IFMA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015

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IFMA's New Look Website launched

IFMA20 Congress – end of Early Bird Period PLUS an important Accommodation WARNING

IFMA's New Look Website launched

After 10 years since the last revamp of the ifmaonline.org website, we have re-launched a new look website which has a much fresher appearance to the old one. The new website has all the elements of the old website – but some new functionality built in. Our webmaster, Joey Dunn based in Ontario, Canada, has used WordPress to set up the new website and moved everything over from the old website including the mammoth job of moving all the Congress Papers (over 800 items).

Some of the New Features or Functionality are:

- 1. A much improved Content Management System for updating the website with information, documents and photos with a larger viewing / display area as well as a fresh look.
- 2. The new website has been set up so as to allow easy viewing and full functionality of the website on mobile devices such as tablets and smart phones.
- 3. The Congress Proceedings area has had a complete revamp to make it easier to find papers, posters, presentations and, where available, field trip information from the IFMA Congresses.

The website carries all the papers since 2002 (13th IFMA Congress in The Netherlands). The Peer Review option for contributed papers started at the 16th Congress in Ireland (2007). The full papers, presentations etc. are provided in PDF format so that they can be downloaded.

More recent Congresses have had 3 volumes of papers – Vol.1 for the Peer Reviewed Papers from the congress, Vol.2 for the Non-Peer Reviewed Papers and Posters, and Vol.3 has the Invited Speaker Presentations and their Papers where provided, plus the Field Trip Information as provided at the congress. Each volume of papers, posters, presentations has the items listed – with a prefix to indicate what type of paper / poster / presentation / field trip they are.

The additional features (compared to the old website) are:

- a. By clicking on the Country (blue button) of a paper you will get a full list of papers (from all volumes / congresses) that have been presented by authors from that country.
- b. By clicking on an author's name you will get a list of all the papers that the author has presented at all congresses since 2002.
- c. By clicking on the author's organisation you will get a full list of all the papers given by author's from that organisation (again from all volumes / congresses).

As before, there is also the Search Facility that looks at all papers stored on the website. We believe this increased functionality will increase visitors ability to find the papers and information that they require.

Take a look at the New IFMA Website - click here.

IFMA20 Congress – end of Early Bird Period PLUS an Accommodation WARNING for the congress.

There are just over **3 weeks to go to the end of the Early Bird Registration** period for the Congress which ends on **1**st **May**. Click here to go to the Registration Page.

Don't forget you must become a member of IFMA which you can do when registering for the congress as part of the registration process, or alternatively you can join on the Join IFMA page of the Membership section of our website.

I am getting reports of Credit Card providers automatically rejecting payments for delegates registration – so the advice is to ring your credit card provider just before you register and make the payment. If you still get a rejection – ring them immediately to have them clear the payment as the rejection will almost certainly be with your card provider and not CRAAQ who are handling registration for the congress.

Most importantly if you are planning to attend the Congress you should book your accommodation immediately after you Register and within the Early Bird Period.

Due to the Québec Summer Music Festival being held in the city during the week of the congress, it is very likely that the block reservations of bedrooms made for the congress will end on 8th May – and

that it is very unlikely that the organisers will be able to extend these reservations. This annual festival is normally held a week earlier in July, but was changed to the same week as our congress after the IFMA20 dates were fixed and the congress accommodation reserved. This applies to all the hotels and to the University student accommodation. <u>Click here to go to the Accommodation Page.</u>

Follow the instructions at the top of the page for the Jaro Hotels, or in the description for the University Student accommodation options.

Remember the "Official" Hotel for the congress is the Palace Royale where Registration for the Congress on Sunday 12th will be as well as the Welcome Reception that evening, and also the Congress Banquet on Wednesday night will be held here – but all the other accommodation options offered are on a good bus route to and from the Congress Venue at Université Laval and the Palace Royal hotel. Free week long Bus Passes will be provided to all congress participants for the duration of the congress.

If you know that you will not be able to Register as a delegate for the congress before the end of the Early Bird Period (1st May), but do expect to Register at a later date, then you should book your accommodation **before 8th May**. No payment is required until after your stay. Click here to go to the Accommodation Page.

Best Regards, Tony.

Tony King Hon. Secretary

International Farm Management Association