

9TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING FOR PHYTOLITH RESEARCH



“TOWARD INTEGRATIVE PHYTOLITH RESEARCH”

Brussels, 10-12 September 2014

WORKSHOPS

“International Committee for Phytolith Morphometry”

“International Committee for Phytolith Nomenclature”

Brussels, 8-9 September 2014

Under the auspices of the International Phytolith Society

SECOND CIRCULAR



Centre de Recherche
en Archéologie
et Patrimoine



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

We are pleased to announce the 9th International Meeting on Phytolith Research (9th IMPR) to be held in Brussels, Belgium, at the Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (RBINS) from September 8th to 12th of 2014.

Since several years, phytolith analyses have drawn the interest of a wider research community worldwide for its potentialities to study past vegetation cover evolutions under climatic or human impact, plant domestication and spread, as well as to assess human food consumption. We think time has come to move toward more systematic integrative research. What can phytoliths tell us when integrated with other lines of evidence, such as (paleo)environmental, botanical, archaeobotanical, or geological data?

While contributions to the 9th IMPR are expected to cover a lot of different topics (taxonomy and (paleo)ecology, taphonomy, (palaeo)pedology and plants/soils interactions, (palaeo)environment, archaeobotany, (paleo)limnology, plant domestication.), priority will be given to those that integrate several lines of evidence in order to provide fresh insights and to address new research avenues.

Organizing committee

Dr. Alexandre Chevalier
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Belgium

Dr. Luc Vrydaghs
ULB-CReA-Patrimoine
Université libre de Bruxelles
Belgium

Prof. Dr. Katharina Neumann
Institut für Archäologische Wissenschaften
Goethe-Universität
Germany

Ass. Prof. Dr. Laurent Bavay,
CReA-Patrimoine
Université libre de Bruxelles
Belgium

Prof. Dr. Wim Van Neer
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Belgium

Scientific committee (by alphabetical order)

Prof. Rosa Maria Albert, ICREA/Universitat de Barcelona (Spain)

Prof. Dr. Laurent Bavay, CReA-Patrimoine, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)

Prof. Mikhail Blinnikov, Dep. of Geography, StCloud State University (OR, USA)

Dr. Alexandre Chevalier, DO Earth & History of Life, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (Belgium).

Prof. Laura del Puerto, Facultad de Ciencias, Sección de Limnología, Universidad de la República (Uruguay)

Prof. Dr. Willem Van Neer, Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity Conservation Section, KU Leuven (Belgium) & Senior scientist, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (Belgium).

Prof. José Irirarte, Departement of Archaeology, University of Exeter (UK)

Prof. Dr. Katharina Neumann, Institut für Archäologische Wissenschaften, Goethe-Universität (Germany).

Dr Akos Pető, National Heritage Protection Centre, Hungarian National Museum (Hungary)

Dr. Dolores Piperno, Curator of Archaeobotany and South American Archaeology Emerita, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (D.C, USA) & Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (Panama)

Prof. Caroline Stromberg, Department of Biology, University of Washington

Dr. Luc Vrydaghs CReA-Patrimoine, Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium).

PhDC Chad Yost, Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona (USA)

Dr. Alejandro Zucol, Laboratorio de Paleobotánica, CICYTTP-CONICET (Argentina)

2. PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PHYTOLITH MORPHOMETRY MEETING

Monday September 8th morning

The International Committee for Phytolith Morphometry meeting is intended for its members only. For more information (<http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>).

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PHYTOLITH NOMENCLATURE MEETING

Monday September 8th afternoon

See specific workshop call for more information (<http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>)

Tuesday September 9th

See specific workshop call for more information (<http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>)

9th IMPR Plenary Session – September 10-12

Tuesday 9 afternoon

14:00 – 17:00 Early registration. Place: conference venue, the RBINS.

