
Knowledge exchange and transfer from academia to industry in the field of wood protection research – Activities of the IRG-WP Communications Committee

Lina Nunes, Bill Abbott, Christian Brischke, Doug Howick,
Miha Humar, Erik Larnøy, Francisca J. Latorre, Alan F. Preston, Tripti Singh

What is IRG-WP?

- The **International Research Group on Wood Protection** (IRG-WP) was founded in 1969 as a structured group of like-minded scientists and technologists focused on generating knowledge of the **science of wood deterioration**, and novel solutions to provide **sustainable and environmental responsible products for the protection of wood-based materials**.
- Initially the IRG-WP was composed of 22 scientists from 9 countries: Austria, Belgium, France, the German Federal Republic, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.
- IRG-WP today has more than **350 members** from **51 countries** around the world.



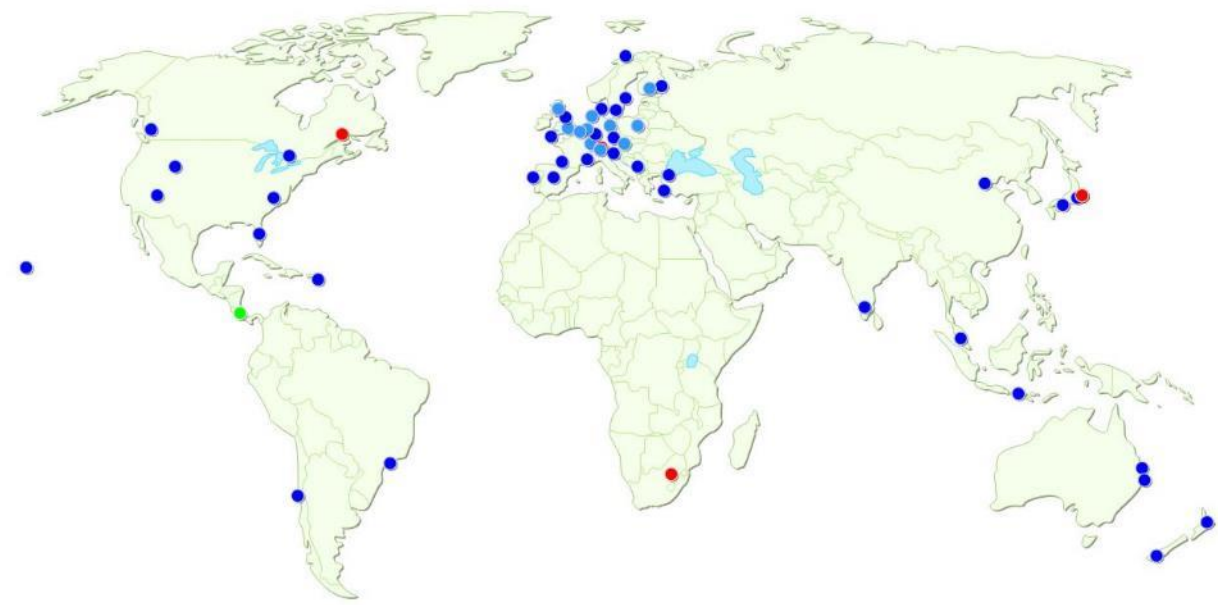
Annual Meetings

- The primary vehicle of communication is the annual meeting usually held in the second quarter of each year with global locations chosen as providing optimal opportunities for interactions between attendees.



Annual Meetings

IRG Scientific Conference Locations 1969 - 2019



 PEELERS SCOTLAND	 RAULON, NORTH CAROLINA U.S.A.	 Tromsø NORWAY 2006	 Canada
 SARAJEVO, YUGOSLAVIA 10 - 15 May 1981	 AUSTRALIA 1983	 Maastricht 1998	 IN ROSENHEIM GERMANY
 FRANCE 1986	 FRANCE 1986	 BEIJING CHINA THE 10th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP ON WOOD PROTECTION 中国森林保护国际研讨会	 irg39
 IRG 1984	 Hono, Hawaii IRG 2000 MAY 14-19, 2000	 CARDIFF 15-17 MAY 2005	 BIARRITZ May 9-13, 2010
 U.S.A. May 16-21, 1993	 AUSTRALIA	 International Research Group on WOOD PROTECTION 中国森林保护国际研讨会	 IRG 44
 DENMARK MAY 29 - 31 2004	 IRG 35 6-10 June 2004 Ljubljana Slovenia	 St. George, Utah May 11-15, 2014	 IRG 46 MAY 11-15, 2014
 DENMARK MAY 29 - 31 2004	 IRG 36 21-24 APRIL 2003 HANOI, VIETNAM	 IRG 47 47th Annual Meeting of the International Research Group on Wood Protection 2017 - 18 May 2017	 IRG 48 8 June 2017 Ghent - Belgium

