



## DIVISION 7 - FOREST HEALTH

### IUFRO Division 7 Newsletter & Report – January to December 2020

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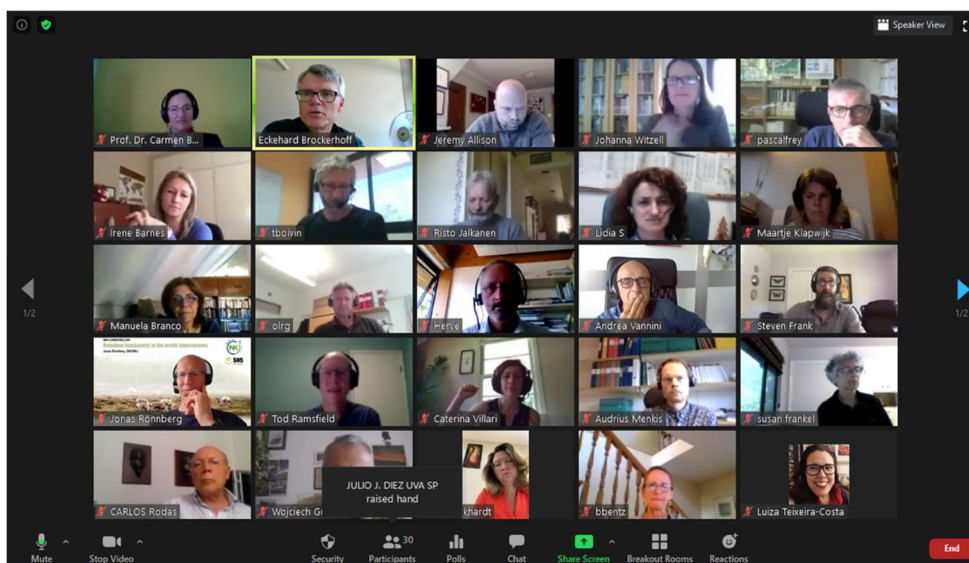
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#### News and activities in IUFRO Division 7 in the past 12 months

Well, what can we say about activities in the past 12 months? Sadly, as you probably all know, almost all planned conferences and meetings had to be cancelled or postponed due to the COVID pandemic.

One of the few exceptions was an online (Zoom) meeting of most Division 7 coordinators and deputies which took place on 3-4 September (see the photo below). The meeting took place over two days at different times to allow participants in different time zone to join in. The main objectives of the meeting were to enable an exchange of coordinators and deputies and to explore online meeting options including Zoom break-out rooms (smaller sub-groups meeting within the same larger meeting) and polls (the opinion poll feature in Zoom to facilitate information gathering, decisions, etc.). This was part of a suggestion to plan more online meetings while we cannot meet physically.



Participants of the Zoom meeting of Division 7 coordinators and deputies in September 2020.

The coordinators and deputies of the Pathology Research Group (7.02) and some representatives from Entomology (7.03) had a virtual meeting on 21 October 2020, with 25 participants. Among the main points that were discussed, were suggestions to appoint a communications coordinator in the Division to increase communications within and between divisions, clarification of what constitutes an 'IUFRO publication', how best to acknowledge IUFRO in publications, and the organisation of virtual (online) meetings.

The main highlight of the year was the **Webinar series on 'Behavioural and Chemical Ecology of Forest Insects'** which took place between 17 September and 12 November 2020, which many participants of Division 7 attended. The webinar was an initiative of the coordinators of new Working Party 7.03.16 (Behavioural and Chemical Ecology of Forest Insects), Jeremy Allison (Natural Resources Canada), Andres Gonzalez Ritzel (Universidad de la República, Uruguay) and Sigrid Netherer (BOKU University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria). Each of the webinars consisted of an introductory presentation by the organiser, followed by three presentations on the topic of the day. The organisers and titles of the six webinars were Bill Hansson (Insect olfaction in the forest), Peter Biedermann (Ecology of bark and ambrosia beetle fungus symbioses), Manuela Branco (Predator-prey and host-parasitoid interactions), Almuth Hammerbacher (Chemically mediated plant-herbivore-microbe interactions in forests), and Bernard Slippers (Behavioral and chemical ecology of *Sirex noctilio*). The webinar was a great success with attendances usually exceeding 150 participants. The format of the webinars consisted of an hour of presentations, followed by 30 minutes of discussion.