17:00 – 18:00 IPS Business Meeting

18:30 – 20:30 Conference party warm-up, Estaminet “A la Bécasse” downtown Brussels, 11 rue Tabora (<http://www.alabecasse.com>), map 1 #10

Wednesday 10

8:00 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:20 Welcome speech & info

9:20 – 10:20 Oral session

10:20 – 10:40 Coffee Break

10:40 – 12:00 Oral session

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break

13:00 - 15:00 Oral session

15:00– 15:20 Coffee Break

15:20 - 17:40 Oral session

19:30 Official Welcome Reception (Brussels Heritage Department and Brussels Capital Region) at Charles V Coudenberg Palace remains on the Place Royale (map 1 #11)

Thursday 11

- 9:00 – 10:20 Oral session
10:20 – 10:40 Coffee Break
10:40 – 12:40 Poster session (authors are in front of poster according to schedule)
10:40 - 11:30 archaeology/integrative proxies session
11:30 - 11:50 pedology/transformational processes/taphonomy session
11:50 - 12:20 paleontology/ecology session
12:20 - 12:40 Identification, DB, descriptions session
12:40 – 13:40 Lunch break
13:40 - 15:20 Oral session.
15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break
15:40 - 17:00 Oral session
17:15 – 19:00 Microscope session. Place: Geology Building/RBINS

Friday 12

- 9:00 – 10:40 Oral session
10:40 – 11:00 Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:40 Oral session
12:40 – 13:40 Lunch break
13:40 - 15:20 Oral session.
15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break
15:40 - 17:00 Oral session
17:15 – 18:30 IPS General Assembly – Announcement of the Best Poster PHDC+3 Prize
19:30 - 22:30 Optional Farewell dinner at one of the best local Belgian fusion cuisine restaurant.
Venue : La Manufacture (www.lamanufacture.be, map 1 #12); price 50€ (3 courses meal with beverages – water, white and red wines - and coffee included)

Saturday 13

Excursion and activities:

- ◆ Brussels archaeological heritage tour, morning (free but you must register)
- ◆ Chocolate workshop: Discover the secrets of the chocolate maker's work! A chocolate class including a tasting, a class, and an informative session in a relaxed environment, morning around 10am (participating fee of 37€)
- ◆ Visit of one of the remaining brewery in Brussels (producing the local beer called *Lambic* from spontaneous fermentation) and beer tasting, early afternoon around 1pm (participating fee of 9€)

Otherwise, Ghent and Antwerp are only 30 minutes away from downtown Brussels by train, Bruges being the farthest on the same Ghent train line (count 1hour). Tickets timetables at www.belgianrail.be. Not to mention the numerous museums in Brussels (check www.brusselmuseums.be/en/index.php)

3. CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Oral presentations will be on a 15' talk+ 5' questions basis; the poster sessions will be on a 30' mandatory author's presence basis. The meeting will be able to schedule about 40 oral presentations. In case that the number of submitted oral presentations exceeds 40, the Organising and Scientific Committees reserve the right to assign accepted papers to poster presentations.

Posters will be displayed during the remaining days of the conference. We encourage poster's authors to print out their poster in A4 or A3 format to hand them out. Abstracts should be submitted in English and include the abstract title, authors' names and affiliations and describe the content of the oral or poster presentation (max. 300 words. Calibri 11. Single line spacing, no indentation). Abstracts will be made available through the website and a printed version will be distributed to the participants.

Final registration and abstracts have to be submitted **30th of June 2014 at the latest by e-mail to 9thIMPR@gmail.com** and are subject to review by members of the Scientific Committee. Please note that each person can give only one oral presentation and one poster as first author.

To get the registration form, please go to our website <http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>

4. AWARD FOR THE BEST POSTER

The organizing committee has decided to award a prize to the best PhD candidate+3 poster or oral in order to foster the participation of young scholars and give them the opportunity to be included in the phytolith scientific community. This award will include the reimbursement of the conference fees, the reimbursement of the lodging expenses up to 300€ as well the gala dinner fees.

It is open to all PhD candidates as well as to young scientists up to 3 years after getting their doctoral degree. The jury will be composed of the Scientific Committee to the exclusions of the members who would be author or co-author of one of the poster.

5. REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees include: the welcome package, the conference party warm-up, the official reception, the coffee breaks and lunch breaks. The optional party on Friday night is NOT included, nor are the leisure activities on Saturday.