Communications Committee

- The **Communications Committee (CC)** of the International Research Group on Wood Protection (IRG or IRGW P) was established to coordinate the electronic communications activities of the research group.
- The CC currently has **nine members** who each serve for three year terms. The CC has a Chair, and the CC reports through the Chair directly to the IRG Executive Council (EC).

**Alan F. Preston (Chair, USA), Lina Nunes (Portugal), Bill Abbott (USA),
Christian Brischke (Germany), Doug Howick (Australia), Miha Humar (Slovenia),
Erik Larnøy (Norway), Francisca J. Latorre (Chile), Tripti Singh (New Zealand)**



Communications Committee

IRG WEBSITE

<http://www.irg-wp.com/>

IRG NEWSLETTER

(started February 2013)

IRG SOCIAL MEDIA

(from 2011)



Website

The IRG website (<http://www.ircg-wp.com/>) serves as the primary information provider on the overall activities of the IRG.

International Research Group on Wood Protection

OUR PURPOSE

To provide a forum for communication of the science and technology associated with wood protection.

Welcome to the website of the International Research Group on Wood Protection, commonly known as the IRG.

The IRG membership is a structured group of like-minded scientists and technologists focused on generating knowledge of the science of wood deterioration, and novel solutions to provide sustainably and environmentally responsible products for the protection of wood-based materials.

The primary function of the IRG is to provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and information in an informal atmosphere, unencumbered by refereeing of papers or other pre-conditions. The primary vehicle is the annual meeting usually held in May of each year with global locations chosen as providing optimal opportunities for interactions between attendees and in settings that are both interesting and economically viable for our diverse attendance from around the world.

Each year 100 to 190 papers are presented and published, with all papers being available free to members and sponsors in electronic format through our searchable database. Since our inception in 1969 nearly 5,000 IRG papers have been published and all are available online or through the IRG Compendium. Non-members of the IRG are able to search the online database and purchase any paper for download through the website.

Membership and sponsorship is open to all interested persons and organizations. The executive direction of the activities of the IRG is carried out through a number of committees made up of members and sponsors representatives. [The IRG Secretariat](#) is based in Stockholm, Sweden.

Photos & Video from IRG48:

Find us on: **facebook®**

Meetings & Info

- IRG Meetings
- Meetings of interest
- IRG Newsletters
- IRG Awards

Join Us in Johannesburg, South Africa for the IRG49 Scientific Conference on Wood Protection 29 April to 3 May 2018

The IRG49 Local Organising Committee invites you to Johannesburg in South Africa for the IRG49 Scientific Conference on Wood Protection on 29 April to 3 May 2018.

Click here soon for the IRG49 website which will be continually updated with the most recent information on the IRG49 meeting.

[Read more...](#) | [Register now...](#)

IRG President Joris Van Acker and Vice-President Lone Ross Gobakken

Become a Member or IRG Sponsor

IRG is open to any person with an interest in research and development relating to wood protection or to the technology and practice of wood protection. Sponsorships are welcome from any organisation or industry active and interested in wood protection research and wishing to support the IRG financially.

[Read more...](#)

Research Pages

- Documents Search
- Durability Database
- Wood Organisms
- Test Methods
- Test Sites Map

Communications Committee Members

Position	Member
Convener	Dr Alan Preston , USA
Members	Mr William Abbott , USA
	Dr Christian Brischke , Germany
	Mr Doug Howick , Australia
	Dr Miha Humar , Slovenia
	Dr Erik Larnøy , Norway
	Ms Francisca Latorre , Chile
	Dr Lina Nunes , Portugal
	Dr Tripti Singh , New Zealand



