



International Symposium Ecology of Aphidophaga 16th

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

Bologna, February 17th, 2025

Following our first announcement in September 2024, the Steering Committee has renewed the open invitation to participate in the 16th International Symposium Ecology of Aphidophaga, which will be held in Bologna, Italy, from 8th to 12th September, 2025, and will be hosted by the University of Bologna.

We aim to bring together the latest advances in research on aphid natural enemies, to provide an opportunity for exchange of information and ideas and to stimulate collaborations. The workshop program includes oral and poster sessions, plenary discussions, and a one-day excursion with a social dinner.

English will be the official language of the meeting. All contributions of meeting registrants, including both oral and poster presentations, will be published in an abstract book. This book will be provided in electronic format to all participants.

Please visit the web page www.aphidophaga16.it for the most up-to-date information regarding the symposium. The website is updated regularly.

We look forward to seeing you in Bologna!

Invited keynote lectures

Distinguished colleagues have accepted already our invitation to give plenary lectures at the Symposium and others will be added:

- Prof. Dr. Gerben Messelink; Biological Pest Control in Greenhouse Productions Systems, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherland
- Dr. J. P. Michaud; Department of Entomology, Kansas State University, USA
- Dr. Alberto Urbaneja García; Plant Protection and Biotechnology Department, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias, Spain

Oral presentations and posters

The Symposium will include submitted oral presentations (20 min including the question period) and concurrent poster sessions. All submissions must be accompanied by an abstract and are subjected to approval by the scientific committee. Abstracts should be submitted upon registration through the webpage by 30th June. Please consult the webpage for information on how to register and submit an abstract.

Presentations and posters should address one or more of the following themes related to aphid natural enemies:

- Systematics and phylogeny
- Morphology and physiology
- Distribution in habitats
- Behaviour
- Chemical ecology
- Voltinism and diapause
- Integrated Pest Management
- Biological control of aphids
- Impact of chemical control on aphidophaga
- Tritrophic interactions
- Aphidophaga natural enemies
- Invasive aphidophaga
- Intraguild interactions
- Mass production and release
- Climatic changes and seasonal adaptation
- Modelling and population dynamics

Proposals for organizing symposia on special topics will be considered upon request.

Registration and fees

Registration will open on February 15th and close on 1st September. Registration categories, fees and deadlines are as follows:

	Early registration (before 15th June 2025)	Late registration (after 15th June 2025)
General	550 euros	695 euros
Graduate Student	350 euros	450 euros
Accompanying person	250 euros	300 euros

Note that the “Early” rate only applies if the conference package is booked and paid before the deadline.

Registration fees include:

- Admission to Scientific Sessions
- Conference Material (program, abstract book, conference bag, etc.)
- Welcome cocktail
- Lunches (midday)
- Coffee breaks
- Conference excursion
- Conference social dinner
- Accompanying person fee includes only welcome cocktail, conference excursion and social dinner.

Preliminary program

Day	Date	Program
Monday	8 th September 2025	Symposium opening + Platform presentations + Poster sessions + Welcome cocktail
Tuesday	9 th September 2025	Platform presentations + Poster sessions + City tour
Wednesday	10 th September 2025	Excursion + Conference dinner
Thursday	11 th September 2025	Platform presentations + Poster sessions
Friday	12 th September 2025	Platform presentations + Farewell session + Light lunch

Student travel grants

The International Organization of Biological Control will be providing travel grants to assist young scientists and students (< 35 years old, IOBC membership required) with travel costs to attend the meeting. Awards will range from 400 to 800 euros, depending on country of origin, and will be awarded competitively, based on the quality of submitted abstracts. Acceptance will require an oral presentation at the meeting. Applications can be made by email to: jpmi@ksu.edu.

Accommodations

Participants can book their hotel directly. A list of recommended hotels for accommodation is available on the Aphidophaga 16 website.

Important dates

15th February 2025: Opening of the Call for abstracts and registration

15th June 2025: Deadline for early registration.

15th June 2025: Deadline for abstract submission Authors should register before this date.

15th July 2025: Notification of acceptance decision

30th July 2025: Preliminary program

1st September 2025: Final registration

8th – 12th September 2025: International Symposium Ecology of Aphidophaga 16

We hope that this Symposium is of interest to you and look forward to welcoming you to Bologna. Please forward this circular to all colleagues who may be interested.

The Steering Committee, Ecology of Aphidophaga

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