ISPA Newsletter 12(3): 16th ICPA, Update on PA in Japan, ISPA Economics Community, Upcoming Events, Jobs, and more

Mar 27, 2024



16th ICPA Sponsorship

Thank you to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for sponsoring the 16th International Conference on Precision Agriculture

The University of Nebraska is the named sponsor of the Outstanding Graduate Student Awards and will be at booths #19 and #48. Be sure to stop by during the conference!

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln was chartered as a land-grant university on February 15, 1869, to create opportunity for the state of Nebraska. A proud member of the Big Ten Conference, the Big Ten Academic Alliance, and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), Nebraska is classified within the Carnegie "R1: Doctoral Universities – Highest Research Activity" category. The university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Learn more about Sponsorship Opportunities and the 16th ICPA Sponsors.



Welcome from Kansas State University



Prof. Raj Khosla, Founder & Founding President, International Society of Precision Agriculture

Dear Precision Agriculture community:

I want to be among the first ones to welcome you to Kansas State University in Manhattan KS, USA. We are excited to be hosting the 16th ICPA conference in Manhattan, Kansas and are looking forward to having you next week with us. Although summers are hot and humid in Kansas, we are anticipating nice weather during the conference ranging from daytime high of 88oF (or 31oC) and night-time low temperatures in the mid-60oF (or ~17oC) with afternoon scattered thunderstorm and showers. You may consider bringing adequate sunscreen for your outdoor activities.

We are looking forward to over 400 oral and poster presentations. Particularly exciting are the opportunities for graduate students who are presenting their research as a poster presentation. There are five categories of Student Poster Awards with three (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) awards in each category. Come prepared to exhibit your best science, participate in scientific discourse, interact with your peers, and catch up with colleagues and friends whom you have not seen in the last couple of years.

As always, should you need assistance with topics related to the conference or logistics, etc., please drop us a note at email: info@ispag.org. Looking forward to meeting and greeting each one of you next week. Wish you all the very best and safe travels!

Prof. Raj Khosla
Founder & Founding President
International Society of Precision Agriculture

Professor of Precision Agriculture and Head of Agronomy Department
Kansas State University https://www.agronomy.k-state.edu/about/department-head/khosla-raj/

ISPA Country Representative - Sun-ok Chung



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 Republic of Korea, Sun-ok Chung.

If you are interested in becoming a Country Representative, please email 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

ISPA Economics Community - Call for Nominations

We are very much looking forward to the 2024 ICPA (16th) and encourage ISPA members to attend the conference and become part of the ISPA Economics Community. During the ICPA 2024 Economics Community meeting Marius Michels, the incumbent Deputy Economics Community Leader, will take over from Karl Behrendt.

Call for Nominations – Deputy Economics Community Leader
The ISPA Economics Community is now calling for nominations to take up the position of Deputy Economics Community Leader. The role would begin post-ICPA with the successful nominee becoming the Economics Community Leader from the 17th ICPA for a period of 2 years.

If you would like to nominate yourself or a colleague, please email Karl Behrendt, ISPA Economics Community Leader (kbehrendt@harper-adams.ac.uk) or Marius Michels, ISPA Economics Community Deputy Leader (marius.michels@agr.uni-goettingen.de) a short bio for consideration by the broader economics community. **Nominations should be sent by 31st May 2024.**

Advancements in Precision Agriculture: A Look at Japan's Current Landscape

By Japan's ISPA Country Representative, Dr. Eiji Morimoto (morimoto@gold.kobe-u.ac.jp)



In a stride towards modernizing agriculture, Japan is actively pursuing precision farming initiatives. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) has taken the lead in fostering the integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies. Through subsidies extended to agricultural machinery manufacturers and start-ups, MAFF aims to address challenges in cultivation management and promote automation with IoT.

Kobe University stands at the forefront of this technological revolution, steering its focus towards farmer-centric precision agriculture. Embracing the philosophy of on-farm experimentation, the university is making significant strides in

the development of cutting-edge technologies. These include advancements in collecting field information through soil and growth sensors, coupled with mapping and analysis technologies tailored for a diverse range of crops – from rice paddies to orchard.



