

**IOBC/wprs General Assembly  
Dijon, September 2005**

**Working Group**

**« Insect Pathogens and  
Insect Parasitic Nematodes »**

**Activity report (Sept. 2001- Sept. 2005)**

**Convenor (1999-2005): Bernard PAPIEROK  
Collection des Champignons  
Institut Pasteur, Paris, France**

**Working Group**  
**« Insect Pathogens and Insect Parasitic Nematodes »**

**Summary**

**Basic data**

**Today structure**

**How the WG works**

**Present situation**

**Major trends and concerns**

**Conclusion**

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**Basic data**

**WG founded in 1985**

**At the beginning: 2 subgroups**  
**(despite the diversity of the organisms involved)**

- « **Fungi** »

- « **Nematodes** »

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**Today structure**

**5 subgroups**

- « **Fungi** »
- « **Nematodes** »
- « **Soil Insect Pests** » (ex « *Melolontha* »)
- « **Slugs and Snails** »
- « **Viruses** »...

# Working Group

## « Insect Pathogens and Insect Parasitic Nematodes »

### How the WG works?

	Meetings	Proceedings (IOBC/wprs Bulletin)
The whole WG	Every 2 years (Bari, 2005)	yes
Subgroup « Fungi » Subgroup « Nematodes » Subgroup « Viruses »	No special meeting	
Subgroup « Soil Insect Pests »	Separate meeting every 2 years (Innsbruck, 2004)	yes
Subgroup « Slugs and Snails »	Separate meeting every 2 years (Stuttgart, 2004)	First Proceedings in 2005

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**Present situation**

	Past Convenor	Present Convenor (Starting 2005)
The whole WG	Bernard Papierok	Ralf-Udo Ehlers
Subgroup « Fungi »	Gisbert Zimmermann	Cezary Tkaczuk
Subgroup « Nematodes »	Ralf-Udo Ehlers	Itamar Glaser
Subgroup « Soil Insect Pests »	Siegfried Keller	Jürg Enkerli
Subgroup « Viruses »		Miguel Lopez Ferber
Subgroup « Slugs and Snails »	William Symondson (David M. Glen)	William Symondson

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**Major trends and concerns (1)**

**Peculiar structure of the WG due to the diversity of natural enemies and to changes decided by the IOBC/wprs Council**

**Meetings attractive to scientists from Eastern Europe and Eastern and Southern Mediterranean area**

**Joint meetings with COST Actions (842 « Entomophthorales », 850 « Biocontrol Symbiosis »)**

**Increasing interest in peculiar groups of natural enemies (Viruses, Protozoa)**

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**Major trends and concerns (2)**

**Organization of training workshops**

**e.g. 3 workshops in the 2005 WG meeting in Bari, Italy:**

- « **Diagnostics of major groups of insect parasitic nematodes used in biological control »**
- « **Handling entomopathogenic fungi for identification purposes »**
- « **Workshop on Microsporidia »**

**Risk assessment, registration and marketing**  
**(with the International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association)**

- « **Leading role » of nematodes and *Beauveria brongnartii***

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**Conclusion**

**Wide range of topics discussed (beneficial aspect)**

**Progress owing to the development of molecular biology and genetics**

**A frustrating situation**

**numerous natural enemies, an enormous potential  
but only a few ones developed as effective biocontrol agents**

**« New » strategies (conservation...)**

**« Overcautiousness » in our countries**

**compared to some countries in other continents...**