



**OPTIMA (Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area)**

## **Second Circular**

**Dear Colleagues,**

We invite you to join us in Montpellier on 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Be assured that we will organise the Meeting in full agreement with its successful tradition, in a way that will be both pleasant and scientifically rewarding. Come and experience the strengthening of relationships among Mediterranean and Mediterranean-centred plant taxonomists. Come and take back with you an unforgettable memory. Montpellier with its old botanical tradition and its beautiful natural landscapes is awaiting you.

Preparations are progressing according to schedule. The full scientific programme is to be announced this spring when all symposium conveners will have finalised their list of speakers. The provisional, detailed scientific programme, bound to vary continuously, is not included in this Circular but is shown on the OPTIMA website at <http://www.optima2016.org/> which we advise you to visit from time to time to keep yourselves update.

*Steering Committee*

---

YOU CAN CONTACT US AT  
[contact@optima2016.org](mailto:contact@optima2016.org)

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Comprises 17 Symposia with invited speakers, a Poster Sessions with offered presentations on subjects independent of the Symposium topics, an excursion on the Causse du Larzac, and several extra conferences.

## LOCATION AND DATES:

The XV OPTIMA Meeting will take place in Montpellier, France. The outline programme is as follows:

**5-6 June:** Non-public meetings of the International Board, Executive Council, and Scientific Commissions, and Registration

**6-11 June:** Scientific programme

**7 June:** General public lecture

**9 June:** Mid-Congress excursion

**10 June:** Social Dinner (extra fee)

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES:

English and French

## REGISTRATION FEE

No.	Category	Payment in Euros		
		Regular	Late	On-Meeting
1	Regular OPTIMA Members	220	270	320
2	Non-members	270	320	370
3	Accompanying persons	100	120	150
4	Students*	100	120	150

\* This low fee is funded by the **Société Botanique de France**

### ***Please note that:***

– *Members of the organizing committee of the meeting, members of the Executive Council of OPTIMA, and students from Montpellier are exempted from paying the fee.*

*Students from Montpellier who want to attend the Social Dinner still have to pay 40 €.*

– *Invited speakers will pay a regular fee, including the Social Dinner, of 200 €. They can contact their symposium organizer to have their fee covered by OPTIMA.*

– *People intending to participate a single day should pay 80 € of fee.*

**Full (Categories 1-2):** book of abstracts, programme, all printed meeting documents, welcome reception, break refreshments, farewell drinks, one-day excursion.

**Accompanying persons:** programme, welcome reception, break refreshments, farewell drinks, one-day excursion.

**Students:** book of abstracts, programme, welcome reception, break refreshments, farewell drinks, one-day excursion.

**The conference dinner**, if desired, will be charged in addition (40 €)

**Regular registration rates** apply to payments made prior to **15 March 2016**. After that date, **late registration rates** will apply.

**Registration and payments** can be made by visiting the Registration section on our website: <http://www.optima2016.org/en/registration/>

**Book of proceedings:** Scientific contributions, subject to fast-line peer review, will be published in the journal *Flora Mediterranea* electronically and in print.

### **Cancellation Policies:**

Any cancellations must be sent in writing to the organisers (preferably by e-mail: [contact@optima2016.org](mailto:contact@optima2016.org)).

Cancellation refunds:

Before March 31, 2016: % 100 refund of paid fees;

April 1st – April 15: % 50 refund of paid fees;

April 16 – May 15: % 25 refund of paid fees;

No refund can be provided after May 15, 2016.

All bank fees (including contingent liabilities) are to be paid by the participant.

### **DEADLINES:**

**15 March 2016:** Payment of (regular) registration fee;

**31 March 2016:** Submission of abstracts and posters (title and short description only);

**Cancellation** with full refund will be possible before **31 March 2016**.

### **Organization Committee:**

**Chair:** Daniel Mathieu, Tela Botanica

**Secretary:** Sophie Dubois, Tela Botanica

**Member:** James Molina, Conservatoire Botanique Méditerranéen de Porquerolles

**Member:** Eric Imbert, Université de Montpellier

**Member:** Errol Vela, Université de Montpellier

### **Meeting Center, Transports and Accommodation:**

The XV. OPTIMA Meeting will be held at the University of Montpellier, Faculté des Sciences campus, building 6.

Please consult our website for more details: <http://www.optima2016.org/en/meeting/>

### **Scientific presentations**

Each registered participant is entitled to present **a single Poster**. This does not prevent co-authorship of contributions by other registered participants

#### ***Oral presentations***

Please adhere to the time limits imparted by the Symposium Organiser.

Power-point projection will be provided.

#### ***Poster presentations***

Poster dimensions must not exceed A0 format (in portrait).

Poster mounting materials will be provided.

A prize will be awarded for the best poster by the **Société Botanique de France**

### ***Abstract submissions***

Abstracts will be published in the Abstract Book. They will be printed as submitted (except for formatting), or but slightly edited.