In 2021, a new webinar series has been planned, this time combining efforts from Working Party 7.03.16 and Working Party 7.03.05 (Ecology and management of bark and wood boring insects), and it is entitled "Behavioral and chemical ecology of bark and woodboring insects" (see further details below in the 'List of Activities and Meetings'). Additional organisers are Juan Corley (INTA, Argentina), Dimitrios Avtzis (Forest Research Institute, Greece), and Jess Hartshorn (Clemson University, United States). Recordings of the 2020 and 2021 webinars are available on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCE1bhBiFrYSbUSbUSh09LipkZw>

## **Planning of an All-Division 7 conference, 6-9 September 2022, in Lisbon, Portugal**

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Since the last IUFRO Congress in Brazil, we've had ongoing discussions about our next All-Division 7 conference (including both the pathology and the entomology groups). Manuela Branco volunteered to organise the conference in Lisbon, Portugal. After initial planning considerations, we put it on hold to see how the Covid pandemic would play out. Now, with vaccination programmes progressing, we are hopeful that we can plan for this conference to take place in September 2022. This date would suit the local organisers and we are not aware of too many clashes with other events, although it seems impossible to avoid these entirely.



Our plans are to hold the All-Division 7 conference from 6 to 9 September 2022 (Tuesday to Friday), with a one-day field visit in the middle of the meeting. In addition, we plan to offer a post-congress tour from Friday afternoon 9 Sept. to Sunday evening 11 Sept. We will welcome contributions to the programme (session proposals, etc.), and we look forward to seeing many of you at this conference.

Please note that this links well with the next 'International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions in Forestry' which will take place the following week (from 12-17 September 2022) in Pontevedra, Galicia, Spain about 500 km north of Lisbon.

Ecki Brockerhoff, Manuela Branco, Tod Ramsfield, Maartje Klapwijk, Beccy Ganley, Julio Diez, Barbara Bentz and Hervé Jactel (the preliminary conference committee of the All-Division 7 Conference)

## **Nominations for Division 7 coordinator and Changes of coordinators in Division 7**

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I (Ecki Brockerhoff) am in my 10<sup>th</sup> year as Coordinator of IUFRO's Division 7. I have thoroughly enjoyed this role, but I feel it is time to pass this on to a successor. Typically, 10 years is the maximum period someone can serve as division coordinator, and I would like to step down at the next IUFRO Board meeting in September 2021. In the interest of a democratic selection process of the next Coordinator of Division 7, and to comply with IUFRO's procedures, we are inviting nominations for this role. Please note the following eligibility criteria.

The **eligibility criteria** are: Division Coordinator candidates are nominated among IUFRO officeholders who have served at least one full term in the current or previous term as Coordinator of a Working Party (WP), Research Group (RG) or Task Force (TF), or at least two years of the current term as Deputy Division Coordinator (DDC).

**Nominations should be submitted by 30 April 2021** (so that the process can be finalised before the next IUFRO board meeting when the transition will occur).

I have consulted with the current Deputy Coordinators of Division 7, Tod Ramsfield and Maartje Klapwijk, about this. Tod Ramsfield has expressed an interest in taking over as Division Coordinator. I believe that Tod is highly qualified for this role. Tod has been a coordinator of the Pathology Research Group since September 2017 and a Deputy Coordinator of the Pathology Research Group from September 2010 until September 2017. In these roles, Tod has been highly active in liaising with the Pathology Working Parties and he has been involved with organizing several meetings. He has also produced the much-appreciated annual newsletter of the Pathology Research Group since 2010. In addition, Tod was a member of the Congress Scientific Committees for the IUFRO World Congress in Salt Lake City in 2015, where he played an important role in the coordination of sessions and speakers.

In the interest of a fair representation of the two research groups, it is also worth considering that after 10 years with an entomologist (myself) in the role, a person from the Pathology Research Group (like Tod) would perhaps be more appropriate.

I anticipate a nomination for Tod Ramsfield. Should we receive additional nominations, we envisage a voting process outlined below.

**Nomination of candidates:** Nominations should be sent to the IUFRO secretariat (Astrid Toppel) by email to [toppel\(at\)iufro.org](mailto:toppel(at)iufro.org)

**Nominations should be accompanied by three documents:** a curriculum vitae, a candidate statement indicating the main points of the candidate's envisaged strategy for the Division (max. 1 page, font size 12 pt.), and a signed consent by the candidate and the candidate's employer stating that the candidate is willing to serve as DC and that the employer is willing and able to support travel and coordination activities required to fulfil the responsibilities of DC.

**Voting:** Voting will be limited to officeholders including Research Group and Working Party Coordinators and deputies. This limitation is necessary as we do not have a formal membership of Division 7; however, we have 81 coordinators and deputies who are eligible to vote. Voting will be via an email ballot coordinated by the IUFRO secretariat (Astrid Toppel) and the Vice-president for Divisions, Daniela Kleinschmit. Ballots are to be sent to Astrid Toppel by email to [toppel\(at\)iufro.org](mailto:toppel(at)iufro.org).

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. And thank you in advance for your contributions!

