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**OPTIMA (Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area)  
First Circular**

**Dear Colleagues,**

At the last OPTIMA Meeting in Antalya (Turkey) in 2010, it was agreed that the next OPTIMA Meeting be organised in Palermo (Italy).

We invite you to join us in Palermo in September 2013. Be assured that we will organise the Meeting in full agreement with its successful tradition, in a way that will be both pleasant and scientifically rewarding. Come and take back with you an unforgettable memory. Sicily with its unequalled natural and cultural riches and traditional hospitality is awaiting you.

*Francesco M. Raimondo*

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YOU CAN CONTACT US AT  
[secr@optima-bot.org](mailto:secr@optima-bot.org)

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Comprises 16 Symposia with invited speakers, including 2 Cryptogamic Symposia, and two Poster Sessions with offered presentations, not necessarily correlated with one of the Symposium topics.

## LOCATION AND DATES:

The XIV OPTIMA Meeting will take place in Palermo, Sicily. The preliminary programme is as follows:

**8-9 September:** Non-public meetings of the International Board, Executive Council, and the Commissions

**9-15 September:** Scientific programme

12 September: Mid-Congress excursion

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES:

English and French

## REGISTRATION FEE

No.	Category	Payment in Euros		
		Regular	Late	On-Meeting
1	Regular OPTIMA Members	200	250	300
2	Associated members	250	300	350
3	Non-members	250	300	350
4	Accompanying persons	100	150	150
5	Students	120	170	200

### Registration fee covers

**Full (1-3):** book of abstracts, programme, all printed meeting documents; welcome reception, conference dinner, reception, break refreshments; one-day excursion.

**Accompanying persons:** programme, welcome reception, conference dinner, reception, break refreshments, one-day excursion.

**Students:** book of abstracts, programme, welcome reception, break refreshments, one-day excursion. The conference dinner, if desired, will be charged in addition.

**Regular registration rates** apply to payments made prior to **30 April 2013**. After that date, **late registration rates** will apply. Details of payment will be announced in the second circular.

**Book of proceedings:** Publication of scientific contributions will be subject to fast-line peer review and will be effected online in the electronic edition of the journal *Boccone*. Each contribution will be published individually as soon as it is ready, with its own DOI. Subsequent publication of a consolidated print version is also planned.

**DEADLINES:**

**30 January 2013:** Preliminary registration

**30 April 2013:** Payment of (regular) registration fee

**15 July 2013:** Reception of abstracts

**Cancellation** with full refund will be possible before **31 May 2013**.

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME:**

**Sunday 08/09:** Commission meetings (restricted)

**Monday 09/09**

Registration of the participants

Morning: International Board Meeting, Executive Council Meeting (restricted)

Noon: Opening ceremony, followed by Plenary Lecture – S. Knapp: The current revolution in publishing and communicating scientific results.

Afternoon: New frontiers in Plant Systematics (IAPT supported Symposium)

Afternoon: Symposium – R. M. Ros & G. Dia: Mediterranean Bryophytes

Evening: Reception at the Botanical Garden of Palermo (IAPT sponsored)

**Tuesday 10/09**

Morning: Symposium – F.M. Raimondo: *Taxonomy and floristics in Italy*

Morning: Symposium – A. Crespo & A. R. Burgaz: Lichen studies in the Mediterranean area

Afternoon: Symposium – K. Marhold: *Floristic relationships of Italy with the Balkan Peninsula* (IAPT supported Symposium)

Afternoon: Symposium – M. Fennane: *Conservation: legal instruments and their application*

**Wednesday 11/09**

Morning: Poster session

Afternoon: Symposium – P. Mazzola & O. Fragman-Sapir (unconfirmed): *The Mediterranean as source of ornamentals*

Afternoon: Symposium – B. Valdés: *The present and future of Mediterranean floristics*

Evening: Garden Party at the Botanical Garden of Palermo

**Thursday 12/09**

Mid-Congress excursion

**Friday 13/09**

Morning: Symposium – E. von Raab-Straube: *Taxonomic data in the information age*

Morning: Symposium – L. Sadori, M. Mariotti, A. M. Mercuri: *Palynology for the Mediterranean vegetation history*

Afternoon: Symposium – E. Vitek: *Collection data in the information age*

Afternoon: Symposium – C. Galán Soldevilla: *Mediterranean pollen studies*

Evening: Conference Dinner

**Saturday 14/09**

Morning: Symposium – R. Viane (unconfirmed): *Mediterranean Pteridophytes*

Morning: Poster session

Afternoon: Symposium – S. Šiljak-Yakovlev: *Progress in Mediterranean karyosystematics and molecular systematics*

Afternoon: Symposium – S.L. Jury: *Mediterranean Umbelliferae*

**Sunday 15/09**

Morning: Symposium – V.H. Heywood: *In-situ conservation of target species*

Afternoon: Closing Ceremony and farewell drinks offered by OPTIMA

**XIV OPTIMA Meeting, Palermo 9-15 September 2013**

**PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM**

(PRINT, COMPLETE AND RETURN; ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: [HTTP://WWW.OPTIMA-BOT.ORG/MEETINGS/DEFAULT.HTM](http://www.optima-bot.org/meetings/default.htm))

I intend to participate in the XIV OPTIMA Meeting and wish to receive the Second Circular (due March 2013)

Given (first) name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Family name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I am:

- Regular OPTIMA member   
Associated member   
Non-member   
Student

I expect to be accompanied by \_\_\_\_ person(s)

I intend to participate with:

- Oral presentation   
Poster presentation

\_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY BEFORE 30 JANUARY 2013, TO:**

OPTIMA Secretariat  
Via Lincoln 2  
90133 Palermo

E-mail: [secr@optima-bot.org](mailto:secr@optima-bot.org)