



ISU-information March 2018

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What Is the Worth of ISU?

Dear ISU members,

Probably you have asked yourself about the worth of ISU, especially when it comes to the collection of the membership fee. However, this is just one part of the question, the other part is: of which worth are connections across borders?

You only get the answer by using all the possibilities which are offered by ISU - the exchange with many people from Europe and overseas. That includes to take a look in perennial nurseries in other countries during Summer Days the presentation of high standing during Winter Days in Grünberg about perennial assortments, perennial usage, perennials at natural sites or the international network "Job Offer" on the ISU website. "Job Offer" is a way for young people to seek for enterprises during a stay abroad.

The connections are also important for the national organisations. Because of the ISU network, the persons in charge get to know quickly about new issues f.e. the invasive neophytes, the usage of plant protection products or turf reduction. The issue exchange offers the possibility to learn how other countries solve those problems. In the case of *Pennisetum setaceum* international relations have led to the genetical differentiation of *Pennisetum advena*, and therefore, the latter is no longer on the list of invasive species.

ISU connects perennial gardeners, perennial enthusiasts and perennial users, in addition it eases the collaboration of gardener organisations. Thank God there is ISU!

Kind regards,
Your president

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'A. Altwegg', is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Andres Altwegg

While Looking For Plants Finding Friends

11th International Perennial Plant Conference



Some of them below you might know and some of them you will meet perhaps 2019 again. Because most participants of the International Perennial Plant Conference will come again and again...



Speakers in Grünberg

above from left: Anja Maubach mit Michael Münch, Gerben Tjeerdsma, Jaqueline van der Kloet, June Blake

below from left: Pavel Krivka, Rick Darke, Sue Wooster, Coralie Thomas and Michael Wachter.

How to measure the success, the increasing interest to participate at the International Perennial Plant Conference? Is the length of the Waiting list a sign for a good result or the contentment of the 102 participants and 9 speakers out of 9 countries? Both would attest Anja Maubach doing a great job in organising this huge event.



Very pleasant is the interest of young gardeners to be part of this communities.

The 12th International Perennial Plant Conference will be held from 7th-9th February 2019.

This year two members of the Committee wrote some impressions of a lecture:

“Troy Scott Smith reported on the new approach to energising the garden at Sissinghurst. Due to the high frequency of visitors and the expectations of the public, the spirit of the location dissipated. With a great deal of courage and sensitivity, the original spatial modalities are now being restored for a living garden that invites people to visit again and again through space and time.

For the participants, one evening offers the possibility of presenting projects, developments and ideas with perennial plants in brief contributions. Jacqueline van der Kloet spoke about planting designs with bulbs, combined with perennials and annuals. She showed borders of her own garden but also at Keukenhof, at the Floriade 2012 in

Venlo and in the Millennium Park of Chicago. In the late winter the snowdrops are flowering, followed by Crocus tommasianus, Chinodoxa, Narcissus and finally tulips in April and May. In the late summer perennials can be combined with dahlias. In her plantings the bulbous plants are never planted in tufts, but always spread over the border.”

Andres Altwegg

“Chaos is a not understood structure..

...That was the essential message of Rick Darke. He gave himself the occupation of a Landscape Ethical from Pensylvanie, USA.

The main line in the message of Rick, during his speech for the audience of perennial-lovers in Grunberg, was that a garden design must be functional. The design must not give a nice static view of the garden, but must stimulate the developing garden. This concept needs a study of the garden. What seems a chaos in nature is a rational structure. To compare a spot within the seasons, might give an answer on the question why things are as they be. Otherwise a carefull study and much knowledge of relations in nature can give answers on questions why things are as they are.

If Rick receives a request to make a new garden design, after an intensive inventarisation, he tries not to take everything away and start all over again, but he tries to save as much as possible. The trees and perennials which are there, apparently are adapted to that environment. If they can be functional in the new situation, they must be saved. On the other hand, Rick uses not only local plants. There are many plants, coming from far away, which can be very functional in a design. Functionality can be seen as usefull for insects, for birds, for shape or otherwise. Of course, when a plant is invasive, you have to be careful and not to use them. “The art of obversation”, the name of his speech, is therefore very important. What is the function of a plant, of a structure, of a border, of a garden-room in a garden. A good knowledge of the plants is helpfull to make a design according to his principles.

Thanks to Anja Maubach for organizing the meeting and Jo Bogaerts to make all the pictures.

So for example, Rick promotes the use of lots of different groundcover plants, in order to forcome the growing of weeds, but as to replace the necessity of bringing compost in the garden. The groundcovers are the mulch. But also by saving dead trees, he offers birds a place where they are save for cats and have a good overview. Not by

feeding birds, but with an attractive garden design for birds (Including a birdbath) he attracts lots of them. He showed many other examples how to design a living garden.

Rick stimulates the organic design. For him it means that he uses plants for edges, plants for fences, and he prefers wooden furniture and not iron or other material.