Ecki Brockerhoff



**Changes in WP coordinators and deputies in 2020** include the following: **Ellen Goheen** stepped down as deputy of **WP 7.02.09** (Phytophthora diseases); **Diana Six** stepped down as coordinator of **WP 7.03.05** (Bark and wood boring insects), **Juan Corley** is the new coordinator and **Jess Hartshorn** a new deputy; **Marc Kenis** stepped down as coordinator of **WP 7.03.13** (Biological control), **Brett Hurley** is the new coordinator and **Lukas Seehausen** a new deputy. We sincerely thank those who served as coordinators and deputies for their services, and we wish the new coordinators and deputies all the best in their new roles.

**Two new working parties have been added** recently: **WP 7.03.16** (“Behavioral and chemical ecology of forest insects”) coordinated by Jeremy Allison, Sigrid Netherer and Andres Gonzalez Ritzel, and **WP 7.03.17** (“Tree health in urban forests”) coordinated by Hervé Jactel, Johanna Witzell, and Steven Frank

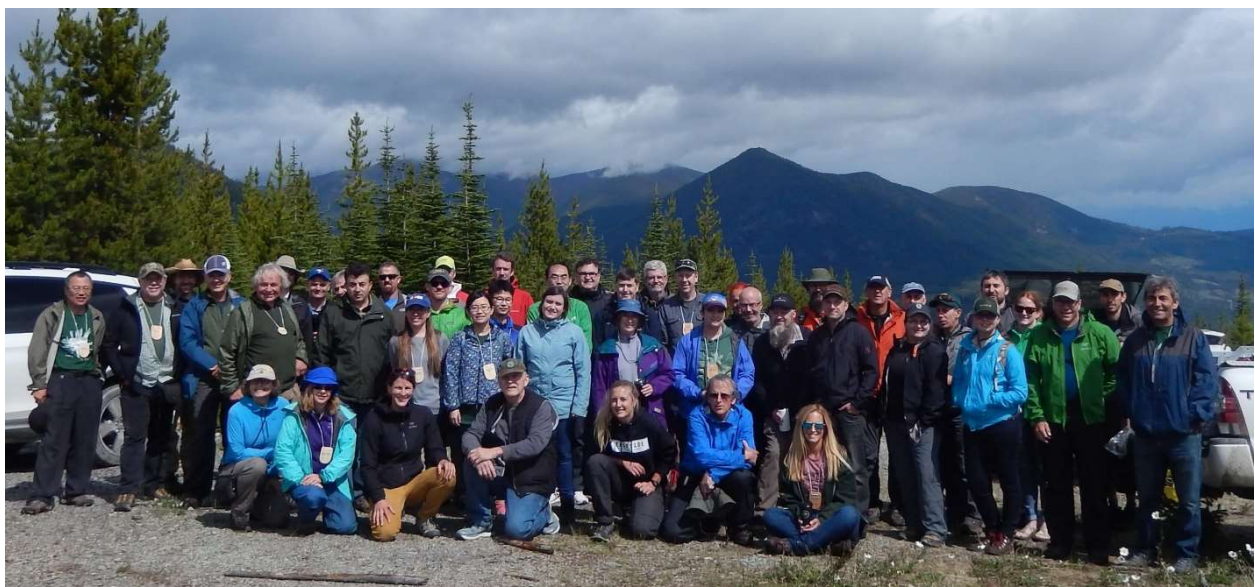
## **Pictures from Division 7 meetings in 2019**

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As there were no physical meetings in 2020, we thought we’d reuse pictures from meeting in 2019 as a way to remember what it is like and to enjoy the good memories.



Participants of the Meeting of **WP 7.03.10**, ‘Methodology of forest insect and disease survey’ in Suceava, Romania, in **September 2019**, during the field trip.

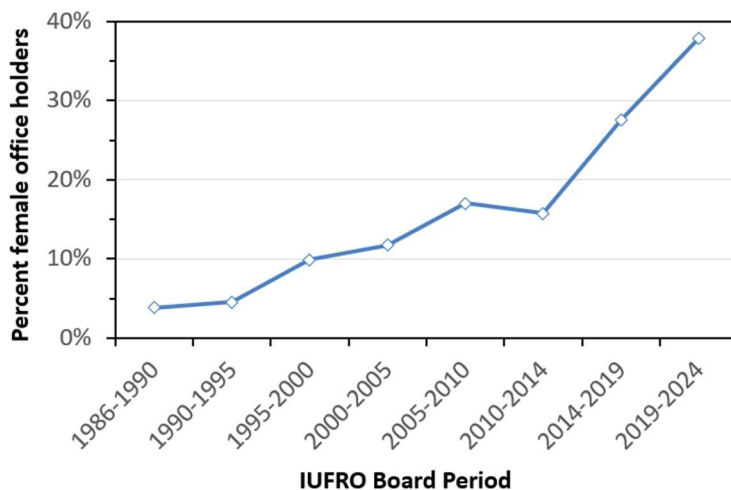


Participants of the joint meeting of working parties **7.02.05** and **2.02.15** during the conference field trip in the Purcell Mountains of British Columbia, Canada, **24 July 2019**. Photo courtesy of Richard Sniezko.

