



25–30 November, 2018, Windhoek, Namibia

<http://icd9.co.za/>

Dear fellow Dipterists,

On behalf of the Council for the International Congresses of Dipterology and the ICD9 Local Organizing Committee, I cordially invite you to attend the 9th International Congress of Dipterology in Windhoek, Namibia, from 25th to 30th November 2018.

Due to the possible longer term effects of student protests at universities throughout South Africa, the ICD9 Organizing Committee received approval from ICD Council to move the Congress from South Africa to Windhoek, Namibia in October 2016.

Organizing Committee

The ICD9 Organizing Committee comprises: Ashley H. Kirk-Spriggs (Chair & ICD Representative; National Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa), Esther Moombolah-/Goagoses (National Museum of Namibia and partnering organization), Josiane Etang (Central African representative), Michael Osae (West African representative), Sunday Ekesi (East African representative), Mary Kirk-Spriggs (Namibian Coordinator), Kenneth Uiseb (Ministry of Environment & Tourism, Namibia), Waltraut Fritzsche (Namibia Scientific Society), Seth Eiseb (University of Namibia), Candice-Lee Lyons (Plant Protection Research Institute, South Africa), Vaughn Swart (University of the Free State, South Africa) and Burgert Muller (National Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa). Contact details for all are available on our website <http://icd9.co.za/>

All general e-mail enquiries should be directed to: icd9@nasmus.co.za

Important dates

Early registration: November 2017–1st June 2018.

Regular registration: until 1st November 2018.

Abstract submission deadline: 1st September 2018.

Registration and submission of abstract will be electronic and all payments for registration fees must be made at the time of registration.

Venue



Although a large country (823,680 km²), Namibia's population is only 2.48 million (2016 estimate). Despite this, Namibia is rich culturally, with cultural groups including the San Bushman, Damara, Germans, Herero, Kavango, Nama,

Ovahimba, Ovambo, Rehoboth basters and Zambezians, with the official language being English. These groups have their own traditional dress and customs.

Situated in central Namibia, Windhoek is set against the impressive backdrop of the Auas Mountains, which form part of Africa's Great Escarpment, a geological feature that dates back to the breakup of Africa and South America. Namibia has excellent infrastructure and Windhoek is regarded as one of the cleanest cities in Africa, with its German colonial history evident in its architecture and many of its cultural traditions. German is spoken quite widely still and this attracts numerous German visitors.



Windhoek is a popular tourist destination and offers all the amenities of a modern developed world city, including banking facilities with ATMs that take all major credit cards, a range of affordable restaurants and cafés, pharmacies, hospitals, shops and boutiques.

Sessions

All congress sessions will be held at the Safari Hotel Conference Centre. The main congress hall seats over 400 delegates and simultaneous sessions will take places in adjacent rooms, seating 150 persons. The Conference Centre offers ample areas for exhibitors and posters, and the adjoining Hotel Safari has two restaurants, a bar and several smaller sites for beverages.





Scientific programme

The overall theme of the Congress will be “Afrotropical Dipterology” and specific symposia are planned that have special relevance to African delegates, but the scientific programme will include other general thematic and taxon-based symposia and poster sessions, and all major aspects of dipterology, including systematics, morphology, physiology, evolution, biodiversity and conservation, ecology, agriculture and forensics will be covered.

Plenary speakers

The five plenary speakers have now been finalized (see below) and the names, biographies and plenary titles of speakers are available on the official website <http://icd9.co.za/plenaries/>

Michelle Trautwein

Plenary title: Resolving the Fly Tree of Life

Brian V. Brown

Plenary title: Phorid fly diversity – frontiers in species richness, structure and behaviour

Netta Dorchin

Plenary title: Unmitigated galls – specialisation leads to diversification in the Cecidomyiidae

Rudolf Meiswinkel

Plenary title: *Culicoides* as vectors for viruses causing disease in livestock

Martin Hall

Plenary title: The research-casework continuum in forensic dipterology

Symposia sessions

Twelve symposia titles have been submitted to date (see below) and posted on the official website <http://icd9.co.za/symposia-titles/> and instructions for other on-line title submissions and an online submission form are available online. Potential symposium convenors are asked to view the submitted symposia titles and read the instructions carefully before submission to avoid any repetition. Delegates wishing to submit oral presentations to existing symposia are initially asked to contact the respective symposia convenor (as listed below).

