

ITC CONFERENCE GRANT SCIENTIFIC REPORT

This report is submitted for approval by the grantee to the MC Chair.

Action number: CA16107

Conference title: 11th International Congress of Plant Pathology 2018 (ICPP2018)

Conference start and end date: 29/07/2018 to 03/08/2018

Conference attendance start and end date: 29/07/2018 to 02/08/2018

Grantee name: Katarina Gasic

ACTIVITIES DURING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS CONFERENCE:

The 11th International Congress of Plant Pathology 2018 (ICPP2018) was held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. in period July 29 – August 3, 2018. Conference was organized by the International Society for Plant Pathology and The American Phytopathological Society. The theme of the ICPP2018 was: Plant Health in a Global Economy.

On the first day, before the beginning of the conference, all participants have registered. The five-day scientific meeting was attended by more than 2000 participants all around the world.

During the meeting, the latest advances, innovations and discoveries in plant pathology were presented. Scientific program included concurrent sessions, workshops, poster sessions, short talks and other educational activities. Presentations covered the full range of research topics from genomics to epidemiology, which affect plant health at a local and global scale. The meeting highlighted the latest information on:

- Trade regulations
- Sustainable production
- The global spread of pathogens
- Innovations in pathogen detection
- Environmental protection for a growing population
- Agricultural systems for the future
- The impact of plant industries on the world economy

Among broad spectrum of interesting presentations, special attention was devoted to one of the economically most important plant pathogens, *Xylella fastidiosa*. Under the session “*Xylella fastidiosa*: Re-Emerging Epidemics of a Global Pathogen and New Challenges for Its Control”, there were five oral presentations and 19 poster presentation. Within Keynote session II, interesting research was presented by Prof. Steven Lindow from University of California, Berkeley, titled: “The Many Cell Density-Dependent Behaviors of *Xylella fastidiosa*: Achieving Disease Control via Pathogen Confusion”.

There were 48 presentations, both oral and poster, showing studies on *Xanthomonas* spp. as pathogens of different agricultural crops. Presentations included data on detection of pathogens, their characterization, epidemiology and possible disease control measures.

I attended the conference in the period from 29th July to 2nd August. Poster presentation of the results of our research, titled “Biocontrol potential of bacteriophage KΦ1 in control of pepper bacterial spot”, was included in the Biological Control Category and was on display Wednesday, August 1 and Thursday,

August 2. Our results attracted attention of the colleagues from the similar field of research, resulting in interesting and fruitful discussions.

All ICPP2018 abstracts from the meeting will be published in a supplement to the October issue of *Phytopathology*.

IMPACT ON YOUR RESEARCH AND FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)

The ICPP2018 got together plant pathologists and plant health researchers from leading academic institutions, governments, and private industries from across the world. I had opportunity to hear the latest scientific knowledge, innovations, and advances on the spread and management of plant diseases that affect the world's most important food, feed, and fiber crops. The wide variety of scientific programming offered a dynamic look into the future of plant pathology.

Participation in the ICPP2018 gave me opportunity to meet colleagues from all over the world. It was great opportunity to present my research results and to exchange current knowledge and experience during discussions with colleagues involved in the similar topics. Discussions with colleagues from different laboratories resulted in creating new ideas as well as base for potential future collaboration.

Moreover, participation in the conference allowed me to acquire different approaches in solving problems related to plant disease. Broadening of my international experience and also collaboration with colleagues will increase my mobility and possibilities to contribute European research area, which is certainly essential for my future scientific career. Improvement of my expertise in plant pathology will provide an opportunity for implementation of newly acquired knowledge and experience in laboratories at my Institute.

Moreover, I was glad to meet colleagues from previous COST Actions, as well as from current COST Action CA16107 EuroXanth, to discuss about current research projects and also to enjoy together in social events that were organized by ICPP2018.

I would like to thank COST Action CA16107 EuroXanth for providing me financial support for participating at the ICPP2018.