	Early fees (June 30 th)	Late fees (after July 1 st)
Standard rate*	140€	160€
Student standard rate**	100€	120€
Emergent countries rate (countries <u>not</u> listed below)	90€	110€
Emergent countries student rate**	70€	90€

The relevant information for paying the fees as well as the conference dinner and activities can be found on the final registration form available at <http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>

***Standard rate applies for the following countries:** EU-AELE-EEE countries, Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Brunei, Canada, China, Israel, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Libya, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sultanate of Oman Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, and the USA.

**** Student rate:** please provide a copy of your student-ID

6. VENUE - HOW TO GET THERE

Venue

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
29, rue Vautier
1000 Brussels
<http://www.naturalsciences.be>

Traveling to Brussels

By plane

Brussels International Airport (BRU) offers flights to and from all major European and International destinations. It is located some 14km away from the city center. Taxi operate at fixed rate from the airport to city center (36€), but according to traffic condition you may prefer to take the train to one of the Brussels railways station (www.b-rail.be) according to the location of your hotel, or the Airport Express bus (<http://www.stib.be/airport-line.html?l=en>) and then a city bus to reach your destination. An alternative is to fly to Brussels South-Charleroi (CRL), which is an hub for RyanAir. It is located 1 hour south of Brussels and you have to take a bus shuttle to the South (“Midi”) Railways station in Brussels (about 15€ one way).

By train

There are several railway stations in Brussels. Brussels South (Bruxelles Midi) is the main stop for high speed train Eurostars from UK, TGV from France, as well as Thalys from France, Germany and Netherlands. For all the possibilities, check <http://www.b-rail.be/int/E/> for timetables and rates.

By car

Traffic in Brussels is hectic...and rated as one of the most congested city of the world. So it is maybe not the best option to use. The RBINS does have two parking lots available for visitors, but it is unsafe to leave there any vehicle overnight.

7. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

The Brussels public transportation network system is dense, good (although not always on time), and quite cheap (www.stib.be). Upon your arrival you can purchase a ten journey card at one of the vending machines if you have cash, or at metro station desks (Railways stations). You can travel for one hour on all the network once you have validated your card inside the stations or buses, but you need to revalidate your ticket every time you’re getting in a bus/tram/metro. Note that the airport express bus does have a specific rate. As a healthy, though challenging (because of the traffic and slopes) alternative, you may use the public bicycle system (www.villo.be).

All the indicated buses in the lodging section to reach the venue, the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Science, better known as the “Museum”(of natural sciences...) arrive either at the “Idalie”, “Luxemburg” or “Museum” stops. See Map 2 for directions.

8. ACCOMMODATION

There are many hotels in Brussels, in all categories, including youth hostels. The organizing committee has negotiated specific rates with following hotels, by star rating.

Maxhotel*** (www.maxhotel.be), map 1 (#1)

From 62 € per night

Downtown. From the hotel take the metro at the “Rogier” station (5 min walk), direction “Roi Baudouin” (line 6) or Simonis (line 2), get off at “Porte de Namur”, and from there take any bus to the “Luxembourg” square across the street (34, 38, 64, 95, 80: 2 stops).

Hotel Astrid*** (www.astridhotel.be), map 1 (#2)

From 84 € per night

Downtown.

Hotel Aris*** (www.arishotel.be), map 1 (#3)

From 92€ per night.

Just off the World Heritage “Grand Place” of Brussels. From the hotel walk to the “De Brouckère” square and bus stop, and take the bus 38 to the “Luxembourg” square.

Hotel Alma*** (www.almahotel.be), map 1 (#4)

From 99€ per night, **no breakfast provided** but hot beverages and breads available.

Between the World Heritage “Grand Place” of Brussels and the Fine Arts Museum Compound (Magritte, Old Music Instruments, Fine Arts). From the hotel walk to the “Central Station” stop (and railways station), and take the bus 38 to the “Luxembourg” square.

To book in one of these “3 Stars hotel” (Max, Astrid, Aris, Alma) go to their respective website, and use the code **9IMPR** when entering your dates, then **select the CORPO rate** (only visible when using the 9IMPR code on the hotel homepage), and then select your “extra” such as the buffet breakfast (good value!).

