# ISPA Newsletter 8(6) June 2020: Save the Date, PA in Switzerland, 13th ECPA, Upcoming Events, Jobs

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International Society of Precision Agriculture

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## "Save the Date" for the Virtual ICPA

To facilitate on-going exchange of research results and networking, the ISPA Board is planning a series of activities including:

- Keynote address, awards, election results and transfer of leadership to the new president at the time when the ICPA was originally planned June 29-July 1, 2020.
- Focused webinar presentation of papers originally accepted for presentation at the ICPA in the coming months. Because networking is the key aspect of the face-to-face ICPA, and most difficult to replicate on-line, the presentations will be organized to allow ample time for comment and discussion. ISPA communities will play a key role in organizing these webinars. Those communities include: On-Farm Experimentation, Nitrogen, Latin America and Economics. Past-President Nicolas Trembaly will be in contact with community leaders.

The keynote address event and the webinars will be open to all ISPA active members. Because it is impossible to find a time when ISPA members around the world can participate during their normal work hours, the on-line events will be recorded to allow asynchronous access.

## Upcoming Elections for ISPA Officer Board

The candidates for the ISPA Officer Board are in and the election will open Monday, June 15th and close 11:59pm CDT (UTC -5) Friday, June 26th. See the candidates at https://www.ispag.org/election_candidates.

All ISPA active members will receive an email on Monday, June 15th with an invitation to vote. Be sure your ISPA membership is active and current. Visit https://www.ispag.org/myaccount to verify your membership status.

Please contact info@ispag.org if you have any questions regarding membership.

## Precision Agriculture in Switzerland

Among Swiss farmers across all farm types, 37% are using driver assistance technology, but only 17% used sensor data collection. These results are reported in a recently published article in Precision Agriculture (Groher et al. 2020) based on a stratified random sample survey done with the help of the

Swiss Federal Statistical Office. Other results include:

- The highest PA adoption is among vegetable growers, with 67% using some kind of driver assistance and 31% using some sensor data such as optical weed detection or crop nitrogen sensors.
- Eleven percent of Swiss vegetable growers use optical sensors for mechanical hoeing. These optical weed sensors are used on tractor mounted equipment with human drivers, not robots.
- Among Swiss arable farmers, 44% use some kind of driver assistance and 34% use some sensor data collection such as yield monitoring or crop chlorophyll sensors.
- Farmers in mountainous zones are significantly less likely to adopt any type of precision agriculture technology compared to those in the valleys.

The Groher et al. (2020) article is available on Precision Agriculture on-line first at: https://link.springer.com/journal/11119/onlineFirst.

## 13th ECPA Newsletter

Welcome to our second newsletter. To begin, we hope all of you are healthy and safe. We are still optimistic about 13th European Conference on Precision Agriculture (ECPA2021). We truly hope that the pandemic situation will be over by next year and travel restriction will be in the past…For this reason, we would like to kindly remind all the precision agriculture community to keep the dates from **July 19th to 22nd 2021 marked for 13th ECPA**, which will be held in Budapest, Hungary. ECPA2021 will be held under the auspices of the International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA) and organized by Hungarian Society of Precision Agriculture/Agroinform Media Ltd.

The **abstract submission** period will be open soon. The deadline for submissions will be **30th September 2020**. The abstract submission process should be familiar to most of the participants, as Wageningen Academic Publishers OASES system will be used again. Abstract acceptance, for poster or full paper submission will be notified Mid-October.

Please make sure to check the conference website (13th European Conference on Precision Agriculture) regularly for the latest news and updates. With all the uncertainties, we are trying our best to keep you updated!

***With the unfortunate situation that ICPA had to be postponed, we would like to highlight that ECPA is a great opportunity for your abstract!***

The academic quality of the proceedings will be guaranteed by careful editing through a peer review process by the scientific committee. After the conference, oral presenters will be invited to expand their manuscripts and submit them to a special issue of the Precision Agriculture Journal.

***The higher the attendance the better ECPA works for all!***

The ECPA conference is an excellent forum in Europe and worldwide to focus on specific Precision Agriculture topics while discovering what our colleagues are working on, enabling synergies and co-operation.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Budapest.

**The organizing committee**

## Upcoming Events

**25-27 FEB 2025**
GIS & Drone Applications in Agriculture Conference

**29 JUN - 3 JUL 2025**
15th European Conference on Precision Agriculture
Barcelona, Spain
ecpa2025.upc.edu/

**22-31 AUG 2025**
XXXII ISSCT Centennial Congress
Cali, Colombia
issctcennial.com/

**14-16 OCT 2025**
11th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture
Chiayi, Taiwan
ispag.org/Events/ACPA

**2-4 FEB 2026**
International Crop Modeling Symposium (iCROPM2026)
Florence, Italy

**Week of 13 JUL 2026**
17th International Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 11th Brazilian Congress on Precision Agriculture
Porto Alegre, Brazil
ispag.org/icpa

See the ISPA website for a complete list of events.
Do you have an event that would be of interest to our members? Send us an email to let us know.

## Jobs Listing

- Postdoc in Digital Agronomy for Climate Resilient Perennial Agriculture
- Tenure Track Assistant Professor in soil spectroscopy at Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University
- Assistant or Associate Professor of Extension Soil Management - University of Kentucky - Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
- Precision Agriculture Technologies Extension Specialist - University of Tennessee - Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
- Assistant Professor (Extension) - Mississippi State University - The Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering
- University of Georgia - Assistant Professor - Extension Specialist Precision Agriculture Systems

Do you have a job you would like to post to the ISPA website? Please send your job announcement, a short description, and cutoff deadline for applications to info@ispag.org

## Contribute to the ISPA Newsletter

Do you have a precision ag event, project, or news article that our members would be interested in? Please let us know. We post events, job opportunities, and news from members from around the globe. Email info@ispag.org or use the handy online form to submit your contribution.

**Precision Agriculture Definition**

Precision Agriculture is a management strategy that gathers, processes and analyzes temporal, spatial and individual plant and animal data and combines it with other information to support management decisions according to estimated variability for improved resource use efficiency, productivity, quality, profitability and sustainability of agricultural production.

The International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA) is a non-profit professional scientific organization.
The mission of ISPA is to advance the science of precision agriculture globally.

Contact newsletter@ispag.org to suggest content for future newsletters or visit www.ispag.org for more about the Society