



**WPRS** *International Organisation for Biological and Integrated Control  
West Palaearctic Regional Section*  
**SRQP** *Organisation Internationale de Lutte Biologique et Intégrée  
Section Régionale Ouest Palaéarctique*

---

Dear members of the IOBC/wprs working group "Integrated control in protected crops, Mediterranean climate",

Dear members of the IOBC/wprs working group "Integrated control in protected crops, Temperate climate",

Dear participants to the joint meeting of the mentioned IOBC/wprs working groups (Brest, France, originally planned on August 31st – September 3rd, 2020, rescheduled on August 30th – September 2nd, 2021),

Last December 2020, we sent you a communication regarding our intention and hope to organize as "in presence" modality the meeting of our two IOBC/wprs working groups, rescheduled on August 30th – September 2nd, 2021, after it was originally planned in September 2020.

The hope to organize a "physical" meeting, thus respecting the traditions of our two small technical-scientific communities, came above all from the positive news of the first anti-Covid19 vaccines being available, circulated all over the world at the end of last year. Also in our minds, at that moment, the light of optimism lit up which deluded almost everyone about the possibility of a rapid conclusion of the ongoing serious health crisis.

The current situation is different from what we had gained in our optimistic hopes, and unfortunately shows how a normalization is still far to be achieved. For this reason, if on the one hand we remain firmly convinced that a remote meeting could not guarantee those needs for contact and relationship that are essential in all events of IOBC/wprs, on the other hand, about six months ahead the scheduled event, we realize how the general situation could still heavily compromise the success of this initiative, precisely born as a "joint meeting" of two working groups just to attract a large audience and create conditions for a broad technical-scientific exchange.

All this considered, and in order to be able to carry out the planned joint meeting in the best possible conditions, it is with great sadness that we announce the decision to postpone once again our meeting in Brest (France), which is rescheduled to August 2023, from the 28th to the 31st (welcome reception on the 27th).

Of course, we are aware of the fact that this further postponement significantly dilutes interactions between members of our working groups. For this reason, in agreement with the President and the Executive Committee of the IOBC/wprs, we decided to create a minimal alternative to the meeting that should have been held next summer in Brest, consisting of a collection of short videos. These videos will be produced by members of our working groups and by the participants to the IOBC/wprs meeting in Brest, originally planned on August 31st – September 3rd, 2020, rescheduled on August 30th – September 2nd, 2021, and will be hosted in a dedicated area of the IOBC/wprs website.

These videos, 2–3 min long each, should show what you and your groups are presently doing in the field of biocontrol and integrated pest management in protected crops. For the participants whose abstracts was accepted for the meeting in Brest, the videos could also be related to results that you have planned to present. More details on how to prepare and upload these videos are provided in [https://www.iobc-wprs.org/expert\\_groups/wg\\_protected\\_crops\\_videos\\_2021.html](https://www.iobc-wprs.org/expert_groups/wg_protected_crops_videos_2021.html).

Sorry once again for this decision that events forced us to take. We hope that this alternative initiative

can be welcomed by you with great enthusiasm, so as to enrich the IOBC/wprs website with documents that, in some way (certainly not sufficiently replacing direct contact and interaction), represent a possibility to exchange information between the members of our two study groups.

And of course, hopefully out of the current health crisis, we look forward to seeing you in Brest from the 28th to the 31st of August 2023.

Our best and warm greetings.

The Organizing Committee of the joint meeting of the IOBC/wprs working groups "Integrated control in protected crops, Mediterranean and Temperate climate" (Brest, France, August 28th – 31st, 2023).

--

=====  
Prof. Carmelo Rapisarda  
Full Professor of General and Applied Entomology

Address:  
Dipartimento di Agricoltura, Alimentazione e Ambiente (Di3A)  
Sezione di Entomologia applicata  
Università degli Studi  
Via Santa Sofia, 100  
95123 Catania (Italy)

Phone: +39-0957147365 (direct line)  
Fax: +39-0957147270 (direct)  
E-mail: [carmelo.rapisarda@unict.it](mailto:carmelo.rapisarda@unict.it)  
Website: <http://www.di3a.unict.it/docenti/carmelo.rapisarda>  
=====