

## IFMA NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2012

Dear IFMA Newsletter Subscriber,

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### **An Update on the IFMA19 Congress, Warsaw, Poland, 21-26 July 2013**

Please make sure you have noted the dates for the Congress and I hope you will make plans to be there. If you are not able to attend then please pass on this information to those who could be interested.

The plans for IFMA19 continue at pace and if you have not already done so you should visit the congress website soon (see link at the bottom of the Newsletter). And whilst there you can “Express your Interest” in the congress.

The theme for the congress is **“Transforming Agriculture – between Policy, Science and the Consumer”**. The theme is particularly pertinent to central European countries and their agricultures with the rapid transformation to meet European market standards. This congress will be a particularly interesting one with many learning points for farming and agriculture across the world.

The venue for the congress will be the **Warsaw University of Life Sciences** which has a charming mix of historic and brand new buildings – but all modern conference facilities. Prof. Edward Majewski is Chairman of the Organising Committee – many congress attendees will know him from his regular attendance at previous congresses.

There is a flyer for the congress that you can download from the *Home Page* of the congress website.

Available on the *Congress Program Page* is a an outline of the full week’s agenda as well as a separate outline of the Plenary Sessions.

The “Call for Papers” has been issued and details of this can be found here <http://www.ifma19.org/call-for-papers/> There is an interesting list of 7 sub themes for authors to respond to. Once again papers can be submitted for either ‘peer review’ or ‘non-peer review’ categories – the latter being particularly encouraged as being suitable for ‘applied’ and ‘practical’ paper offerings for which IFMA congresses are an excellent platform. The deadline for submission of contributed papers is **January 31, 2013, but please do not wait until then!**

Pre and Post Congress tours and an Accompanying Person Program are being planned – details of which will be added to the website in due course – as will the Accommodation options and Registration details.

One of the main learning points from the IFMA18 survey report below was that a large number of first time delegates heard about the congress via their colleagues and previous congress attendees. Please do your best to pass this information on to colleagues, acquaintances and friends in consultancy, farming organisations and universities. **Now** is the time to start ‘getting the word out’ so that people put the dates in their diaries and start to plan to attend. **You are IFMA’s most valuable promoter!!**

Our IFMA website also carries information on the Congress here [http://www.ifmaonline.org/pages/index.php?main\\_id=7](http://www.ifmaonline.org/pages/index.php?main_id=7) – which includes photos of the venue etc., and you can view the informative IFMA19 presentation that Edward made at IFMA18 which carries information about Poland, Warsaw, the University of Life Science and its agriculture to wet your appetite.

## The post IFMA18 Congress Delegate Survey Report

Rather belatedly I have now managed to write up a report on the IFMA18 Congress Delegate Evaluation Survey and this can be found on the IFMA website using this link [http://ifmaonline.org/pages/index.php?main\\_id=126](http://ifmaonline.org/pages/index.php?main_id=126) – or you can find it listed on the *Articles Page*. You can view the full report in PDF form or download it to your computer. My thanks to all who completed the forms – this is greatly appreciated as it enables us to concentrate on improving and making changes to further improve our congresses.

The ratings to various sections of the congress given by the 100 delegates who responded are overall excellent and there is much to be learnt from the report. In particular the Plenary Paper Sessions and Field Trips were very highly rated (95% and 93% Excellent or Very Good respectively). 41% of the respondents were first time attendees and there was a good spread between farmer/managers, consultants, academics and researchers attending. A large land area was influenced by the respondents – over 6½m hectares - and although 4m of those were claimed by the President of an Agricultural Association in the Ukraine – the remaining 2.6m+ hectares were influenced by consultants (2.1m ha) and farmers & managers (½m ha). The 26 lecturers taught some 6000 students between them. Remember these figures only represent the responses from around 1/3 of the delegates.

The report carries some interesting information and comments and is well worth a read. The questionnaire used is at the back of the report.

**IJAM 3<sup>rd</sup> Journal Edition now available on IngentaConnect** (Free access to Members Only – available free to non-members after 1yr from publishing – otherwise individual papers can be purchased)

After an initial bedding down period the new International Journal of Agricultural Management has really taken off and we now have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition available on the **IngentaConnect** website. The Editor, Martyn Warren, reports that he is receiving a lot of material; such that his early concern that there would not be enough has abated. However he is still very keen to have more papers and articles submitted. To learn about submitting a paper visit the IJAM website at <http://www.ijagman.org/contributions-sought> (NB you do not need to be a member to submit a paper).

This latest Edition has 9 papers and articles and includes a Call for Papers (labelled **International Journal of Agricultural Management (IJAM)**) for two special themed Editions with guest Editors planned for the Journal – these are on '*Agricultural Marketing in a Globalised Economy*' and '*Internet and Social Media in Agricultural Management*' – so if these appeal to you do make sure you read this article.

There are four peer reviewed papers from Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the UK and an article on machinery purchase and use from Switzerland – Prof. Sir John Marsh's speech "*Learn More or Eat Less*" examines the issue of maintaining food security in the face of population growth and pressure on natural resources – and finally a book review addressing the various constraints on market development for smallholders in South Africa, and ways in which those constraints can be addressed.

Papers & articles can be viewed or downloaded in HTML or PDF formats.

## "Farm Management Canada" – the new name for CFBMC.

Many of you will have heard about the Canadian Farm Business Management Council (CFBMC) over the years – especially if you have lived and worked in Canada. IFMA has always had a close relationship with the organisation and they organised the superb 1997 Congress in Calgary. Just recently they have re-launched the organisation as "Farm Management Canada" or "Gestion agricole du Canada" in French.

This rebranding is to celebrate their 20 years of service to Canadian agriculture and to bring about a new look to the organisation following re-organisation. You can visit their website here <http://www.farmcentre.com/> and choose English or French versions. The organisation has been a lead innovator in the use of agricultural webinars (Agriwebinars) to provide live online education and updating to farmers and agriculturalists across

Canada and elsewhere – more information including past Agriwebinars are available on the website.

We look forward to working with Farm Management Canada as we move towards IFMA20 in 2015.

Best Regards,  
Tony.

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Hon. Secretary

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**IFMA Website** - [www.ifmaonline.org](http://www.ifmaonline.org)

**The 19th IFMA Congress will be held in Warsaw, Poland, 21-26 July, 2013**

**Congress Website** - [www.ifma19.org/](http://www.ifma19.org/)