In a collaborative effort, Morimoto laboratory has joined forces with start-up leaders such as Agrist, recipient of the CES 2023 Innovation Award-winning sweet pepper harvesting robot, as well as renowned domestic manufacturers like Kubota, Iseki, and Topcon. This collaboration aims to seamlessly integrate innovative technologies into mainstream agricultural practices.



Beyond mere robotization, Kobe University envisions the creation of a connected world where a field information layer, finely attuned to the nuances of agriculture, can provide valuable feedback to producers. This strategic alliance between academia, start-ups, and established manufacturers is propelling Japan towards a future where precision agriculture becomes a cornerstone of sustainable and efficient farming practices.

Morimoto Laboratory Kobe University: kuid-rm-web.ofc.kobe-

u.ac.jp/profile/en.cdc50314fa69d688520e17560c007669.html
Agrist: agrist.com/about-agrist-english
Kubota: www.kubotausa.com/kubota-group-solutions-hub/article-detail/innovation-hub/2023/11/09/smart-agriculture
Iseki: www.iseki.co.jp/global/english/products/rice_transplanter/pr-prj/
Topcon: tap.topconagriculture.com/

What to Expect at the 16th ICPA

The interest and excitement about the upcoming 16th ICPA Conference (www.ispag.org/icpa) scheduled for this coming 21-24 July 2024 in Manhattan, Kansas is huge. Precision Agriculture (PA) practitioners, researchers, students, the private industry, and professionals from government agencies have shown interest in the conference by submitting over 450 abstracts to the conference program. The 16th ICPA organizing committee accepted over 320 abstracts for the Oral Program and over 120 abstracts have been accepted to the Poster Program. Did you accidentally miss the abstract deadline? The conference organizers will continue to review poster abstracts submitted before 15 May. Submit your poster abstract here: www.ispag.org/abstracts

The 16th ICPA program will cover a wide range of PA topics. Among the most popular abstract topics are Proximal and Remote Sensing of Soils and Crops (including Phenotyping) with 60 abstracts, and Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture, with 48 abstracts. Other topics with a high number of submissions include In-Season Nitrogen Management, Drivers and Barriers to Adoption of PA Technologies or Digital Agriculture, On-Farm Experimentation with Site-Specific Technologies, Precision Agriculture for Sustainability and Environmental Protection, Robotics and Automation with Row and Horticultural Crops, and Drone Spraying (Figure 1). For a full list of conference topics and to see the general program outline, please visit: www.ispag.org/icpa/Program/Outline.