Scientific Programme Committee Members

Position	Member	Term
Chairman	Dr Lone Ross Gobakken , Norway	2019
Members	Dr Joris Van Acker , Belgium	2019
	Section 1: Biology	2020
	Dr Magdalena Kutnik , France	
	Dr Nadine Amusant , France	
	Section 2: Test Methodology and Assessment	2020
	Dr Christian Brischke , Germany	
	Dr Erik Larnøy , Norway	
	Section 3: Wood Protecting Chemicals	2018
	Dr Lehong Jin , USA	
	Dr Jun Zhang , USA	
	Section 4: Processes and Properties	2018
	Dr Tripti Singh , New Zealand	
	Mr Paul Merrick , USA	
	Section 5: Sustainability and Environment	2018
	Dr Morten Klamer , Denmark	
	Mr Dalling Brooks , USA	
Secretary - ex officio	Dr Mats Westin , Sweden	2019

MORE ABOUT US

[History](#)

[Committee structure](#)

[Current Committees](#)

[Working Parties](#)

[Procedures Manual](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Community Links](#)

Website

Website – Image gallery

Photo Gallery

PROTECTED WOOD APPLICATIONS

METHODS USED

THE SCIENCE OF WOOD PROTECTION

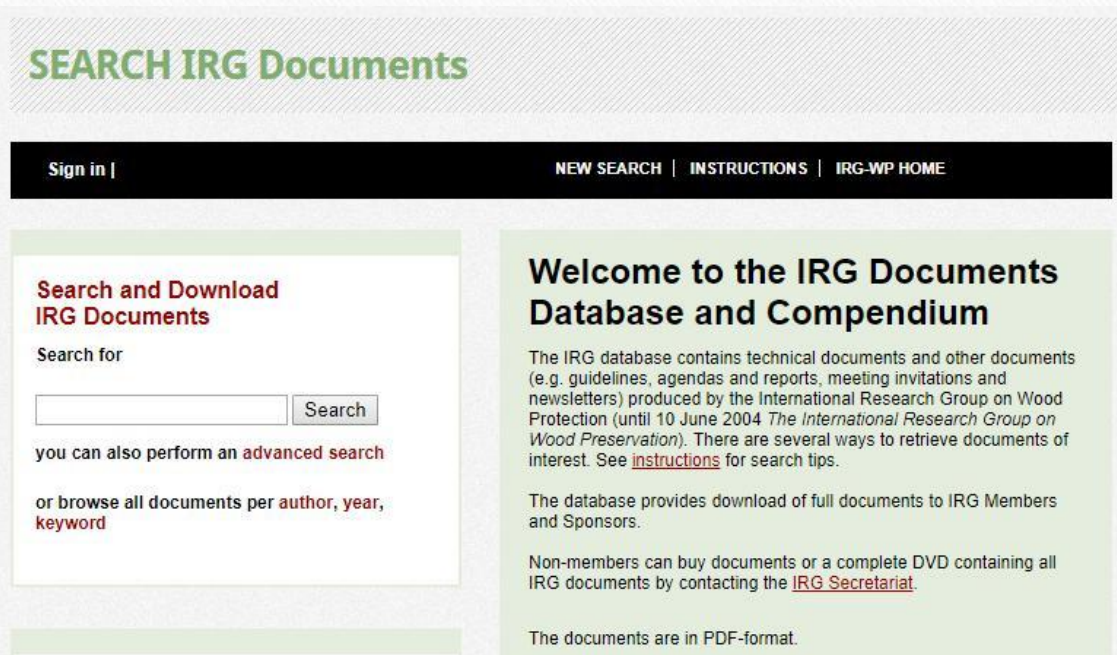
MEMBERS AT WORK

MEMORIES OF IRG



Website – Research

- IRG Documents (<http://www.irg-wp.com/search-irg-docs.html>)



SEARCH IRG Documents

Sign in | NEW SEARCH | INSTRUCTIONS | IRG-WP HOME

Search and Download IRG Documents

Search for

Search

you can also perform an [advanced search](#)

or browse all documents per [author](#), [year](#), [keyword](#)

Welcome to the IRG Documents Database and Compendium

The IRG database contains technical documents and other documents (e.g. guidelines, agendas and reports, meeting invitations and newsletters) produced by the International Research Group on Wood Protection (until 10 June 2004 *The International Research Group on Wood Preservation*). There are several ways to retrieve documents of interest. See [instructions](#) for search tips.

The database provides download of full documents to IRG Members and Sponsors.

Non-members can buy documents or a complete DVD containing all IRG documents by contacting the [IRG Secretariat](#).

