed with our members in mind, our modernized site offers a smoother, more dynamic experience for everyone who visits.

Explore the new ISPA online experience today at [ispag.org](https://ispag.org).

### ISPA Board Treasurer



Congratulations to Dr. Leonardo Bastos, who has been elected to the role of ISPA Board Treasurer by a vote from the ISPA Membership.

Dr. Bastos Bio:

I am an Assistant Professor in Integrative Precision Agriculture in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at the University of Georgia and have dedicated my career to exploring agronomically sustainable solutions that optimize farm output while minimizing environmental impacts. My research program focuses on proximal and remote sensor-based plant vigor assessment and variable rate fertilizer and plant growth regulator recommendation, and regional to country-scale environmental

characterization of crop response using open-source weather and soils data, machine learning, and statistical programming. I teach two courses per year related to using statistical programming languages to collect, analyze, and develop precision agriculture workflows; and on data science and statistical programming applications in agriculture that include experimental design and machine learning. I make all my teaching material open-source and freely available on YouTube and GitHub.

To learn more about Dr. Bastos and the ISPA Board, please visit: [ispag.org/about/leadership](http://ispag.org/about/leadership)

## Industry Opportunities on Halo Related Agriculture

**Cargill:** [Physical segregation of whole cocoa bean fractions](#)

Cargill is looking for a process and/or equipment capable of segregating cocoa bean fractions - nibs, shells, and fines. Up to \$100,000 USD in funding is available. The deadline to apply for this partnership opportunity is May 31st. [You can read more about the project call here.](#)

**General Mills:** [Monitoring popcorn kernel moisture content](#)

General Mills is looking for innovative solutions that enable accurate, in-silo assessment of popcorn kernel moisture content to determine the optimal timing for dispatch to manufacturing. The deadline to apply for this partnership opportunity is May 31st. [You can read more about the project call here.](#)

## ISPA Country Representative - Siva K. Balasundram

# ***Dr. Siva K. Balasundram*** ***ISPA Malaysia Representative***

Dr. Siva K Balasundram is the ISPA Country Representative for Malaysia. Dr. Balasundram is the Professor of Precision Agriculture at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and currently heads the Department of Agriculture Technology, UPM. Recently, Siva led the organizing team of the 10th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture (ACPA10), held on October of 2023 in Putrajaya, Malaysia.



**Siva K. Balasundram**



[ispag.org/Leadership/CountryRep/Israel](https://ispag.org/Leadership/CountryRep/Israel)

#ISPAg

Country Representatives serve to help promote ISPA by championing the ISPA mission and purpose globally, in particular, in the country they represent. ISPA is growing internationally so Country Representatives remain an important position to help ISPA best serve people, groups, governments and others, globally connecting them to science and experts.

Please join us in thanking ISPA Country Representative from the Malaysia, Dr. Siva K. Balasundram.

If you are interested in becoming a Country Representative, please email [info@ispag.org](mailto:info@ispag.org) with your bio highlighting your experience in precision agriculture and your CV. ISPA requires that all Country Representatives are current members of the society. To become a member, please complete the [membership form](#).

[View Country Representatives](#)

## **Upcoming Events**

**13-16 JUL 2026**

17th International Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 11th Brazilian Congress on Precision Agriculture

Porto Alegre, Brazil

[ispag.org/icpa/conference](http://ispag.org/icpa/conference)

**3-5 AUG 2026**

2026 Nitrogen Use Efficiency(NUE) Meeting

TBD

[ispag.org/event\\_details](http://ispag.org/event_details)

**10-14 AUG 2026**

Cows & Code - The Intensive School in Sensors and Data Analytics for Livestock Researchers

Oklahoma State University campus, Stillwater, Oklahoma

[itlecs.okstate.edu/oldis/livestocksensor.vbhtml](http://itlecs.okstate.edu/oldis/livestocksensor.vbhtml)

**1-3 DEC 2026**

4th African Conference on Precision Agriculture

Cairo, Egypt

[paafrica.org](http://paafrica.org)

**11-15 JUL 2027**

16th European Conference on Precision Agriculture

Copenhagen, Denmark

[ispag.org/Events/ECPA](http://ispag.org/Events/ECPA)

**15-18 SEP 2027**

12th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture

Kobe, Japan

[smartconf.jp/content/acpa12/](http://smartconf.jp/content/acpa12/)

**16-19 JUL 2028**

18th International Conference on Precision Agriculture

Athens, Georgia USA

Save the date

[See the ISPA website for a complete list of events.](#)

Do you have an event that would be of interest to our members? [Send us an email to let us know.](#)

## Jobs Listing

[Graduate Research Assistant \(MS\) - Agricultural and Biological Engineering](#) - Mississippi State University

[Assistant Professor in Horticulture - Department of Botany and Plant Sciences](#) - University of California, Riverside

[Graduate Research Assistant \(Ph.D.\) position in Precision Water Management](#) - University of Missouri-Columbia

Do you have a job you would like to post to the ISPA website? Please send your job announcement, a short description, and the deadline for applications to [info@ispag.org](mailto:info@ispag.org)

## Stay Up To Date with ISPA on Social Media!

Be sure to follow ISPA on X and LinkedIn to stay up to date with what the society has to offer. If you're posting about precision agriculture and would like to reach our international community, please add **#ispag** to your post.



**SPAM EMAIL NOTICE:** ISPA does not sell your information. If you receive an email indicating that your information has been sold, this is spam. Please be diligent about spammers, if you would like to double check the validity of an email, please reach out to [info@ispag.org](mailto:info@ispag.org).

### Precision Agriculture Definition

Precision Agriculture is a management strategy that gathers, processes and analyzes temporal, spatial and individual plant and animal data and combines it with other information to support management decisions according to estimated variability for improved resource use efficiency, productivity, quality, profitability and sustainability of agricultural production.

The International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA) is a non-profit professional scientific organization.  
The mission of ISPA is to advance the science of precision agriculture globally.

Contact [newsletter@ispag.org](mailto:newsletter@ispag.org) to suggest content for future newsletters or visit [www.ispag.org](http://www.ispag.org) for more about the Society