Rick wrote a number of books about his principles. Lots of information is to find on his website www.rickdarke.com.” Aad Vollebregt

Explore Colours of Poland at ISU Summer Days 2018



The East of Europe is worth to be seen! An interesting mixture of traditional gardening and modern production, of historical buildings and gardens as well as the upcoming market. 125 different new varieties are planted at the trial field in the Arboretum Wojślawice.

All ISU-members we send out the printed programme. Please tell us, if you it didn't reach you. All details are inserted at our webpage: <http://www.isu-perennials.org/de/summer-days.html> <http://www.isu-perennials.org/en/summer-days.html>

Summer Days 2020 in Czech Republic 9.8.-13.8.2020

The Summer Days 2020 will take place in the Czech Republic. Petr Hanzelka from the Botanical Garden in Prag already suggested a programme, starting in Prag. First Overview:

Sunday 9.8. 2020 – Afternoon

- committee in Prague Botanical Garden (BG),
- plants evaluation
 - participants arrival
 - welcome dinner in hotel
 - accomodation in Prague

Monday 10.8.2020

Morning: Visite of the Prague Botanical Garden

Lunch – restaurant close to Prague BG

Afternoon: perennial nursery of Mrs. Pesickova
(one of largest in Czech rep.)



Dinner and ISU awarding
Accommodation in Prague

Tuesday 11.8. 2020

Morning: Dendrological garden of Research institute for Horticulture, Průhonice

Lunch: Průhonice^



Afternoon: park and Botanic garden of Botany department of Czech Academy of Science, Průhonice

Wednesday 12.8.2020

Morning: Botanic garden and arboretum of Mendel University Brno (2-3 hours)

lunch: Brno

afternoon: perennial garden of Holzbecher family
(www.holzbecher.cz), Lelekovice

In case of enough time: possible to visit private perennial garden close to Slavkov u Brna Owner: Petr Hanzelka, Martin Beranek, 4.000m²
accomodation: Brno

Thursday 13.8.2020

morning: perennial nursery of Mrs. Rajnochova, Lednice

alternative: park and gardens of chateau Lednice and Faculty of Horticulture Lednice

afternoon: departure to Prague (or Vienna)

Alternative - Herb garden in chateau Valtice Valtice.

In August 2018 the invitation for participating at the trial in 2020 will be send out.

Committee confident for future of nurseries

Members of the committee and guests at the last meeting from France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Poland, Sweden, Czech Republic and Germany reported about an increasing economy in their countries, building up houses and gardens. So the landscapers order perennials, the market is still or growing.



ISU-committee meeting with guests in Grünberg, from left: Tina Banse, Michel Le Damany, Gerben Tjeerdsma, Andres Altwegg, Tomasz Michalik.



ISU-committee meeting with guests in Grünberg, from left: Jonas Bengtsson, Beate Zillmer, Aad Vollebregt

But challenges in all countries are increasing regulations, decreasing capacity of plant transportation, difficulty to get assistants, new diseases and pests, price discussion, less available pesticides and Xylella.

Kyrgyzstan Excursion 2018 is booked up

16 Participants are glad to explore plants in rich flowering meadows or dried out riverbed. All other applications we are sad to refuse – the excursion is booked up.

But the Guide Brian Kabbes offers several tours to Kyrgyzstan further on. The ISU office will connect you with him by interest.

General Assembly

One (wo)man, one vote is the new principle of the ISU. If only delegates are allowed to vote in the delegate meeting as official main organ of the ISU, single members have no democratic rights. Therefore at the last delegate meeting 2016 in London-Gatwick, participants decided to open and rename the delegate meeting: 2018 the first general assembly will start. Every member of ISU is welcome and has the right vote – for example 2018 the committee members are all available for election.

If you it is not possible for you to join the general assembly you can transfer your right to someone else, your delegate or another ISU-member. Added to the invitation for general assembly you will get a form to transfer your vote. People getting a vote from someone else have to bring the form to the general assembly to confirm this additionally vote.

ISU-Excursion to the Pyrennes 2019

From 30th of June until 6th of July ISU offers an excursion to the Pyrennes. Michel Le Damany is preparing this tour with a guide and will publish the programme until December 2018. 12-16 participants will start in France near the border in Pau and leave next day to Jaca, Spain. Save the date! We will inform you about details in time.



Great views and interesting flora are promised.



Saxifrage longifolia

Summer Days 2022 in the Netherlands

Dutch perennial growers invite the ISU for the Summer days 2020. Participants will get the opportunity to visit the Floriade Almere. The overall theme of Expo 2022 Floriade Almere is "Growing Green Cities", under the motto, "Go Greener". <http://floriade.com>

New members!

Welcome, Bienvenue, Hjertelig velkommen! Hartelijk welkom! Serdecznie witamy!

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Events 2018-2020

July 30-August 3 2018	36th Perennial Plant Symposium, Raleigh, NC
19.-29. June 2018	Excursion in Kyrgyzstan
12.-18. August 2018	Summer Days in Polen
June 30-July 6 2019	Excursion to Pyrennes
August 2020	Summer Days in Czech Republik
August 2022	Summer Days in the Netherlands

Wishing you a good start in the spring-season
 Your ISU-Team in Bonn



Tina Banse

... Elvira Bärhausen