



INTERNATIONAL FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

International Farm Management Congresses

The objectives of IFMA congresses are:

- To provide a forum for exchanging ideas, experience and knowledge through presentations and demonstration;
- To learn about the agriculture of the organising country, including its structure and marketing;
- To stimulate contacts between farmers, teachers, advisors, consultants, researchers, policy-makers and agribusiness at national and international levels.

Each congress programme is designed in such a way that all three objectives can be met. The strength of the congress is the integration of a diverse group of international people, companies and organisations around the themes of agricultural production, agricultural policy, agribusiness and economics and their impact on farm management.

The Congress's Programme of Papers is made up of both Invited and Contributed Papers arranged in plenary and parallel sessions. A call for contributed papers usually goes out from the organising committee with the First Announcement of a congress some 12 –18 months ahead of the congress date. Poster Session opportunities are also offered. See the respective Congress's website for more information.

About the Congresses.

These congresses provide a unique and most enjoyable way to travel to different parts of the world, to learn about the local agriculture, to meet people of like mind - both in an international and a local context, to form international relationships of mutual benefit, to learn something about the local and national heritage, to taste local foods and wines and to altogether have a thoroughly rewarding experience.

The first IFMA congress was held in the United Kingdom in 1971. (See over for the list of previous congresses).

Congresses are normally held every other year (biennially). They are organised by a 'local organising committee' with local knowledge and contacts for and on behalf of the International Farm Management Association.

The next congress will be the 18th Congress and will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand from 20th -25th March 2011. Visit the 18th Congress website at www.ifma18.org for more information.

The 19th Congress is currently being planned to be held in July 2013 in Warsaw, Poland.

Each congress lasts 6 days and normally attracts between 250 and 400 participants from around the world. The scientific programme, run on 3 days of the congress, includes a mixture of plenary papers with invited speakers who are eminent in their field, panel sessions and concurrent contributed papers and posters.

One of the main features of each congress is that on two days of the congress delegates have a wide ranging choice of field trips to livestock, arable and horticultural farms, as well as to research, agribusiness and educational facilities in the local area.



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These congresses provide an excellent forum for farming practitioners, consultants, academics, economists and other organisational bodies to mix and exchange their knowledge and experience. They aim to provide a high number of “take home” ideas for the delegates.

Pre- and post- Congress tours, usually of a week's duration, are organised to give participants the opportunity to see much more of the host country's agriculture and heritage than is possible during the 2 days of field trips organised during the Congress.

A comprehensive and diverse accompanying persons' programme is also offered, and a varied and enjoyable social programme is included in each congress.

List of Previous IFMA Congresses

- 17th – 2009 USA – Bloomington/Normal, Illinois
- 16th - 2007 Ireland - Cork
- 15th - 2005 Brazil - Campinas
- 14th – 2003 Australia - Perth,
- 13th - 2002 The Netherlands - Arnhem
- 12th - 1999 South Africa - Durban
- 11th - 1997 Canada - Calgary
- 10th - 1995 United Kingdom - Reading
- 9th – 1993 Hungary - Budapest
- 8th – 1991 New Zealand - Palmerston North and Christchurch
- 7th – 1988 Denmark - Copenhagen
- 6th – 1986 USA – St Paul, Minnesota
- 5th – 1983 Kenya – Nairobi
- 4th – 1980 Israel – Jerusalem
- 3rd – 1977 Germany – Hamburg
- 2nd – 1974 Canada – Guelph
- 1st – 1971 United Kingdom - Warwick

Reports and the Proceedings of the most recent congresses are available on the IFMA website where some 600 papers on farm management are available.

For more information about the International Farm Management Association and its activities please visit the IFMA website at:

www.ifmaonline.org