



Announcement

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CROP LOSSES

« *International Conference on Crop Losses
caused by diseases, pests, and weeds* »

16-18 October 2017, PARIS, France

Rationale and aims of the conference:

Plant diseases, pests, and weeds negatively affect crop health, with large effects on crop performances, ecosystems, and society. Crop health also plays an important role in the complex links between agriculture, food security, and global change. Quantification of these negative impacts is often fragmented or incomplete.

Approaches are needed to characterize the risks associated with shifts in crop health in response to global changes, new policies, or new technology. Conversely, approaches are also needed to document the potential gains that could be achieved through better, improved, or more efficient crop health management.

Understanding the causes of crop losses and their quantification is necessary to compare production systems and crop health management strategies in view of their improvement. Assessing and modelling crop losses to diseases, pests, and weeds can inform long-term strategic decisions, research prioritization, and national or international policies.

The conference will address the following questions:

- What are the effects of diseases, pests, and weeds, on crop performances?
- How can we understand, quantify, assess, and model these effects?
- How and what can modelling contribute in the assessment of the impacts of diseases, pests, and weeds, especially on food security?
- What could be the effects of climate and global changes on crop losses caused by plant diseases, pests, and weeds?

With the practical implication:

- Can we establish a global, open-source, data base on crop losses, which will enable answering these questions?

Through two phases:

- A series of keynotes presented by world experts in the field.
- A series of Work Group Sessions where participants will discuss concepts and their practical implementation.

Keynotes speakers:

J. Antle (Oregon State University, USA)
K. Boote (University of Florida, USA)
C.A. Gilligan (University of Cambridge, UK)
M. van Ittersum (Wageningen Univ, NL)
K.C. Kersebaum (Zalf, DE)
A. Nelson (University of Twente, NL)
S. Savary (INRA, FR)
L. Willocquet (INRA, FR)

This International Conference is organized by INRA in partnership with CIRAD, ISPP and the international networks AgMiP and MacSur.