



23 July 2014

AIPH chairs debate to improve link between horticulture & science

Tim Briercliffe, AIPH, Secretary General, will be chairing a workshop that will debate how to improve the relationship between the horticultural industry and science & research.

The workshop 'Connecting Industry with ISHS' will identify means to improve interaction and involvement between the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) and horticultural industry sectors. Following the workshop, which is part of the ISHS International Horticultural Congress, recommendations will be made to ISHS leaders and AIPH members.

Tim Briercliffe said, "Growers often complain about a disconnect between scientists and the horticulture industry. Many in the industry will have views about how this can be changed to ensure that research leads to real benefits for the sector. If you can't be part of this workshop then please let me know your views now so they can be included in this important debate. As organisations representing science and the industry we both want serious new ideas to come from this that make sure the relationship works as it should".

Members of ISHS produce large amounts of applicable, useful knowledge, while horticultural industries worldwide have a notable track record of turning science into applicable technologies. The workshop aims to strengthen the partnership between horticultural industry and the ISHS, so that both parties can gain substantially by better understanding each other's needs and improving the exchange of knowledge.

Joining Tim Briercliffe in the debate are: Errol Hewett, New Zealand, ISHS; Craig Campbell, USA, Valent Biosciences, Agrochemical company; Geoff Dixon, UK, Consultancy company owner/research scientist, University of Reading; and Patricio Trebilcock, Chile, Editor New Ag; journalist.

In preparation for the workshop, which takes place at the the International Horticultural Congress 2014 on 17th-22nd August 2014, Brisbane Queensland, Australia, AIPH invites the industry to get involved and voice their views. Please email Tim Briercliffe at sg@aiph.org.

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Notes for Editors:

International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH)

AIPH is a co-ordinating body representing horticultural producers' organisations all over the world. It was set up in Switzerland in 1948 to stimulate the international marketing of flowers, plants and landscaping services. Currently membership consists of 26 organisations from 19 countries. AIPH is an international non-profit association based in Brussels. For further details visit www.aiph.org.

International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS)

ISHS has over 6500 members from around 140 countries globally. It hosts the international congress every 4 years and about 45 scientific symposia on a very wide range of topics annually. Its headquarters are in Belgium and it is governed by an international board of directors. For further details visit www.ishs.org.

International Horticultural Congress (IHC)

The IHC 2014 will be held in Brisbane, Australia in August 2014. It will be attended by over 2900 delegates from over 100 countries. This week-long event will include around 1400 oral and 1350 poster presentations in up to 20 concurrent symposium sessions daily. The event will also host a number of industry discussion sessions, a grower breakfast and field trips. The next Congress will be held in Turkey in 2018. For further details visit www.ihc2014.org.