The next Session of the IOBC General Assembly will be held in Washington, DC, USA, in conjunction with the 15th International Congress of Entomology, August 1976. The agenda of the session will be communicated at a later stage. Amendments to the statutes have been proposed, either by the Council or by Regional Sections, and IOBC members. The General Assembly will elect for a term of four years (1976–1980) the President, the two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Secretary-General. The slate of candidates has been submitted to the IOBC members for consideration at least four months before the General Assembly (Art. XIV of the statutes).

The Secretary-General

XV International Congress of Entomology

The 15th International Congress of Entomology will be held in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., August 19–27, 1976, under the sponsorship of the National Academy of Sciences and the Entomological Society of America. Sessions will be held in the excellent meeting facilities of the Washington Hilton Hotel. Special events are being planned at national scientific and cultural centers. Two international airports near Washington give direct access from abroad. University housing will be available in addition to hotel facilities.

The Organizing Committee for the Congress is composed of Curtis W. Soderby (Chairman and President of the Congress), Ernest A. Ray (Secretary-General), Wallace E. Moordrecht (Treasurer), William G. Eden, Candidate Decker, E.P. Knippling, Robert L. Mostall, John V. Dransfield, Ray A. Smith and Edward O. Wilson, all from the United States.

The program will emphasize plenary symposia, invited speakers, specialized symposia and group sessions, and special interest groups or informal workshops. Theme program sections cover Systematics, Cytogenetics, Physiology and Biochemistry, Taxonomy, Ecology, Behavior, Social Insects and Agriculture, Biological Control, Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Agriculture Entomology and Pest Management, Forest Entomology, Stored Products and Structural Insects, and Pesticides Development, Management and Regulation.

If you are interested in receiving future information, including registration forms, please send a postcard with your name and address, typed or in block letters, and also the section of your major interest, to:

Dr. Earl A. Ray, Secretary General
XV International Congress of Entomology
P.O. Box 131
College Park, MD 20740
USA

IOBC Co-sponsorship

The International Organization for Biological Control will co-sponsor certain plenary and sectional symposia at this XV International Congress of Entomology. Details should be available by the time of our next newsletter.

ENTOMOPHAGA

WHRS subscribers to Entomophaga will notice a change in the manner of distribution of the journal. By agreement with the publisher in Paris, Dr. George Allen, Treasurer of ICBF-WHRS, has arranged to have bulk shipments of each issue forwarded to the office at the University of Florida where they will be processed and mailed to WHRS members. It is felt that this new procedure, when established, will result in much improved service to WHRS subscribers.

International Union of Biological Sciences

The 1975 Executive Committee meeting of IUBS will take place at the Secretariat in Paris on 24 September 1975 to conduct the affairs of the Union and make preparations for the 1976 General Assembly and elections. It will also discuss the Union’s policy for grants and awards and examine requests for subscriptions received this year. National Committees and scientific member bodies may send a representative as an observer at their own expense. Such representatives have no voting rights. Full names and addresses of representatives should reach the Secretariat no later than 1 August 1975.

Interest of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in Biological Control

It is of interest to all of us that UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) has shown a keen interest in fostering biological control and other alternatives to chemicals for pest control on a worldwide basis. Problem areas that they have already oriented are: cotton, maize and ecosystems. Other areas may be included later. The possible patterns of UNEP encouragement you support me to be developed. They will hold a joint UNEP/FAO Meeting on Biological Control in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on October 13-18, 1975. Carl Furlong has been engaged as a consultant on short-term assignments with UNEP to assist at certain conferences and in the program’s development. Currently, an effort is being made to secure ICSU support to assess the feasibility of developing from current systems of information storage and retrieval a practical information system for biological and integrated control, if it is feasible, to accommodate the additional needs for developing an adequate system.
The Second General Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences took place in Tel Aviv, 24-28 May 1976. Major achievements of the Conference included the adoption of a five-year programme of activity, the creation of the offices of Country Representatives, and the adoption of several far-reaching recommendations of the theme of the Conference: Making Agricultural Research More Meaningful to the Farmer.

The new officers elected are:

Mr. L. A. Sager
I.S.R.A.
I.B. 196
Danek, Senegal

Vice-President

Mr. P. J. E. Nord, M. Abdul Alshor
Ministry of Agriculture
Khartoum, Sudan

Honorary Secretary General

Mr. H. M. El-Taweel
Ministry of Agriculture
P. 112
Khartoum, Sudan

Honorary Treasurer

Dr. R. S. Agegnehu
Univ Bahir Sera
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Dr. Lawrence C. Oloons, P. O. Box 30106 M.A.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Administrative Secretary).

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF WEEDS

(A) IV International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds

The International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds will be held on the campus of the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA, August 30 to September 2, 1976.

President: William L. Hogue, President

Chairman: F. C. Wiemken, Chairman

IV International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds

Department of Plant Pathology
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32601 USA

(B) Biological Control of Cannabis Thistle (Cardium arvense L.)

Cannabis arvense, a gregarious weed, has been cleared for release in Canada in the summer of 1974. During July and August, 300 tillers and 600 stems were planted in paddocks near the town of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The tillers were planted at a rate of 3 plants per meter along a 3 meter strip in Sault Ste. Marie area. The tillers have been able to grow without interference from other weeds.

