ANNUAL REPORT OF ECO-PB ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 2008 - DECEMBER 2010

Board meetings and General Assembly
ECO-PB’s 7th General Assembly (GA) was held after the ECO-PB-ITAB workshop in Paris on Protoplastfusion on 28 April 2009. During the GA the proposed board was re-elected, and the ECO-PB board now consists of:

  Edith Lammerts van Bueren/Louis Bolk Institute (NL) – president
  Lawrence Woodward /The Organic Research Centre – Elm Farm (UK) – treasurer
  Klaus-Peter Wilbois/ Forschungsinstitut Biologische Landbau (D) – secretary
  Francois Lhopiteau/Institut Technique de l’Agriculture Biologique (F)
  Hanne Oestergaard/Risø National Laboratory (DK)
  Christine Arncken/Forschungsinstitut Biologische Landbau (CH).

As not all board members can attend the ECO-PB workshops during the year, we organised telephone meetings to discuss organisational matters in 2009. This is an efficient and relatively cheap way to include all board members. In 2010 we only had individual contacts.

ECO-PB members by November 15th 2010
Attached is an updated list of all full and associated members by November 2010. We have two new full member on board: Bingenheimer Saatgut AG and ABDP (which was a former associate member). We lost one an the other associate member for different reasons (sb moved job, others did not pay).

ECO-PB in International meetings in 2009 and 2010
ECO-PB has organised three meetings in 2009:

  • Santa Fe, August 25-28 2009, workshop on “How to deal with a ban on protoplastfusion?” during the 1rst IFOAM world conference on Organic Animal and Plant Breeding.
  • Santa Fe, August 25-28 2009, workshop on “How to implement organic breeding standards?” during the 1rst IFOAM world conference on Organic Animal and Plant Breeding. A discussion document was made available prior to the discussion.
  • Due to the Eucarpia conference on Breeding for Resilience in Paris, 1-3 December 2010 we have not organised any meetings in 2010. A planned meeting on Organic Seed Regulation was originally planned in UK, but due to changes in staff at Elm Farm Organic Research Centre did not take place.
ECO-PB newsletter

In 2009 four issues were published in March and in July 2010 until November and a third issue is due mid of December 2010.
There are about 700 subscribers registered in the mailing list, which is a stable number of interested individuals over the past years.

**Lobby actions in 2009 and 2010**

- Draft standards document for the discussion workshop in Santa Fe, see above, August 2009.
- Comments on the IFOAM draft 2nd seed position paper, September 2010
- Contribution to integrate Plant breeding standards in the new IFOAM Organic Guarantee System, November 2010. IFOAM head office had drafted the future IFOAM Standard - an off-the-shelf certification standard, to be discussed at an upcoming meeting of the IFOAM Standard committee in 2010. After that, the draft standard will go for consultation to the IFOAM membership, probably early 2011.

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### Members of ECO-PB

**Full members**
- Institut Technik Agriculture Biologique (ITAB), France
- Forschungsinstitut für Biologischen Landbau (FiBL-CH), Switzerland
- Forschungsinstitut für Biologischen Landbau (FiBL-D), Germany
- Danisch Agricultural Center of Organic Farming, Denmark
- Tesco Research Centre, University Newcastle, United Kingdom
- Elm Farm Research Center, United Kingdom
- Stichting Zaadgoed, The Netherlands
- Vitalis Organic Seeds, The Netherlands
- Association Biologisch-Dynamischer Pflanzenzüchter, Germany
- Bingenheimer Saatgut AG
- Louis Bolk Institute, The Netherlands

**Associate members**
- Reseau Semences Paysannes, France
- Beat Boller, Switzerland
- Dirk Reheul, Belgium
- Fred van de Crommert, Bejo, The Netherlands
- Franziska Löschenerberger, Saatzucht Donau GmbH & CoKG, Austria
- Maria Finckh, University of Kassel, Germany

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