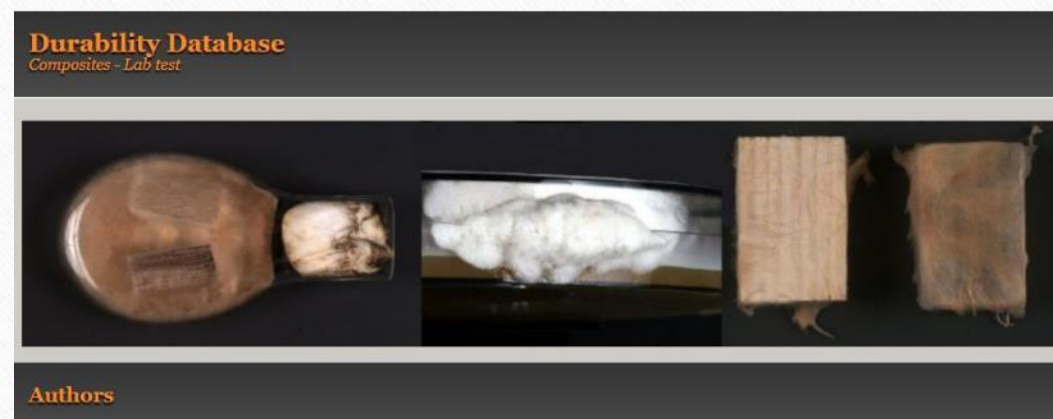
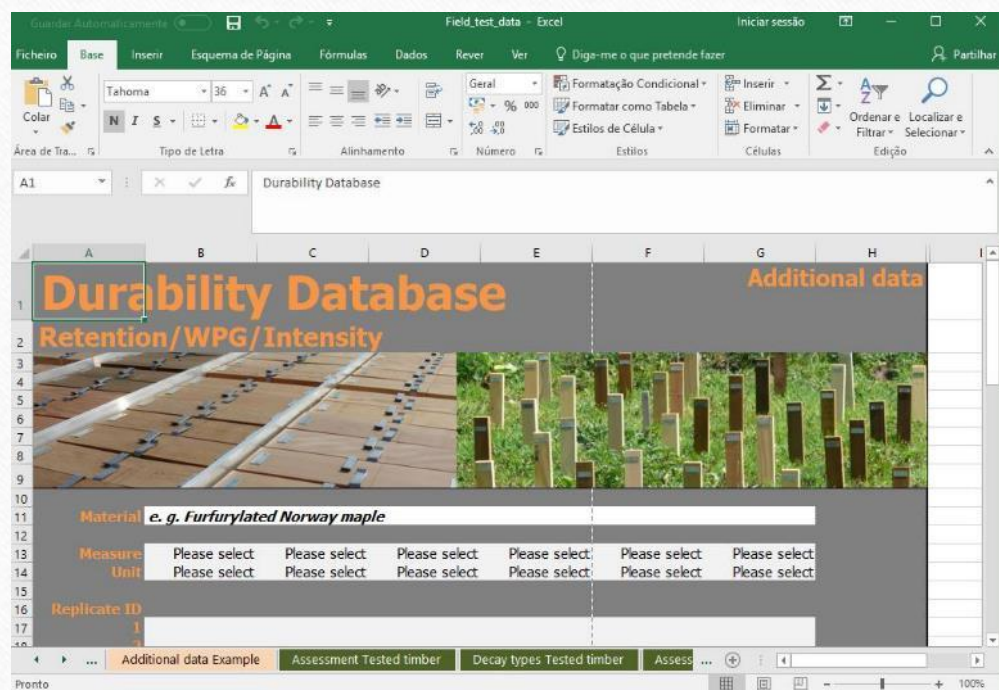
The documents are in PDF-format.



The compendium consists of PDF versions of all IRG documents since the inception of the IRG in 1969, with over **5000 documents** altogether.

Website – Research

- Durability Database (<http://www.irg-wp.com/durability/index.html>)



Website – Research

- Test methods (<http://www.irg-wp.com/testmethods.html>)

26 different test methods are included, each on separate web pages which include a description of each method, viewable image files of the method, and where available, scientific references to the method

Laboratory Soil Block Decay Tests

This method covers the determination of the minimum amount of preservative that is effective in preventing decay of selected species of wood by selected fungi under optimum laboratory conditions. Conditioned blocks of wood are impregnated with solutions, emulsions, or dispersions of a preservative in water or suitable organic solvent to form one or more series of retentions of the preservative in the blocks. After periods of conditioning or weathering, the impregnated blocks are exposed to recognized destructive species of both brown-rot and white-rot wood-destroying fungi. At least one brown-rot and one white-rot fungus should be used in screening tests with new formulations.

