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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEAT SOCIETY

The International Peat Society (IPS) is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization of scientific, industrial and regulatory stakeholders. It is dedicated to fostering the advancement, exchange and communication of scientific, technical and social knowledge and understanding for the wise use of peatlands and peat.

/// International Peat Congress 2008 in Tullamore: Deadline for Early Registration 31 March

We would like to remind all members that the deadline for early registration for the International Peat Congress 2008 is 31 March. The Congress is held in Tullamore, Ireland, 8-13 June. So far over 300 delegates are registered. Work is progressing well on completing the papers, and the Organizing Committee looks forward to a most interesting week.

You can register here: <http://www.ipcireland2008.com/registration.html>

/// The IPS to run International Certification System for Sustainable Management of Peatlands and Peat

The IPS Executive Board (EB) has decided that the IPS will consider the creation and management of an International Certification System for the sustainable management of peatlands and peat. The decision was made at the IPS EB meeting of 15th March. The Secretariat will prepare a project plan with the help of consultants by the end of April after which the plan will be presented to the IPS EB. Once considered, and if accepted, by the IPS EB the plan will be presented at the International Peat Congress 2008 in Tullamore in June. The system is targeted to be ready by the end of the year 2009.

/// Nominations for IPS Commission Chairs

IPS members are invited to make nominations for IPS Commission Chairs. The nominations must be supported by at least two IPS members. Therefore the nominations can be done also by National Committees or Commissions themselves. Please send your nominations with a letter of proposal and CV to the IPS Secretariat so that they can be received latest by 4 June 2008. After that nominations can be given straight to Secretary General in the International Peat Congress 2008 in Tullamore latest by Wednesday morning 11 June. This timetable allows also Commissions to handle the issue and make nominations in their meetings Tuesday 10th of June. The Executive Board appoints the Chairperson of each Commission in its meeting during the Congress.

For more information visit the IPS website: <http://www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=229>

/// New Book: ISHS Acta Horticulturae Number 779 - Proceedings of the International Symposium on Growing Media in Angers, France, in September 2005

The proceedings of the International Symposium on Growing Media have been published in a book in January 2008. The event was held in Angers, France, in September 2005, organized by the National Institute of Horticulture (INH) and the National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA), joined by the working group HOPE (Horticultural Use of Peat) of the International Peat Society (IPS). The book contains 89 articles on 700 pages, among others dealing with the topics of wise use of peat in horticulture, materials other than peat, methods of analysis and growing system management. A table of contents and order information can be found on the ISHS-website <http://www.actahort.org/books/779/>.

/// Peatlands International 1/2008

The next issue of Peatlands International, the member magazine of IPS, will be sent to all members and also distributed at the International Peat Congress in June 2008.

/// Film: Peatland Loss and Climate Change

Wetlands International produced a film about peatland loss and climate change. The film highlights the work of the Central Kalimantan Peatland Project. It was shown at the UN summit in Bali and will also be shown at the Convention on Biodiversity in Bonn, May 2008.

(Source: Wetlands International Global Newsletter - 12 March 2008, the movie can be watched at <http://www.wetlands.org/publication.aspx?ID=8d9009f5-9890-4d4f-9ab0-a39871e1867d>)

/// After the Bali Summit

The Bali Climate Summit was rather successful in addressing the links between wetlands and climate change. Wetlands International keeps on working to show the importance of wetlands for reducing climate change and for adapting to the impacts of climate change. We submitted our views to UN-FCCC influence the next steps in line with the Bali Action Plan.

(Source: Wetlands International Global Newsletter - 12 March 2008, [Link](#))