You’ll get a 10% discount on the current prices and will have the possibility to cancel or modify your reservation free of charge till 24h00 before arrival. Be aware that there are cheaper options on their website but you may not be able to cancel your reservation and/or pay fees for any modification. Be consumer aware... **These rates are on the First Come First Serve basis.**

Hôtel Chambord***, map 1 (#5)

124,50 €/night

Between downtown and the Museum. From the hotel, cross the boulevard and take the bus 34, 64, or 80 to the “Luxembourg” square. Walk across the EU Parliament building and the Museum is just behind.

Or 15 minutes walk directly to the Museum.

Le Renaissance****, map 1 (#6)

From 90 to 140€ according to the day of the week.

Just off the “Luxembourg” square, at a walking distance from the conference venue.

To book in one of these two hotels use the simple-to-use reservation website of our housing partner, the Brussels Booking Desk: <https://secure.hotel.visitbrussels.be?package=294>, or call the Brussels Booking Desk : +32 2 563 61 04 (Monday to Friday, during office hours, CMT)

Official Hotel Event Rates expires on Friday, August 8th, 2014.

Hotel Bloom**, map 1 (#7)**

From 96 to 126€ according to the day of the week.

Just off downtown, overlooking the city centre.

From the hotel take the metro at the “Botanique” station (5 min walk), direction “Roi Baudouin” (line 6) or Simonis (line 2), get off at “Porte de Namur”, and from there take any bus to the “Luxembourg” square across the street (34, 38, 64, 95, 80: 2 stops). Walk across the EU Parliament building and the Museum is just behind.

To book this hotel, use the Resotel link www.resotel.be/phytolithresearch2014 to be connected with the on-line booking system for the 9th IMPR participants.

Official Hotel Event Rates expires on Friday, August 8th, 2014.

Other possibilities (no specific conference rate):

- **The U-Residence**, map 1 (#8)

€75 for single and €100 for double.

In the Dutch speaking campus of the Free University of Brussels. No breakfast available, and few restaurant around. But a small kitchen available. It could be a good value according to hotel availability and prices in Brussels.

To book: www.u-residence.be

From the U-Residence, either walk or take any streetcar in any direction for one stop. If getting off at “Etterbeek gare” take the bus 95 to “De Brouckère” up to “Idalie” or “Luxembourg” square. If getting off with the street car at “Arsenal”, take the bus 34 to “Porte de Namur” up to “Museum”

- **The White Hotel** (now part of the Accor Hotels Group), map 1 (#9)

From 97€. On the Louise Avenue.

From the hotel walk 50m to the Vleurgat bus stop and take the bus 38 direction “De Brouckère” and get off at either “Idalie” or “Luxembourg”.

Finally, a very limited quantity of rooms (2 single rooms @ 25€ and 2 double rooms @ 40€) will also be available at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences guesthouse within the premises of the museum itself: priority will be given to students from low income countries participant. No breakfast provided but a small kitchen is available to guests. To request such a room please send a message to : 9thIMPR@gmail.com with the headline “Gest house RBINS” and state the reasons (professional status, country of origin) for your request, as well as your agreement to share a room with a same-sex colleague if necessary.

PLEASE note that the above mentioned hotel rates are subject to change and are only indicative

9. PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of the 9th IMPR will be published in a peer-review international journal. The Scientific Committee will act as reviewing board under the three co-editors responsibility: Dr. Alexandre Chevalier, Dr. Luc Vrydaghs and Prof. Dr Katharina Neumann. As soon as the final program is established, first authors will receive the editorial norms and deadlines to submit their article for publication.

10. PARTNERS

Scientific partners

Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (RBINS) ; Centre of Archaeological Research and Heritage of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (CReA – Heritage ULB); Goethe Universität; Research Team in Archaeo and PalaeoSciences (ROOTS); Brussels Capital-Region; Heritage Office of the Walloon Region

Sponsors

Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (RBINS) ; Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB); Brussels Capital Region; Carl Zeiss Company; Research Team in Archaeo and PalaeoSciences (ROOTS).

11. IMPORTANT DATES

June 30th 2014

Deadline for registration, final title and abstract of presentation.
Deadline for early fees payment.

August 15th 2014

Fourth Circular with final program.

12. CONTACT

For all your correspondence about the IMPR, please use our email: 9thIMPR@gmail.com, and NOT the ones of the Organizing Committee. For more information, download the registration and abstract forms, visit our website <http://9impr.ulb.ac.be/>.