

**24<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Virus and Other Graft Transmissible Disease  
of Fruit Crops**

**Thessaloniki 5-9<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**First Announcement**

Dear colleagues,

Following the successful 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ICVF in Morioka in 2015, we are pleased to invite you to the 24<sup>th</sup> ICVF Conference in Thessaloniki, Greece. The meeting, organized by the Hellenic Phytopathological Society in collaboration with the Department of Plant Pathology in the Faculty of Agriculture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), will be held in Hotel Porto Palace from June 5-9 2017. This meeting shall provide an overview over the ongoing research on viruses and other graft transmissible disease of fruit crops.

**Registration fees:** (Including lunches and Gala dinner): 450 Euros for registration before **February 28<sup>th</sup>**, 600 Euros after March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Accompanying person:** 250 Euros. Includes lunches and Gala dinner; tours and visits to sites and museums in Thessaloniki, Vergina (ancient capital of Macedonia) and Meteora (Thessaly). **Tours available if more than 20 individuals sign up.** Please contact [katis@agro.auth.gr](mailto:katis@agro.auth.gr) before **February 28<sup>th</sup>** if you plan to be part of the tour.

**Conference Hotel:**

Porto Palace Hotel, 26<sup>th</sup> Octovriou Avenue, Port 546 28, Thessaloniki, Greece

Tel: 0030-2310-504-504

Fax: 0030-2310-504-384

e-mail: [info@portopalace.gr](mailto:info@portopalace.gr)

[www.portopalace.gr](http://www.portopalace.gr)

**Réservation code: ICVF**

**Hotel prices:** Single room 80 Euros, Double of twin rooms 90 Euros. **Conference attendees that will not be staying at Porto Palace will be charged 80 Euros to recoup meeting costs.**

Porto Palace is about 3 km from the city center with a shuttle available at set times. Taxi rides to the city center will cost you 4-5 Euros.

**Pre-tour, June 1-4.** Start from Athens and end to Thessaloniki. Participants will visit berry and tree fruit farms in the Peloponnese and Central Greece. The tour will also include visits to museums, archeological and other sites in Athens, the Peloponnese and Central Greece.. Expected costs (+/- 10%; with breakfast and lunch included): 600 Euros for double occupancy hotel room, 650 Euros for single occupancy hotel room  
Available if only 30+ people express interest  
Please contact [katis@agro.auth.gr](mailto:katis@agro.auth.gr) before **February 28<sup>th</sup>** if you plan to be part of the tour. More details and the precise cost will be communicated by the end of March 2017.

We look forward to welcoming you in Thessaloniki to the 2017 ICVF Conference.

On behalf of the local organizers,

Professor Nikolaos I. Katis

Chairman, 24<sup>th</sup> ICVF Meeting

**BANK INFORMATION**

Piraeus Bank

**Address:** 4 Americis Street, GR 10564, Athens, Greece

**IBAN:** GR93 0172 2320 0052 3200 3247 836

**Swift code:** PIRBGRAA

## More information about Thessaloniki

**Thessaloniki** (Greek: Θεσσαλονίκη [θɛsaloˈnici] (ⓘ listen)) is the second-largest city in Greece and the capital of Greek Macedonia, the administrative region of Central Macedonia and the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia and Thrace. Its nickname is η Συμπρωτεύουσα (*Symprotévousa*), literally "the co-capital", a reference to its historical status as the Συμβασιλεύουσα (*Symvasilévousa*) or "co-reigning" city of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire, alongside Constantinople. The municipality of Thessaloniki, the historical center, had a population of 385,400 in 2007, while the Thessaloniki Urban Area had a population of 800,764. and the Thessaloniki Metropolitan Area had 1,104,460 inhabitants in 2011.

Thessaloniki is Greece's second major economic, industrial, commercial and political centre, and a major transportation hub for the rest of southeastern Europe; its commercial port is also of great importance for Greece and the southeastern European hinterland. The city is renowned for its festivals, events and vibrant cultural life in general, and is considered to be Greece's cultural capital. Events such as the Thessaloniki International Trade Fair and the Thessaloniki International Film Festival are held annually, while the city also hosts the largest bi-annual meeting of the Greek diaspora. Thessaloniki was the 2014 European Youth Capital.<sup>[11]</sup>

The city of Thessaloniki was founded in 315 BC by Cassander of Macedon. An important metropolis by the Roman period, Thessaloniki was the second largest and wealthiest city of the Byzantine Empire. It was conquered by the Ottomans in 1430, and passed from the Ottoman Empire to modern Greece on 8 November 1912.

Thessaloniki is home to numerous notable Byzantine monuments, including the Paleochristian and Byzantine monuments of Thessaloniki, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as well as several Roman, Ottoman and Sephardic Jewish structures. The city's main university, Aristotle University, is the largest in Greece and the Balkans.

Thessaloniki is a popular tourist destination in Greece. For 2013, *National Geographic Magazine* included Thessaloniki in its top tourist destinations worldwide, while in 2014 *Financial Times* FDI magazine (Foreign Direct Investments) declared Thessaloniki as the best mid-sized European city of the future for human capital and lifestyle. Among street photographers, the center of Thessaloniki is also considered the most popular destination for street photography in Greece.

## **Organizing Committee**

### **Chairperson**

**Nikolaos I. Katis**, Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Environment, Faculty of Agriculture, Plant Pathology Lab., 54124 Thessaloniki

### **Members**

**Elisavet C. Chatzivassiliou**, Assistant Professor, Agricultural University of Athens, School of Agricultural Production, Infrastructure and Environment, Department of Crop Science, Plant Pathology Laboratory, Iera Odos 75, Votanikos, 11855 Athens, Greece

**Varvara I. Maliogka**, Assistant Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Environment, Faculty of Agriculture, Plant Pathology Lab., 54124 Thessaloniki

**Kriton Kalantidis**, Associate Professor, University of Crete, Department of Biology, Iraklion, Crete

**Panagiota Kyriakopoulou**, Professor Emeritus, Agricultural University of Athens, School of Agricultural Production, Infrastructure and Environment, Department of Crop Science, Plant Pathology Laboratory, Iera Odos 75, Votanikos, 11855 Athens, Greece

**Ioannis Livieratos**, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute Chania, Department of Sustainable Agriculture, Alysio Agrokepio 73100, Chania, Greece

**Mina Tsagris**, Assistant Professor, University of Crete, Department of Biology, Iraklion, Crete

**Ioannis Tzanetakis**, Associate Professor, University of Arkansas, Plant Sciences Building 213, 495 N Campus Dr, Fayetteville AR 72701, USA.

**Christina Varveri**, Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Athens

**Nikon Vassilakos**, Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Athens

**Evangelos Vellios**, University of Thessaly, Department of Agriculture and Crop Production & Rural Environment, Lab Plant Pathol, Thessaly, Volos