In general, the accuracy of the preservative efficacy determination will increase as more fungi are used. The minimum amount of preservative that protects the impregnated blocks against decay by a given test fungus is defined as the threshold retention for that organism. A minimum of three species of both brown-rot and white-rot fungi should be used when refining the thresholds of new preservative formulations. Failure to protect is evidenced by loss of mass from the treated wood blocks, as indicated by a loss of weight. Blocks treated with preservatives of known efficacies should be included in tests with new formulations.

A standard version of this test method is available as AWPA Standard E10 (available from the [AWPA](#)). The Australasian procedure can be found described in the [AWPC Protocols](#).



Website – Research

- Test methods – insects

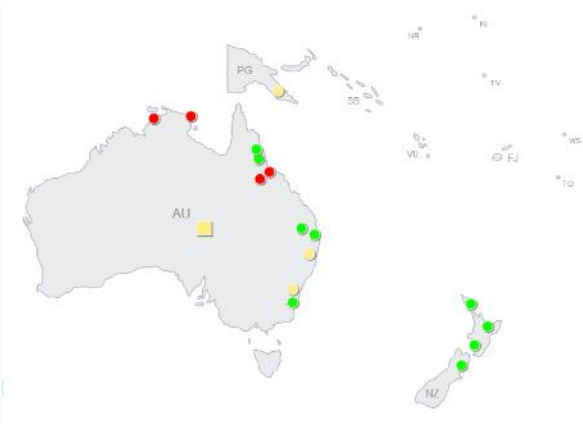
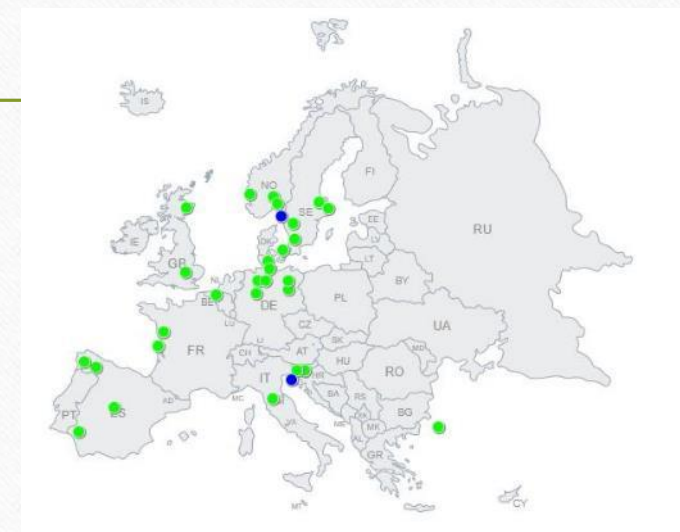
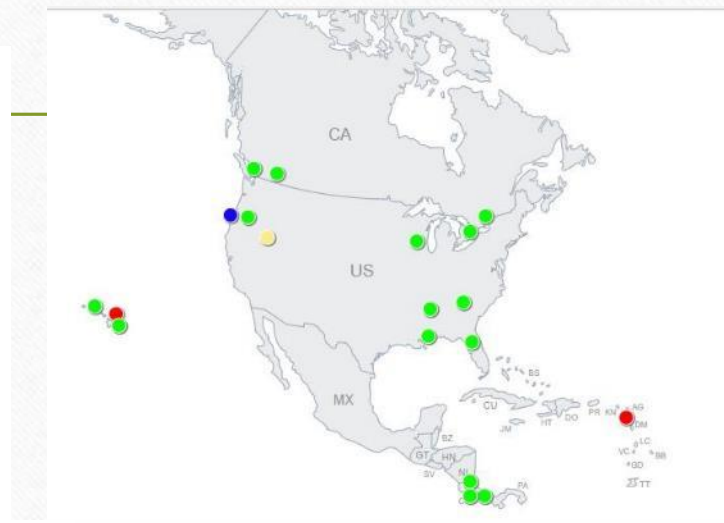


