

A New Initiative for Phytosanitary Irradiation



Phytosanitary Irradiation

At the conclusion of a successful Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum in Bangkok (November 2022) leaders in phytosanitary irradiation community asked the International Irradiation Association (iia) to support initiatives to maintain momentum in the development of international phytosanitary irradiation.

Since November 2022 discussions have been led by Peter Roberts (Independent expert, New Zealand), Ben Reilly (Steritech, Australia), Arved Deecke (Benebion, Mexico), Yves Henon (iia, France) and Paul Wynne (iia, UK).

This announcement highlights current plans and actions for 2023 and beyond.

Building a Community

Success is dependent on creating a strong community so that together we can have a positive impact on the application of phytosanitary irradiation. Our aim is to continue to focus on matters specifically related to phytosanitary irradiation. Matters related to technology (gamma, electron beam and X-ray) will continue to be addressed via the iia (www.iia-global.com).

The PsIP website ([Phytosanitary Irradiation Platform](http://PhytosanitaryIrradiationPlatform.com)) was created two years ago by iia to support communication related to phytosanitary irradiation. The website has enabled a focus on the specific application of phytosanitary irradiation. It is recognised that the website needs to evolve so that it better meets the needs of the phytosanitary irradiation community. As a next step it is important to establish a strong community of those interested in this topic. We therefore encourage all interested parties to register as a member of PsIP via the link below (there is currently no cost to becoming a member).

We see the community as one that includes the horticulture trade (growers, importers, exporters), international organisations (IPPC, Codex Alimentarius, IAEA), government regulators (health and biosecurity), treatment (processors, source and technology providers), retailers and researchers (post-harvest and pest management, efficacy). Its reach will be global and not aligned with any specific technology. Our objectives will be based on communication, education and collaboration. Detailed objectives, activities and a suitable new name for our community will be finalized once interested participants have been confirmed via registration.

[REGISTRATION](#)

We are planning to create a dedicated Linked-In group to further improve access to news updates and to facilitate discussion. We will invite you to register as a member of the LinkedIn phytosanitary community shortly.

Meetings and Events

In order to prolong the discussion started during recent events, including the Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum, and before holding another International Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum in November 2024, we are planning several webinars.

- July 2023 - Phytosanitary Irradiation, Global Opportunities and Initiatives
- August - Generic doses
- September - Post-Harvest Research

The webinars will be organised over a half-day. The webinars will be recorded and made available to registered PsIP members via the PsIP website. The program outlined above will evolve and might include more events.

Resources

A key topic of discussion has been identifying a person or persons who can support the development of the phytosanitary community as a subject matter expert along with suitable administrative support. We have made good progress and will make an announcement about resourcing shortly.

Publications

An extensive report on discussions at the 2023 Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum in Bangkok is included in the IMRP20 Report that will be published shortly.

End

18 April 2023