SIP 2019 in Spain
July 28 to August 1
Welcome to Valencia!

A joint meeting with IOBC-WPRS Working Group on Microbial and Nematode Control of Invertebrate Pests
Why is Valencia the best choice for the next SIP/IOBC meeting?

Valencia is the third largest city in Spain, with approximately 1 million inhabitants, although the city limits do not span more than 6 km. It has a very good public transportation facility (metro, tram and bus) and an international airport only 10 km away from the city centre.

Valencia, with a Mediterranean climate (mild winters and hot summers), is the choice destination for many tourists, which find at least 10 reasons to come: 1) the City of Arts and Sciences (a complex of modern buildings dedicated to Museums, culture and leisure); 2) the Turia Gardens (a 9 km long urban park in the old bed of the Turia river); 3) several white sand – blue water beaches north and south the city; 4) gastronomy (birth place of the world famous “paella” dish, not to mention fish, fruits, vegetables and wines); 5) the Old City Centre (many ancient buildings, including the Cathedral, the Central Market and two old city wall towers); 6) sports (with two soccer stadiums); 7) several museums (Museum of Fine Arts, National Ceramics Museum, among others); 8) Las Fallas (largest festival of the year, every March, when cardboard and wood sculptures are built and burned down at the end of the celebration); 9) the Albufera Natural Park (a natural park at 10 km from the city, with a 3000 ha lake, wild life, sand dunes, beaches and the largest region of rice cultivation in Spain) and 10) the Ruzafa neighborhood (for those who like nightlife, with plenty of art galleries, bars and restaurants).

Important dates

Abstract submission: February 25 to March 25
Registration ("early bird"): March 15 to April 15
Registration ("late bird"): April 16 to July 1
Note that there will be limited availability for on-site registration

Contact (technical secretary/management)

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Committees

Organizing committee
Chair: Juan Ferré
Co-chair and Treasurer: Baltasar Escriche
Program Chairs: Eustachio Tarasco, Elisabeth Herniou, Christina Nielsen-Leroux, Salvador Herrero and Primitivo Caballero
Local Arrangements: Yolanda Bel, C. Sara Hernández-Rodríguez, Patricia Hernández-Martínez, Salvador Herrero and Joel González-Cabrera

Scientific program committees
General: Salvador Herrero
Bacteria: Marianne Carey, Luca Ruiu and Primitivo Caballero
Disease of Beneficial Invertebrates: Mark Freeman, Joel González-Cabrera
Scientific program committees (continued)

Fungi: Stefan Jaronski and Enrique Quesada
Microbial Control and Soil Insect Pests: Dietrich Stephan and Patricia Hernández-Martínez
Microsporidia: Yuliya Skolova and C. Sara Hernández
Slugs and Snails: Jirka Nermut and Christina Nielsen-LeRoux
Nematodes: Raquel Campos-Herrera, Vladimir Puza and Yolanda Bel
Viruses: Elizabeth Heniou, Miguel López-Ferber and Salvador Herrero

Venue
The meeting will be held at the Valencia Conference Centre. The Centre is well suited for meetings and well connected by public transportation to the rest of the city, with many hotels within walking distance

Accommodations
Valencia has plenty of housing accommodations to offer to the SIP delegates, with hotels at different prices and several moderate-cost student residences

Possible excursions
The choice of two to three of the following sites will be made shortly:

a) the Valencia Historical Centre
b) the Albufera Natural Park (including a boat ride)
c) Sagunto, a millenary town with Roman ruins and theatre
d) the City of Arts and Sciences (with possible visit to the “Oceanografic”, the largest aquarium in Europe)

BBQ, 5K run and banquet
We have already booked the sites for these traditional SIP events:

a) the BBQ will take place in the celebration complex of Jardines de La Hacienda at a 20 min drive North of Valencia
b) The 5K run will be located in the Turia Gardens, where tree shade will protect participants from the sun almost everywhere. The finish line will be at the site of the BBQ
c) The banquet will be celebrated in the restaurant La Ferradura by the beach. People may enjoy taking a dip in the warm waters of the Mediterranean sea before or after (or both) the banquet.
Some of the attractions of Valencia
See you next year in Valencia, Spain!

Venue for the 5K run: Turia gardens (Photo credit: www.visitvalencia.com)

Venue for the banquet: La Ferradura Restaurante (Photo credit: www.laferradura.es)

Venue for the barbecue: Jardines la Hacienda (Photo credit: www.jardineslahacienda.com)