Website – Research

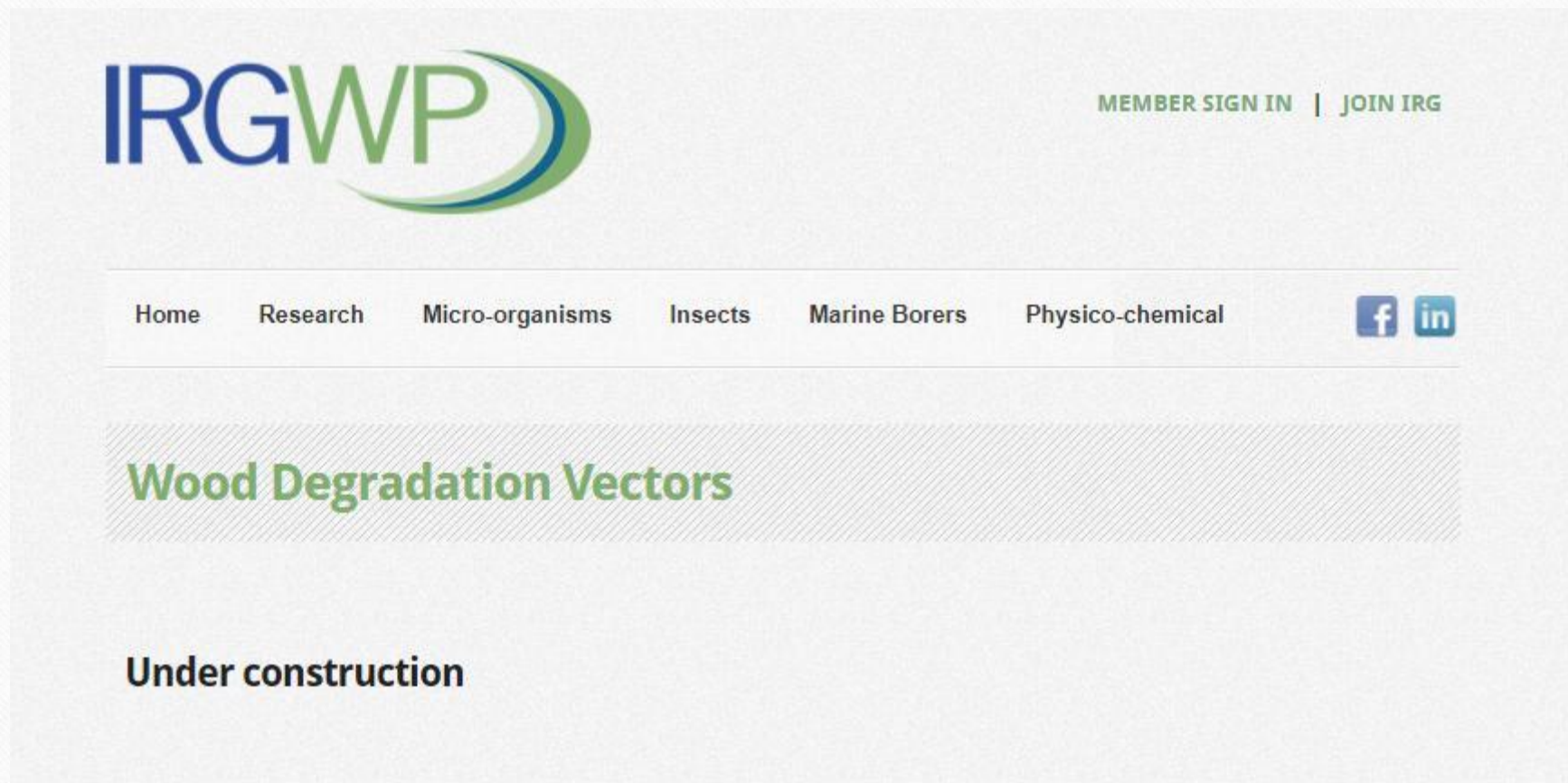
- Field test



Website – Research Field Test Sites



Website – Research



Newsletter



The screenshot shows the top portion of the IRG-WP Newsletter website. At the top, it reads "IRG-WP NEWSLETTER, August 2017". Below this is a social media sharing bar with buttons for "Like", "G+", "in Share", and "Tweet", along with a "Share this Page:" button and a "powered by iContact" logo. The date "August 1, 2017" is displayed. A large banner features the IRGW P logo and the text "International Research Group on Wood Protection". Below the banner, there are two columns of text. The left column has a green header "IRG48 meeting a great success!" followed by "IRG48 Meeting information:" and a paragraph about PDF presentations available on the FTP IRG website, with a link to the "IRG Secretariat". The right column has a header "IRGW P Sponsors" followed by a paragraph stating that sponsors are important and that users should click on logos to get to know them better. To the right of the main content area is an "IRG NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE" section with a list of links for various months from August 2017 back to October 2015.