Abstracts will only be accepted in electronic format and conditional upon prior payment of the registration fee. No abbreviation is allowed in the title. Addresses should be brief and not include academic titles. The text must be in English or French, and is not to exceed 400 words. Longer abstracts will be shortened at the Organisers' discretion, or when this is not possible, they will be returned. Abbreviations other than those internationally accepted should not be used. No footnote can be permitted.

Abstracts must be sent by e-mail to [contact@optima2016.org](mailto:contact@optima2016.org). Deadline for abstract submission is March 31, 2016. Abstracts submitted after this date will not be included in the Abstract book.

Upon request, a letter of acknowledgement / acceptance can be sent to the author's e-mail address.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information

[contact@optima2016.org](mailto:contact@optima2016.org).

**We look forward to welcoming you in Montpellier in June!**



## PROGRAM

See also the website <http://www.optima2016.org>

### Sunday 5 June

**10h00-18h** – Meeting of the Scientific commissions of OPTIMA (restricted)

### Monday 6 June

**8h30** – Meeting of the Executive Council (restricted)

**10h00** – Meeting of the International Board (restricted)

**8h30** – Registration of participants

**12h30** – Opening Ceremony followed by Plenary Lecture : **Suzanne Amigues: *Theophrastus and the birth of botanical knowledge***

**14h30** – Symposium 1 – *Plant systematics and taxonomy in France: recent progress*

Chairman: **Valéry Malécot** (Research Institute of Horticulture and Seeds /Agrocampus Ouest, Angers, France)

**14h30**– Symposium 2 – *Algae of the Mediterranean Sea*

Chairwoman: **Amelia Gómez** (University of Barcelona, Spain)

**14h30** – Symposium 3 – *Conservation of plant diversity in France, in situ strategies*

Chairman: **John Thompson** (CEFE/CNRS, Montpellier, France)

### Tuesday 7 June

**9h00** – Symposium 4 – *New techniques in plant systematic*

Chairmen: **Christoph Oberprieler** (University of Regensburg, Germany) & **Karol Marhold** (Institut of Botany, Bratislava, Slovakia)

**9h00** – Symposium 5 – *The changing role of botanic gardens in the Mediterranean*

Chairmen: **Francesco Maria Raimondo** (University of Palerme, Italy) & **Vernon H. Heywood** (University of Reading, Great Britain)

**14h30** – Symposium 6 – *Biogeography and conservation of Mediterranean islet floras*

Chairman: **Frédéric Médail** (University Aix-Marseille / IMBE, France)

**14h30** – Symposium 7 – *Exploring lichen biodiversity in the Mediterranean Region*

Chairwoman: **Ana Rosa Burgaz Moreno** (Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain)

**18h30** – Memorial symposium for Pierre Quézel

### Wednesday 8 June

**9h00** – Poster session. Posters will be on display during the whole congress.

**14h30** – Symposium 8 – *Ex-situ biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean Region*

Chairman: **Bouchaïb Khadari** (INRA/CIRAD, Montpellier, France)

**14h30** – Symposium 9 – *Progress in Bryophyte research in the Mediterranean Region*  
Chairwoman: **Rosa María Ros** (Université de Murcia, Murcia, Espagne)

**Thursday 9 June**

**Excursion** on the plateau of Larzac

**Friday 10 June**

**9h00** – Symposium 10 – *Speciation by hybridization and polyploidy in the Mediterranean*  
Chairmen: **Karol Marhold** (Institut of Botany, Bratislava, Slovakia) & **Sonja Šiljak-Yakovlev** (Université Paris-Sud, Orsay, France)

**9h00** – Symposium 11 – *Urban phytodiversity in the Mediterranean*  
Chairman: **Vernon H. Heywood** (University of Reading, Great Britain)

**14h30** – Symposium 12 – *The flora of the Irano-Turanian region : new perspectives for its biogeography and conservation*  
Chairwoman: **Magda Bou Dagher Kharrat** (Saint-Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon)

**14h30** – Symposium 13 – *The role of amateur networks in Mediterranean botany*  
Chairman: **Joël Mathez** (Montpellier, France)

**19h** – Social Dinner at the Maison des Relations Internationales

**Saturday 11 June**

**9h00** – Symposium 14 – *The impact of fire on Mediterranean vegetation*  
Chairmen: **Fernando Ojeda** (Université de Cádiz, Espagne) & **Benito Valdés** (University of Seville, Spain)

**9h00** – Symposium 15 – *Plants uses in the Mediterranean*  
Chairman: **K. Husnu Can Baser** (University Anadolu, Eskisehir, Turkey)

**14h00** – Symposium 16 – *Mediterranean plant phylogeography*  
Chairmen: **Yamama Naciri** (Conservatoire et Jardin Botanique de Genève, Switzerland) & **Alex Baumel** (University Aix-Marseille / IMBE, France)

**14h00** – Symposium 17 – *Alien invasive species in the Mediterranean*  
Chairwoman: **Sarah Brunel** (International Plant Protection Convention, Rome, Italy)

**17h00** – Closing Ceremony and General Meeting of OPTIMA

**18h30** – Farewell drinks