

President's Message: Happy 2013 to you all!

January 1, 2013

Dear Fellow Members,

Happy New Year! With the beginning of 2013, we should focus our attention once again to our most important goal – minimizing the problems ragweed causes to the society. There will be important conferences coming up and we also need to organize the General Assembly this year.

Working groups

Our Working groups cover all areas related to theoretical and applied research related to the spread of ragweed. I would like to urge the heads of the groups to prepare their report for the General Assembly.

Biological control: L. Kiss, D. Coutinot

Integrated management: C. Bohren, T. Komives, K. Elias, G. Popow, E. Stefanic

Biology of ragweed (ecology, genetics, etc.): G. Karrer, E. Stefanic, L. Kiss, B. Mitic, K. Elias, U. Starfinger, A. Seliger, H. Méon

Pollen and allergy / health impact: M. Thibaudon, B. Clot, M. A. Seliger, B. Mitic, E. Stefanic, C. Déchamp, M. Bonini

Financial impact (costs of ragweed): T. Komives, I. Stefanic, M.A. Chapgier, M. Bonini, J.L. Da Passano

Communication and education: M. Bonini, C. Déchamp, M. Thibaudon, A. Seliger, B. Mitic

Regulation - International collaboration (official): M.A. Chapgier, J.L. Da Passano, T. Komives, M. Fiori, U. Starfinger, D. Coutinot

International conferences: M. Fiori, B. Clot, M. Thibaudon, J.L. Da Passano, I. Stefanic, C. Bohren, M.A. Chapgier

Databases, mapping: U. Starfinger, C. Bohren, E. Stefanic, B. Mitic, G. Karrer, K. Elias, H. Méon, C. Déchamp

And just as important, or maybe even more important, our Society needs volunteers to help develop our projects and programs. If interested, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Membership

Together with this message you will receive a notification inviting you to renew your membership with the society. Please remember that as a member, you are entitled to benefits and privileges, such as entitlement to members-only events, priority in registration for events over non-members, and opportunity to vote and have a say at the Society's programs.

To all those who have already signed up for membership, I would like to say a big thank you! I warmly welcome you as a member of the International Ragweed Society. To the rest, please do not deliberate any further and get your membership today!

I look forward to meeting you at upcoming events, your participation in the Society in the New Year, and thank you for your continued support and involvement. I wish you the best in 2013!

Tamas Komives

President of the International Ragweed Society