

50
years



INTERNATIONAL
COFFEE
ORGANIZATION

ED 2160/13

24 July 2013

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**Invitation to attend a workshop on pollinators,
production, pest and disease suppression for
coffee production: Belo Horizonte, Brazil
11 and 12 September 2013**

1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and wishes to inform Members and observers about a Workshop on pollinators, production, pest and disease suppression for coffee production which will take place at the Expominas Conference Centre in Belo Horizonte, Brazil from 14:30 to 17:30 on Wednesday, 11 September and again on the morning of Thursday, 12 September from 09:00 to 11:30.
2. The Workshop is organized by the Arthur Dobbs Institute, Canada and funded in part by the International Union of Biological Sciences and the International Commission for Plant Pollinator Relations. Terms of reference are attached as Annex I. The addition of managed pollinators (bees) and encouragement of wild pollinators boosts yields in both quantity and quality in coffee. Moreover, managed pollinators can be used to spread biological control agents to suppress insect pests and diseases on various crops. Preliminary tests indicate that this technology is applicable to coffee.
3. The objective of the Workshop is to explain and assess interest in the technology of using pollinators, both managed and wild, to boost yields in coffee plantations, and to use managed pollinators to disperse biological control agents for suppression of insect pests (e.g. coffee berry borer) and diseases (e.g. flower blight and berry disease). A copy of the draft programme and the attendance form are attached as Annex II and III, respectively.
4. The Workshop is open to all ICO Members, Private Sector Consultative Board (PSCB) associations and accredited observers to the Council who are attending the 50th anniversary meetings in Belo Horizonte. Information about these meetings has been circulated in the Convocation (document ED-2153/13) and is available on the website www.50ico.com.br. Presentations will be made in English and Spanish. Interpretation will not be available.
5. For any further information, please contact:
Dr Peter Kevan, FRSC
Chair of the International Commission on Plant Pollinator Relations
Arthur Dobbs Institute
Ontario, Canada
Tel: 1-519-824-4120 ext 52479
Email: pkevan@uoguelph.ca

ARTHUR DOBBS INSTITUTE**TERMS OF REFERENCE
WORKSHOP ON POLLINATORS, PRODUCTION, PEST AND DISEASE SUPPRESSION
FOR COFFEE PRODUCTION****Introduction**

1. Over the last few years concerns have been raised by Members during Council Sessions about the proliferation of pests and diseases (and use of chemical pest controls) affecting coffee. For example document EB-3948/08 presents a summary of the major concerns around the world noting heavy losses costing many millions of dollars.

2. In view of the interest expressed by Members in this issue, scientific and technical representatives from the Arthur Dobbs Institute and the International Commission for Plant Pollinator Relations (funded by the International Union of Biological Sciences) with expertise in pollination and the use of pollinators for deployment of biological control agents for crops met ICO staff to discuss this in 2012. Contacts have continued since that date to discuss successes of the pollinator vectored biocontrol agent technology (which technically can be considered 'organic' or 'pesticide free') with the aim of sharing expertise with ICO Members through a workshop.

Objective

3. The objective of the Workshop is to explain and assess interest in the technology of using pollinators, both managed and wild, to boost yields in coffee plantations, and to use managed pollinators to disperse biological control agents for suppression of insect pests (e.g. coffee berry borer) and diseases (e.g. flower blight and berry disease).

Proposed structure

4. The Workshop will cover the following issues:
- (a) Overview of the technology, its principles and successes on various crops, including coffee.
 - (b) Demonstration of equipment and technologies available for use on coffee, and on other open-grown crops.

- (c) Discussion of how to explore the potential for the technology in coffee growing nations in terms of:
- i) potential for national and private sector partnerships for field trials.
 - ii) potential for funding research, development and innovation from national and private sector partnerships with views for matching funds from national and multinational agencies.
 - iii) establishment of an integrative task force (possibly through the ICO) to maintain initiatives such as may be recommended by workshop participants.

5. Scientific expertise from Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico and Vietnam has been assembled and support (modest seed-funding) from the International Union of Biological Sciences is in place through the Arthur Dobbs Institute in Canada and Mexico.

Suggested speakers

6. The Workshop will be presented by Dr Carlos Vergara (Mexico), Vice-Chair of the International Commission for Plant Pollinator Relations (ICPPR), and experienced in pollination technology for coffee production and Dr Peter Kevan, Scientific Director of the Canadian Pollination Initiative and Chair of ICPPR with extensive experience in pollination and pollinator management in tropical and temperate countries.

Suggested attendees/participants

7. The Workshop will be of interest to attendees with technical expertise from the following categories:

- Representatives of ICO Members
- Appropriate government agencies
- Interested personnel from private sector organizations involved with coffee production, handling, export and marketing
- Research institutions/universities
- Farmers' associations in coffee producing countries
- Relevant international organizations

ARTHUR DOBBS INSTITUTE

DRAFT PROGRAMME

**WORKSHOP ON POLLINATORS, PRODUCTION, PEST AND
DISEASE SUPPRESSION FOR COFFEE PRODUCTION**

Open to all interested ICO Delegates and observers

11 September (14:30 – 17:30) and repeated on 12 September 2013 (09:00 – 11:30)

Registration

Opening remarks

Chairman: Mr Mauricio Galindo, Head of Operations, International Coffee Organization

General overview of coffee pollination, managed and wild pollinators, and pest and disease suppression on crops using pollinator mediated deployment of biological control agents: Dr Peter Kevan, FRSC, University Professor Emeritus (University of Guelph, Canada) and Chair of the International Commission on Plant Pollinator Relations

Overview of results of research and development on the importance of pollination in coffee around the world and recent advances in using pollinator mediated deployment of biological control agents in Ecuador followed by summary of interactions with ICO and other organizations prior to this workshop: Dr Carlos Vergara, Universidad de las Américas (Puebla), Mexico and Vice-Chair of the International Commission for Plant Pollinator Relations

Short demonstration of equipment used for pollinator mediated deployment of biological control agents

Questions, answers, and discussion

The way forward to possibly implement pollination and pollinator mediated deployment of biological control agents for coffee production and protection

- Interest from ICO Members
- Interest from coffee producers, processors, and marketers
- Interest from other organizations (e.g. national and international research and development agencies)

Resolutions, including the possible establishment of an international steering committee

ARTHUR DOBBS INSTITUTE

**WORKSHOP ON POLLINATORS, PRODUCTION, PEST AND
DISEASE SUPPRESSION FOR COFFEE PRODUCTION**

11 September and repeated on 12 September, 2013

ATTENDANCE FORM

I will attend the **workshop on pollinators, production, pest and disease suppression for coffee production** on 11 or 12 September, 2013 in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in September 2013 (please tick as appropriate):

Attendance at workshop	Yes	No
14:30 – 17:30 Wednesday 11 September OR		
09:00 – 11:30 Thursday 12 September		

Name of ICO Member country/
PSCB association/observer:

Name:

Position:

Organization/company:

Phone:

Fax:
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Email:

Please complete and return by 31 August 2013 to:

Dr Peter Kevan, FRSC
Chair of the International Commission on Plant Pollinator Relations
Arthur Dobbs Institute
Ontario
Canada
Tel.: 1-519-824-4120 Ext. 52479
Email: pkevan@uoguelph.ca