(C) Expansion of Biological Control Programme

The Division of Entomology, CSIRO, biological control unit and at the leading Pesticide Laboratories, Brisbane, Australia, has expanded its program to include a wide range of natural enemies of weeds, including birds and rats. It is hoped that the program will become more effective in the future.

(C) Request for information on possibilities of biological control of natural enemies of weeds

In fruit plants in Southeast Asia, there has been a recent trend to reduce the use of pesticides. This has led to an increase in the use of biological control agents, including birds, bats, and ladybirds.

(D) Establishment of a reference collection of seed of native weeds and their natural enemies.

Dr. A. S. G. Schroeder, European Station, CIRG is planning to establish a reference collection of seed of native weeds and their natural enemies in order to build up a complete data base of weed species which have been subject to biological control trials, as well as on their specific natural enemies. It is planned to eventually publish a catalogue of weed species with the aim of making the catalogues available to researchers and for educational purposes. A weed identification guide will also be made available for publication with the catalogue. The guide will be based on a comprehensive review of the literature available on weed identification and control.

(E) Summary Report on Travel to Brazil and Germany

Dr. A. G. Schroeder, European Station, CIRG

Feb. 21, 1975

A survey was conducted in Brazil and Germany for the purpose of contacting key people in the field of biological control. The survey included visits to several institutions and researchers, and a number of field sites. The results of the survey will be reported in a future publication.

(WESTERN HEMISPHERICAL REGIONAL SECTION (WHS))

(a) Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Working Group on Natural Enemies

A meeting of the ARS, USDA, Working Group on Natural Enemies and other pests (WGOE) was held in Brownsville, Texas, February 26-27, 1975. The Working Group continued with the priority of pests, with the emphasis on the identification and characterization of the targeted pest species. The group is currently evaluating the potential of biological control for each species, with the ultimate goal of developing an integrated pest management program. The Working Group has identified a number of candidate species for biological control, including the pink bollworm, and the cotton leafworm. The group is currently evaluating the potential of biological control for each species, with the ultimate goal of developing an integrated pest management program. The Working Group has identified a number of candidate species for biological control, including the pink bollworm, and the cotton leafworm.
**WEST PALAEOARCTIC REGIONAL SECTION (WPRES)**

(a) General Assembly

The Second General Assembly of the West Palaeoarctic Regional Section was held in Madrid (Spain) February 3-4, 1972. Participants, one of the principal aims of the General Assembly was to analyze the work carried out by the WPRES during the last ten years. The report and papers on which this analysis was based were published in WPRES Bull. (Vol. 1972/1), which gives an almost complete review of the progress achieved in the field of biological and integrated control in the West Palaeoarctic Region.

(b) Commission of taxonomy

The identification Centre in Zürich, Switzerland, which has been functioning for 17 years, is now the only centre in Europe. Of these 17 years, 14 were in the Federal Republic of Germany. One of the main tasks of the Centre is the identification of fruitflies, particularly of those species which are pests of crops and other crops, and of those which are important to the insect's food. Identification of fruitflies is mainly carried out by the Centre, with the collaboration of scientists from the University of Zürich.

For information on the Centre, please contact Dr. B. Hartmann, who is in charge of the Centre. The Centre is located in the Zoological Institute of the University of Zürich, Albersweg 1 B (Zürich, Switzerland).

**PACIFIC REGIONAL SECTION (PRS)**

Brown planthopper on rice in the Solomon Islands.

In 1974 it was noted that the population of rice fields in the Solomon Islands was being heavily attacked by the brown planthopper, which was destroying the rice plants. The pest was subsequently introduced into the Solomon Islands from the Philippines, and since then the population has been increasing rapidly. The brown planthopper is a small insect, about 3 mm long, and has a red body with dark markings. It feeds on the young shoots and leaves of the rice plants, causing them to wilt and die. The pest is most active during the rainy season, and the adults lay their eggs on the rice plants. The eggs hatch into small larvae, which feed on the rice plants, and in about 20 days the adult insects emerge. The life cycle of the pest is about 30 days, and during this period the population of the pest increases rapidly. The pest is a serious threat to rice production in the Solomon Islands, and control measures are required to prevent further damage to the rice crop.

**COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL CONTROL (CIBC)**

(a) New successes

-Alyphiidae species introduced from Kenya to control the control of Solanum lycopersicum in areas of Kenya where pesticides are prohibited.

(b) The following other natural enemies shipped by CIBC have also become established in various countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural enemy</th>
<th>Host/Plant</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cassida filipes</strong></td>
<td>Cassida filipes</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cucurbita pepo</strong></td>
<td>Cucurbita pepo</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cicada grisea</strong></td>
<td>Cicada grisea</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. striata</strong></td>
<td>C. striata</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. americana</strong></td>
<td>C. americana</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. okadae</strong></td>
<td>C. okadae</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. radicis</strong></td>
<td>C. radicis</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. truncata</strong></td>
<td>C. truncata</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. minima</strong></td>
<td>C. minima</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. obscura</strong></td>
<td>C. obscura</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. viridis</strong></td>
<td>C. viridis</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. quercus</strong></td>
<td>C. quercus</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. castanea</strong></td>
<td>C. castanea</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. simplex</strong></td>
<td>C. simplex</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. tuberculata</strong></td>
<td>C. tuberculata</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. truncata</strong></td>
<td>C. truncata</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. ovata</strong></td>
<td>C. ovata</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. radicis</strong></td>
<td>C. radicis</td>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-It is hoped to pass similar information from commercial rice.