/// Upcoming IPS events

- **DGMT-Seminar and Excursion: Mires and Peat**, Zeven, Germany, 18 - 19 April 2008
More info in German: <http://www.dgmtev.de/veranstaltungen.html>
- **Symposium: Conservation of Mires in Forests**, Lübben, Germany, 22 -23 May 2008
More info in German: <http://www.dgmtev.de/veranstaltungen.html>
- **DGMT-Seminar and Excursion: Mires and Peat**, Zeven, Germany, 19 - 20 September 2008, More info in German: <http://www.dgmtev.de/veranstaltungen.html>
- **13th International Peat Congress: After Wise Use - The Future of Peatlands**
Tullamore, Ireland, 8 - 14 June 2008, More info: www.ipcireland2008.com
- **IPS Executive Board Meeting No. 40**, Tullamore, Ireland, 8 June 2008
- **Scientific Advisory Board Meeting No. 8**, Tullamore, Ireland, 8 June 2008
- **IPS Executive Board Meeting No. 41**, Tullamore, Ireland, during Congress, June 2008
- **IPS-IMCG Meeting**, Tullamore, Ireland, 10, 12 and 13 June 2008
- **General Assembly & Annual Assembly No. 12**, Tullamore, Ireland, 13 June 2008
- **IPS Executive Board Meeting No. 42**, Tullamore, Ireland, 13 June 2008
- **RAMSAR COP 10**, 28 October - 4 November 2008

/// Other events

- **Bois Energie 2008 Exhibition**
Saunier, France, 3 - 6 April 2008, More info: www.boisenergie.com
- **Hortiflorexpo**
Beijing, China, 9 - 12 April 2008, More info: www.hortiflorexpo.com
- **Flowers and HorTech Ukraine 2008**
Kiev, Ukraine, 15 -17 April 2008, Email to: info@bto-exhibitions.nl
- **10th International Symposium on Flower Bulbs and Herbaceous Perennials**
Lisse, The Netherlands, 20 - 24 April 2008, More info: www.isfbp2008.wur.nl
- **Flora Olomouc Spring Season, International Horticulture Exhibition and Fair**
Olomouc, Czech Republic, 20 - 27 April 2008, Mail to: info@flora-ol-cz
- **IMCG Symposium on Windfarms on peatland**
Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 27 April - 2 May 2008
More info: <http://wfps.environmentalchange.net/>

- **International Symposium on Plants for People and Places**
London, United Kingdom, 27 April - 7 May 2008
More info: www.plantsforpeopleandplaces.org
- **First International Symposium on Woody Ornamentals of the Temperate Zone**
Pruhonice (near Prague), Czech Republic, 26 - 30 May 2008
More info: www.woodyornamentals.cz
- **World Biofuels Forum 2008**
Prague, Czech Republic, 9 - 11 June 2008, More info: www.wbfevent.com
- **Flower Trials of pot plants and breeding plants**
Aalsmeer and Westland Region, The Netherlands, 11 - 13 June 2008
More info: www.flowertrials.nl
- **Euro Trials of bedding and balcony novelties**
Germany and The Netherlands, 11 - 13 June 2008, More info: www.euro-trials.com
- **IX International Symposium on Postharvest of Ornamentals**
Aarhus, Denmark, 11 -14 August 2008, More info: www.postharvestsymposium.dk
- **International Symposium and Workshop on Tropical Peatland (Kuching 2008)**
Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 19 - 22 August 2008
More info: www.frst.unimas.my/iswtp_kch08
- **Flora Olomouc Summer Season, International Horticulture Exhibition and Fair**
Olomouc, Czech Republic, 21 - 24 August 2008, Mail to: info@flora-ol-cz
- **International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG)
Excursion, Scientific Symposium and General Assembly**
Georgia/Armenia, 27 August - 11 September 2008, More info: www.imcg.net
- **Flowers 2008**
Moscow, Russia, 28 - 30 August 2008, More info: www.hpp.nl
- **4th International Flora Expo 2008 and 3rd International Landscape Expo 2008 new!**
Pragati Maidan, New Dehli, 14 - 16 September 2008, More info: www.floraexpo.com
- **Glee 2008**, Birmingham, United Kingdom, 21 - 23 September 2008
More info: www.gleebirmingham.com
- **FlorEquador, Agriflor 2008**
Quito, Ecuador, 24 - 27 September 2008, More info: www.hpp.nl
- **International Horti Fair**
Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 14 - 17 October 2008, More info: www.hortifair.nl
- **EnergiaForum 2008**
Tampere, Finland, 28 - 30 October 2008, More info: www.energia.fi
- **"Healthy Wetlands, Healthy People": 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands**
Changwon, Republic of Korea, 28 October - 4 November 2008
More info: http://www.ramsar.org/cop10/cop10_doc01_e.htm
- **International Flower Expo Tokyo (IFEX)**
Tokyo, Japan, 30 October - 1 November 2008, More info: www.ifex.jp/english

For further upcoming peat-related events please visit <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=77>