2nd IFMA Newsletter – August 2008

Announcing the "CALL FOR PAPERS" for the 17th IFMA Congress to be held

Sunday 19th to Friday 24th July 2009 in Bloomington / Normal, Illinois, USA

Congress Theme "Agriculture: Food, Fiber and Energy for the Future"

I am very pleased to announce the "Call for Papers" which was released today by the organisers of the 17th International Farm Management Congress. So that you have the very first opportunity to see the call for papers with the paper and poster guidelines I am attaching a copy for you. This document is also available for downloading from the www.IFMA17.org website.

Case Studies - non-peer review papers

The organisers particularly want to encourage submissions of interesting and inspirational farm management stories (case studies) from farmers, farm managers, consultants or other people involved in specific farm management projects. Please use your knowledge of projects in your area to encourage those in good projects to submit their 'story' to the congress. We want lots of "take home" ideas to come out of the Congress and you will see the emphasis being given to this when the full program is released.

Peer-Review papers

A large team of distinguished academics is being assembled for the peer-review process and the organisers look forward to a wide ranging set of papers under the 6 sub-topics. Presentation slots are limited – so early submission is recommended.

Points to note for the submission of Contributed Papers

As for the 16th Congress in Ireland – papers can be submitted in 2 forms – **Peer Review** (replaces Academic) and **Case Study (non-peer review)** (replaces Applied).

Papers should be submitted under the 6 sub-topics for the congress.

All papers should be submitted as completed (finished) papers by the submission date of December 15th 2008. (There will not be a pre review of abstracts as this was found to be time consuming and wasteful).

Only Posters should be submitted as abstracts – and again these should be submitted by December 15th 2008.

Note - One submission date for all submissions.

New for this Congress is that all Papers and Posters will need to be submitted using an online service called **Conference Maker**® (based at the University of Maryland) where you will need to set up a personal account (free) and follow the instructions provided there.

The guidelines for papers and posters are included in the Call for Papers document.

Authors will be notified of the acceptance for presentation decision – both for Peer Review and Case Study type papers as well as for Posters - by **February 15**th **2009**.

As in Ireland at least one author will need to register as a Full Delegate to the Congress by the end of the **Early Bird registration period deadline of May 1**st **2009**.

Please read the Call for Papers document to get the full details. If you have any questions please contact Carroll Merry at cmerry@countryside-marketing.com.

All the papers and posters accepted for the congress will be published both for distribution at the congress (on CD) and in printed volumes (available as an extra) and following the congress all papers will be published online on the IFMA website.

Registration and the Congress Program.

The IFMA17 website will have a lot more information available over the next few weeks – although there is already quite a lot of information there. You can download the Pre and Post Congress Tour itineraries now and several of the main speakers at the congress are highlighted, as are some of the farm tours.

The target for having sufficient congress information, including an amazing choice of farm tours, to enable the start of registration is early September 2008.

So please put the Congress Dates in your diary now, and if you are going to submit a paper the date for final paper submission.

As always our congresses depend on YOU – so please don't just hang on to this Newsletter – distribute it to anyone and everyone you think could be interested - and recommend they attend. If you belong to an organisation that is related to farm management – please make sure they are aware of this Congress and the Call for Papers.

The release of the "Call for Papers" formally gets the 17th Congress underway – I do hope you will be there to participate.

Best Regards, Tony King IFMA Hon Secretary