

PEAT NEWS



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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.

/// **IPS Convention in Warsaw**

This spring's IPS Convention will be held in Warsaw, Poland. It will include meetings of the Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board on **8 May 2005** and the Annual Assembly of National Representatives and a meeting of Commission II on **9 May 2005**. For Monday morning, a round table discussion of National Representatives is scheduled, the aim being to promote personal communication and to exchange ideas. Invitations and further details will be distributed in week 13.

/// **Competition for International Peat Congress 2012**

Who would like to host the 14th International Peat Congress in 2012? So far, all options are still open to present your country, peatlands, peat research and the peat industry to a large audience. If your company or organisation is interested, please contact your National Committee chair. All IPS National Committees are invited to submit their offers to the IPS Executive Board by **31 July 2005**. The bid should include a proposal for the congress venue, the theme and content structure of the event, a draft budget as well as nominations for the position of IPS First Vice President 2008-2012 (President 2012-2016). Recent Congresses were held in Finland, Canada, Germany and Sweden.

/// **Peatlands International on "Wise Use of Peat in Horticulture"**

Please remember to announce your contributions for Peatlands International 1/2005 to the IPS Secretariat as soon as possible, so that we can plan the content of the magazine. Articles, photos and news items can be submitted until **30 April 2005**. The coming issue of the magazine is dedicated to "Wise Use of Peat in Horticulture" and will be published in July/August. It will also be distributed to all participants of the "International Conference on Growing Media" in Angers, France on 4 - 10 September. For advertisement bookings until **30 March**, we offer a **discount of 10%** on the regular prices (e.g. colour A4 €576). The Media Kit 2005 is posted at www.peatsociety.fi/publica/pi.htm.

/// **Revised DIN Standard for Peat**

The revised edition of the German Standard DIN 11540 has now been published and can be ordered from the printing company Beuth-Verlag GmbH at www.beuth.de. The April 2005 edition of the DIN 11540 entitled "Torfe und Torfprodukte für den Gartenbau und Garten- und Landschaftsbau - Prüfverfahren, Eigenschaften, Technische Lieferbedingungen" (Peats and peat products for horticulture and landscape gardening - Test methods, properties, specifications) replaces the previous DIN 11540 dated April 1989. This 25 page DIN Standard was revised because the previous standard had to be withdrawn due to the implementation of various EN standards, which replace some of the contents of the previous edition. The revised DIN 11540 now contains a

number of new tables with guide values for horticultural peat based on the European Standards. There is also a new section on the determination of the botanical composition of peats.

/// **Klasmann-Deilmann - Substrates from Ireland**

The Klasmann-Deilmann Group has opened a new production plant in Ireland. At this site, the subsidiary Midland Irish Peat Moss Ltd. has been producing growing media for commercial horticulture since early this year. The Irish product range is to be marketed locally initially, and in the British and southern European markets as well as in selected regions overseas. For more details, please visit <http://pp.uni-x.de/klasmann2/presseedaten/main.php?sprache=GB&id=152>. The Klasmann-Deilmann Group is a producer and marketer of growing media based in Germany.

/// **Intensive Course on Wetland Water Management in Poland**

On **19 - 26 June 2005**, the “Second Intensive Course on Wetland Water Management” will be held in the Biebrza National Park in Poland. The course, which is organized within the “Center of Excellence in Wetland Hydrology – Wethydro” project framework, is mainly addressed to young professionals. Its aim is to research and present the role of water management in the preservation and/or restoration of wetland ecosystems. The course includes field trips to the Biebrza National Park, lectures, seminars and practical exercises. The Wethydro project is able to cover the travel and accommodation expenses of 20 participants from certain European countries. Applications can be sent to m.gielczewski@levis.sggw.waw.pl until **8 April 2005**. More information on the course and an application form is available at <http://levis.sggw.waw.pl/wethydro>.

/// **Soil Science Conference in Malaysia**

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science together with the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia holds the annual Soil Science Conference of Malaysia, SOILS 2005 in Kedah, Malaysia on **12 – 14 April 2005**. The conference will cover current issues, such as land use planning, large-scale crop production, agroforestry and integration of plantation crops with livestock. The post-conference tour will take the participants to Kota Kuala Muda, an area heavily affected by the recent tsunami, including visits to a fishing town and to the mangrove ecosystems. More info: www.e-msss.com.

/// **Balneology Conference in Hungary**

An International Balneology Conference will be held in Szeged, Hungary on **1 - 2 April 2005**. The event is being organized by the International Society of Medical Hydrology in cooperation with a number of European and international bodies. The programme includes the 3rd Hungarian-Turkish Balneological Symposium, presentations on medical tourism as well as a travel exhibition, and several round table discussions. Further information: www.congresstravel.hu/congress/balneo.

/// **Organic Soil Conference in Poland**

The IPS Polish National Committee in cooperation with IPS Commissions III and IV is holding a Scientific Conference and Workshop on “Physical and Chemical Properties of Organic Soils” in Rajjgrod and Biebrza, Poland on **27 - 30 June 2005**. We will keep you informed on this event. Please contact andrzej.lachacz@uwm.edu.pl for more details.

/// **ICID 21st European Regional Conference 2005**

The Tentative Scientific Programme of the conference on “Integrated Land and Water Resources Management: Towards Sustainable Rural Development” of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) on **15 – 19 May 2005** can now be found at www.erc2005.org.