The primary function of the Newsletter is to provide up to date information to our members, sponsors, and diaspora, through an active email contact process, as compared with requiring the membership to seek such information via the website or social media.

Issued **bi-monthly** to around **470 emails**.

Newsletter

Dues Payment 2017

A reminder to those members who have not yet paid up their 2017 dues. Please pay your dues as soon as possible. IRG dues have remained very low for many years but we need everyone's participation to keep the organization running. Also, payment is necessary to maintain your access to the IRG Compendium.

Meetings of Interest

We have received a lot information about up-coming meetings in recent months and we maintain and update regularly the separate [Meetings of Interest](#) page on the IRG Website. As usual there are a plethora of meetings planned that involve wood products and wood products protection. September looks to be a busy month for meetings in Europe! While we expect more to be added shortly, to see the current list [click here](#).

COST FP1303 Final Meeting

COST FP1303 is reaching its end, and there will be the final conference in Zagreb, Croatia on 6-7 September 2017. The theme of the meeting will be "Building with Bio-based materials: Best practice and performance specification" would be pleased to receive high quality papers on all subjects concerned with bio-based building materials. Oral and poster presentations will cover the following topics:

- The primary function of the Newsletter is to provide up to date information to our members, sponsors, and diaspora, through an active email contact process, as compared with requiring the membership to seek such information via the website or social media.

Newsletter

<http://www.irg-wp.com/bios.html>

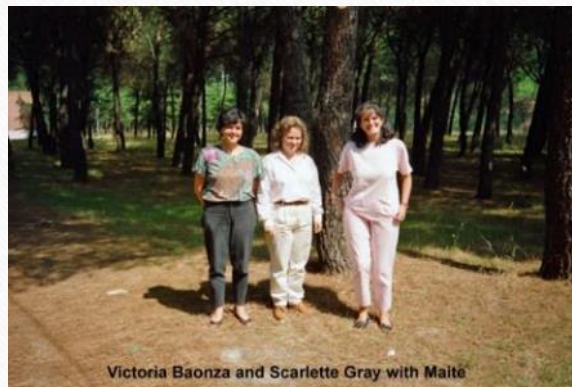
Getting to know the people of IRG



NTR-NWPC meeting 1981



IRG17, Avignon, France, 1986
Sandra and Harry with Ron Cockcroft



Victoria Baonza and Scarlette Gray with Malte



Bios of IRG members and sponsors

Bios of the Group's members and sponsors issued through the IRG Newsletter since the inception of this feature during 2015. Click on the thumbnails to open the PDF bio with clickable images:

2015 June **Dr Paul Morris**, Canada



2015 June **Dr Linda Meyer-Veltrup**, Germany



2015 October **Dr Miha Humar**, Slovenia




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Videos

Nonprofit Organization in Stockholm, Sweden



International Research Group on Wood Protection

An interview with the RCA winner Gabrielle Boivin

0:26 · Uploaded on 06/07/2017 · View Permalink

Video Performance In This Post

🕒 Minutes Viewed	313	>
👁️ Video Views	993	>
🎬 10-Second Views	425	>
📺 Video Average Watch Time	0:08	>
👤 Audience and Engagement		>

https://www.facebook.com/pg/International-Research-Group-on-Wood-Protection-142224589156224/videos/?ref=page_internal

<https://www.facebook.com/International-Research-Group-on-Wood-Protection-142224589156224/>



International Research Group on Wood Protection

676 members



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FEATURED

... 3mo



Lina Nunes · **Group Owner**

LNEC and Azorean Biodiversity Group (cE3c)

ABOUT THIS GROUP

The IRGWP membership is a structured group of like-minded scientists and technologists focused on generating knowledge of the science of wood deterioration, as well as novel solutions in providing fit-for-purpose sustainably and environmentally respo...

[Show more](#)

MEMBERS

676 members



Future

-
- Webcast presentations live online during the IRG annual scientific conference meetings
 - Webinars relating to Wood Protection technology.

the overall aim of the CC activities remains the transport of knowledge and information from research and academia to different target groups such as industry, planners, builders, approval bodies, and simply the users of timber products

**Thank you for
your attention**