Biogeographic patterns of Diptera

Convenor: Rodrigo Kruger – rfkruger@gmail.com

Tsetse population dynamics and climate change forecasting

Convenors: John Terblanche & John Hargrove – jst@sun.ac.za

Forensic dipterology

Convenors: Martin Villet & Kirstin Williams – m.villet@ru.ac.za

Systematics and taxonomy of lower Cyclorrhapha

Convenor: Andrew D. Young – adyoung@gmail.com

The importance of Diptera in plant-pollinator networks

Convenor: Kurt Jordaens – kurt.jordaens@africamuseum.be

Tephritoidea – applied research and taxonomy

Convenor: Minette Karsten – minettek@sun.ac.za

Taxonomy and phylogeny of Asilidae – honouring 40 years of Afrotropical research by Jason Londt

Convenor: Torsten Dikow – DikowT@si.edu

Systematics and ecology of Bibionomorpha

Convenor: Chris Borkent – chris.borkent@gmail.com

Advances in Afrotropical dipterology

Convenors: Burgert S. Muller & Ashley H. Kirk-Spriggs – burgert.muller@nasmus.co.za

Biodiversity surveys and conservation of Diptera

Convenor: Marc Pollet – mpollet.doli@gmail.com

Veterinary Diptera as vectors of disease

Convenor: Karien Labuschagne – labuschagnek@arc.agric.za

Taxonomy and ecology of Ceratopogonidae

Convenor: Daniel L. Kline – dan.kline@ars.usda.gov

Competitions

Prizes will be presented for **Best Student Presentation** (and runner up), **Best Student Poster** (and runner up) and a **Diptera Photography Competition** (all delegates, with first, second and third prizes). The first two mentioned are only open to full-time students* and participation must be indicated at the time of online registration.

Congress outreach

A series of public lectures are planned during the Congress, to be hosted by the Namibia Scientific Society. We also plan to engage with local schools in Windhoek as part of an educational programme on the significance of flies to African societies.

Congress language

The official Congress language is English and the dress code smart casual.

Congress schedule for 2018

- **Sunday 25 November:** registration (evening reception: meet and greet function at Namib Hall, Safari Hotel)
- **Monday 26 November:** full day Congress (evening reception: official launch of *Manual of Afrotropical Diptera* at National Museum of Namibia)
- **Tuesday 27 November:** full day Congress (free night)
- **Wednesday 28 November:** full day Congress (evening: congress banquet at Safari Conference Centre)
- **Thursday 29 November:** full day Congress (free night)
- **Friday 30 November:** Congress sessions (morning only), closing ceremony & awarding of prizes.

Various tours during and after the congress will be offered to delegates and accompanying persons.

Accommodation

The main Congress venue, Hotel Safari offers affordable mid-range accommodation at special congress rates with 4 star and 3 star rooms. A single 3 star room (in 2016), including breakfast is priced at USD71, twin (USD41 per person), triple (USD32 per person) and quadruple (USD27 per person). These rooms adjoin the Congress Centre and can accommodate all Congress delegates. Slightly more expensive rooms are also available at the Safari Court, which is part of the same hotel complex.

Additional top-range accommodation is available elsewhere at the Hilton and Heinitzburg Hotels in central Windhoek and the Windhoek Country Club and low-end affordable accommodation for students is available nearby at local guesthouses, B&BS and backpackers a short distance from the Congress venue.

Registration fees

The preliminary projected registration costs per delegate are:

Early registration: USD330

Regular registration: USD370

Student* registration: USD220

We are making efforts to recruit additional support from exhibitors and sponsors (please refer to our webpage for further information) and will try to reduce the registration fee and/or cover the costs of some student registrations, depending on our success in obtaining additional funds.

Registrations of interest

To receive further information regarding ICD9 and to assist us in planning ahead for the Congress, please complete the form indicating interest in attending the Congress on the official website <http://icd9.co.za/>

A general letter of invitation is now available on the official website. It should be understood that such an invitation is only to assist participants in raising travel funds or obtaining a visa and is not a commitment on the part of the organizers to provide financial support.

Please refer to the official ICD9 website <http://icd9.co.za/> for further information. Regular updates will also be posted on our Facebook page.

Kindly forward this message to colleagues and to your national biological and entomological societies for further distribution.

Yours Faithfully,



Ashley H. Kirk-Spriggs
(ICD9 Chair)

(* Students must ask their supervisor /advisor to send an e-mail with a university letterhead or logo confirming their status as full-time students at the time of registration.