



**2022 Annual Meeting of the International Pest Risk Research Group  
in Association with the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO),  
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Greece  
and University of Thessaly, Greece**

Climate change and pest risk assessment  
10<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Athens, Greece

The International Pest Risk Research Group (IPRRG) will be hosting its 2022 annual meeting in association with the Benaki Phytopathological Institute, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the University of Thessaly from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in Athens, Greece.

Climate change impacts the movement of agricultural and forestry products and the survival of novel invasive threats worldwide. There is emerging evidence that recent historical climatic changes have resulted in dramatic effects on the geographical range and impacts of both endemic and invasive alien pests, making the protection of national borders against new pest invasions increasingly difficult. The economic consequences of climate change will, in turn, change pathways and alter invasive species risk patterns. Climate change has been identified by EFSA and EPPO as the highest priority emerging concern in relation to pest risk modelling and assessment. This year we wish to focus attention on key impacts of climate change on pest risk assessment, to better understand and prepare for the emerging challenges.

**Call for Abstracts:** We are experimenting with a new model for our meeting. This year, we are inviting presentations on the workshop theme, with a view to workshoping the topics and distilling the consensus position on each of the topics into a series of papers to be published as a peer-reviewed special issue in *EPPO Bulletin*. Consequently, while we welcome presentations spanning the full range of interests covered by IPRRG, this year we especially encourage presentations addressing any of the following topics:

- 1) Trends, magnitude and uncertainties in climate change
- 2) The interpretation of climate change scenarios. Appropriate framing of the risk assessment problems and communicating PRA scenarios
- 3) The sensitivity of pests to climate change. How important are the effects of climate change on PRA?
- 4) Evidence for changes in pest ranges and impacts in response to climatic changes, including case studies
- 5) The strengths and weaknesses of different models for estimating species ranges under climate change
- 6) Can current PRA tools include emerging threats due to climate change accurately and adequately, considering establishment, host crop exposure, and the distribution of impacts, etc.?
- 7) How should future climate scenarios be incorporated into PRA?
  - a) Adaptive management (stress test, contingency plan, targeted surveillance and monitoring of lead variables)?
  - b) Standard emission scenario?
  - c) Which GCMs, and how should the results be considered?
- 8) Understanding the appropriate time horizon for PRA
  - a) How far into the future should a PRA consider?
  - b) What are the factors that should guide this horizon?
- 9) Monitoring and horizon scanning for emerging pest threats
  - a) What datasets, models and methods are useful to recognise emerging threats?
  - b) How can we apply them cost-effectively?
  - c) How can we identify and characterise emerging threats?
  - d) How should we curate and share data on changing threats?
- 10) Managing emerging pest threats under substantial climate uncertainty

During the workshop we will collate the discussion points on each topic for distillation into papers to be published.

**Abstracts** (max 250 words) should be submitted by **15 July 2022** at <http://www.pestrisk.org/submit-abstract-iprrg-2022/>. To submit an abstract, you must first join IPRRG (this is free) and log in to the IPRRG website.

A registration fee will be charged to cover expenses such as venue hire, a group dinner, refreshments during the meeting and a technical excursion. Students will be eligible for a discounted registration.

**Joining IPRRG** is free! Simply visit the IPRRG website ([www.pestrisk.org/](http://www.pestrisk.org/)) today to register as a member.

**About IPRRG:** <http://www.pestrisk.org/who-are-we/>

**For more information on our 2022 Meeting in Athens** please go to <http://www.pestrisk.org/iprrg-2022/>

**Do you have a special interest in fruit flies?** This year's meeting is being planned in conjunction with the annual meeting of the European Horizon 2020 FF-IPM project ([www.fruitflies-ipm.eu](http://www.fruitflies-ipm.eu)), which will run from 14-15 October 2022 in a venue near the IPRRG meeting. If you are interested in attending the FF-IPM meeting, please contact Nikolaos Papadopoulos ([nikopap@uth.gr](mailto:nikopap@uth.gr)).



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