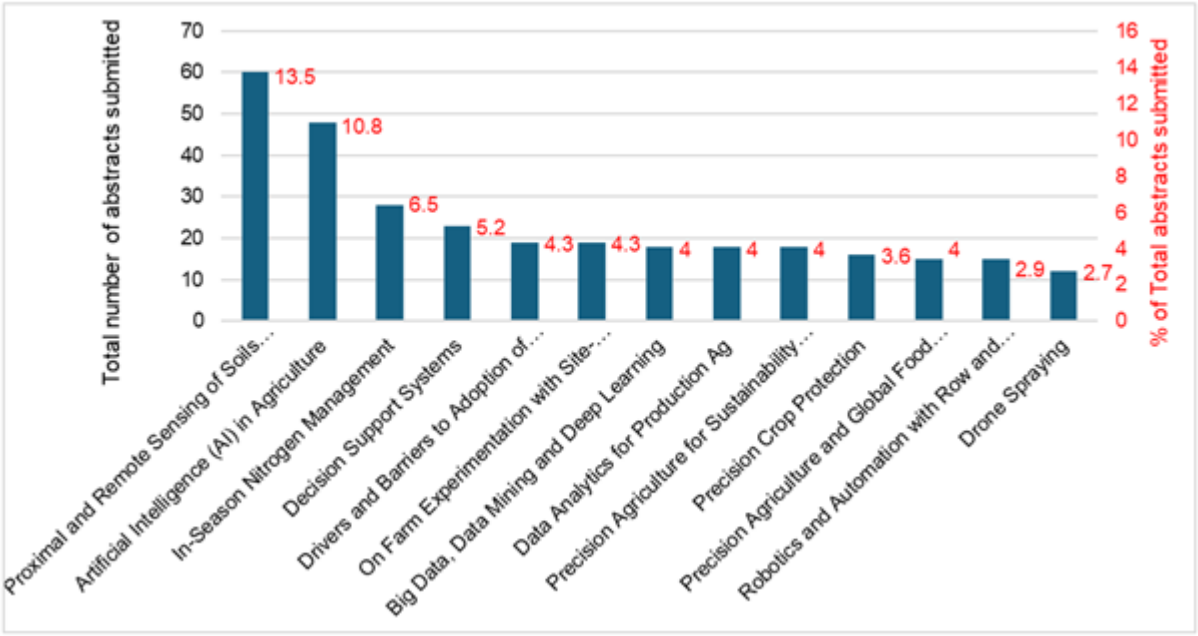


Figure 1. Most popular abstract topics submitted to the 16th ICPA Conference.

The 16th ICPA will be a truly global event with abstract submissions from 46 countries. We will have representation from North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia.

In addition to the Oral and Poster Sessions, on Monday 22 July, the International Symposium on Robotics and Automation will run concurrently with the 16th ICPA. The Symposium speakers represent experts from academia, industry, and stakeholder groups from the USA and Europe. To learn more about the Symposium, please visit: www.ispag.org/Events/R_A_Symposium/Speakers.

Don't miss the opportunity to get an update on Precision Agriculture applications around the world. If you work on Robotics and Automation, we are especially interested in seeing your poster abstract. Please submit your abstract by 15 May. Register to attend the conference now at www.ispag.org/ICPA/RegistrationLanding.

16th International Conference on Precision Agriculture



Travel	Sponsorships	Registration
Whether you are arriving at Manhattan Regional Airport or Kansas City International Airport, make your way to Manhattan, Kansas USA this July for the 16th ICPA. Learn more about Hotel and Travel Information here.	**The 16th ICPA is a great opportunity for you and your company to gain exposure and grow your influence in the global precision agriculture market.** Please visit our website to learn more about our sponsorship packages.	**Register today for the 16th ICPA! The conference offers Full Conference, Student Registration, and One-Day Registration rates.** See the full list of registration rate options and conference add-ons including workshops and post-conference tour here.

Upcoming Events

25-27 FEB 2025
GIS & Drone Applications in Agriculture Conference

29 JUN - 3 JUL 2025
15th European Conference on Precision Agriculture
Barcelona, Spain
ecpa2025.upc.edu/

22-31 AUG 2025
XXXII ISSCT Centennial Congress
Cali, Colombia
issctcennial.com/

14-16 OCT 2025
11th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture

Chiayi, Taiwan
ispag.org/Events/ACPA

2-4 FEB 2026
International Crop Modeling Symposium (iCROPM2026)
Florence, Italy

Week of 13 JUL 2026
17th International Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 11th Brazilian Congress on Precision Agriculture
Porto Alegre, Brazil
ispag.org/icpa

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

- Postdoc in Digital Agronomy for Climate Resilient Perennial Agriculture
- Tenure Track Assistant Professor in soil spectroscopy at Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University
- Assistant or Associate Professor of Extension Soil Management - University of Kentucky - Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
- Precision Agriculture Technologies Extension Specialist - University of Tennessee - Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
- Assistant Professor (Extension) - Mississippi State University - The Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering
- University of Georgia - Assistant Professor - Extension Specialist Precision Agriculture Systems

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

Contribute to the ISPA Newsletter

Do you have a precision ag event, project, or news article that our members would be interested in? Please let us know. We post events, job opportunities, and news from members from around the globe. Email info@ispag.org or use the handy online form to submit your contribution.

Stay Up To Date with ISPA on Social Media!

Be sure to follow ISPA on Twitter and LinkedIn to remain 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.

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 to suggest content for future newsletters or visit www.ispag.org for more about the Society.