PRESSEMITTEILUNG

020/09.10.2015 **International Conference on Phenology 2015**

The third International Conference on Phenology took place from 5. - 8. October 2015 at Kusadasi, Turkey. The conference was a German-Turkish initiative and organised by Prof. Frank-M. Chmielewski (Humboldt University of Berlin) and Prof. Osman Erekul (Adnan Menderes University Aydin). The first conference "Phenology 2010" was hosted by the Trinity College Dublin and two years later the "Phenology 2012 Conference" was held at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

A total of 89 papers were presented at the conference in Kusadasi. Participants came from 23 countries around the world, from North America to Australia and from Europe to Japan. The conference was opened by the president and vice-president of the Adnan Menderes University (Prof. C. Bircan and Prof. T. Özer), the president of the International Society of Biometeorology (Dist. Prof. M. Schwartz), and the organisers (Osman Erekul and Frank-M. Chmielewski).

The overall theme of the conference was "Challenges in Phenology". Conference topics included:

- Phenological observations within different networks, data collection
- Climate variability, climate change and phenological trends
- Match or mismatch in phenology
- Aspects and challenges in marine phenology

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- Remote sensing and phenology
- Phenological modelling
- Challenges, new approaches and progress in phenology

Participants in the Conference in Kusadasi

Current challenges in phenology are to evaluate the plasticity of plants in order to understand the response of species and communities to climate change. It is important to investigate the interaction between organisms, because they can respond in phenologically different ways to climate change, so that in the future mismatch between species can occur. In this context plant-animal interactions are of fundamental interest. Phenological models are important tools to calculate possible shifts in plant development due to climate change. They are frequently embedded in much more complex models in order to calculate regional and global climate change, vegetation dynamics, changes in carbon balance and in water budged, as well as changes in crop yields. Today's challenges are to develop phenological models which work for present and future climate conditions with the same accuracy. For this reason numerical, experimental and physiological work is necessary to analyse the species-specific key drivers of plant development and to improve the understanding of physiological processes, such as dormancy.

Current challenges in the field "Remote Sensing Phenology" are detailed validations of remote sensed phenological measures with ground-based phenological events, especially using in-situ phenological data sets collected at spatial scales commensurate with satellite data.

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Phenology is covering more and more areas from land phenology to marine phenology, from plants to animals and geographically from the tropics to the boreal zones. Global or regional phenological data bases bring these observations together and allow a better and deeper understanding about the interactions between species and regions. Phenological networks form the basis for numerous scientific studies and issues.

During the conference two side-meetings were organised, the meeting of the 'Pan European Phenology network' (PEP 725) and the meeting of the 'Phenology Group' of the International Society of Biometeorology.

Further information can be found on the conference website: https://u.hu-berlin.de/phenology2015

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