## Gender balance, geographic representation, junior & additional deputy coordinators

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All office holders of Research Groups and Working Parties are encouraged to improve the representation of women and members from under-represented regions (Africa, Asia and Latin America) in Coordinator and Deputy roles. One way to do this is to appoint additional female officeholders and/or officeholders from those regions as Deputies. Usually up to three deputies are allowed per Working Party and Research Group, so there is good scope for adding more. Another suggestion from the Division coordinators and the Vice-President for Divisions is to appoint junior officeholders in deputy roles. These could be students, post-docs or junior scientists who are interested in becoming involved in the management of Working Parties. The intention is to encourage more involvement of younger researchers (who are another under-represented group).



We have some good news to share regarding the gender balance development in the pathology and entomology officeholders in Division 7. Thanks to excellent book keeping by IUFRO's head office, Ecki Brockerhoff was able to analyse the gender balance development among the coordinators and deputies in the pathology and entomology research groups and working parties since the late 1980s. The percentage of female office holders increased from only 4% in 1986-1990 to 38% in the current board term, with a steep increase especially in the last 10 years (see the figure on the left). We hope this trend will continue.

## Publications produced with input of Division 7

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Luiza Teixeira-Costa, David Shaw and Simon Francis Shamoun of **WP 7.02.11** (Parasitic Flowering Plants in Forests) coordinated a special Issue of the journal *Botany* entitled "**Complex Interactions of Mistletoe, Ecosystems, and People**". This was based on contributions to Session D7d at the XXV IUFRO World Congress in Curitiba, Brazil. The special issue can be accessed via <https://www.nrcresearchpress.com/toc/cjb/98/9>

**WP 7.02.09** (Phytophthora diseases on forest trees) produced a special issue of the journal *Forests* on "**Phytophthora Infestations in Forest Ecosystems**". Guest editors: Bruno Scanu and Thomas Jung  
See [www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special\\_issues/Phytophthora](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/Phytophthora) (published between June 2018 and Sep. 2020)

**WP 7.03.15** (Social dimensions of forest health) coordinated a special issue of the journal *Forests* entitled "**Understanding Forest Health under Increasing Climate and Trade Challenges: Social System Considerations**". Guest editors: Eva Carina Helena Kesitalo, Mariella Marzano, Tom P. Holmes, Julie Urquhart. The special issue can be viewed at [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special\\_issues/climate\\_health](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/climate_health) (published between July 2019 and September 2020)

Carmen Büttner and Risto Jalkanen of IUFRO **WP 7.02.04** (Phytoplasma and virus diseases of forest trees) along with four other guest editors are producing a special issue "**Viruses in Forest and Urban Trees and Shrubs**" in the journal *Forests*. **Submissions are welcome until 10 August 2021**.  
See: [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special\\_issues/Plant\\_Viruses\\_Forest](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/Plant_Viruses_Forest)

Mariella Marzano and Julie Urquhart of **WP 7.03.15** (Social dimensions of forest health) are coordinating yet another special issue of *Forests*. This one is entitled "**Global Forest Health and Climate Change: Social, Economic and Environmental Implications**". The special issue will focus on the complex interrelationships between climate, globalisation and forest health. They are seeking both theoretical and empirical papers from across

environmental, social and economic sciences that present new evidence or illustrate the possibilities and challenges of managing the impacts of increasing risks to forest health.

**Submissions will close on 30 September 2021**, and contributors are invited to submit an abstract to the guest editors in the first instance via email to [mariella.marzano@forestresearch.gov.uk](mailto:mariella.marzano@forestresearch.gov.uk) or [jurquhart1@glos.ac.uk](mailto:jurquhart1@glos.ac.uk). For more details, see: [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special\\_issues/forest\\_health\\_management](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/forest_health_management)

## Upcoming meetings and conferences of Division 7 units

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### 2020 (updates on cancelled plans with no immediate plans for )

The **WP 7.02.10** conference ‘International IUFRO Symposium on Pine Wilt Disease’ (originally planned for 9-13 March 2020 in Orléans, France) **has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic**. No postponement is planned at this time. Contact: Christelle Robinet, email: [christelle.robinet@inrae.fr](mailto:christelle.robinet@inrae.fr)

The conference on ‘Mixed species forests risks, resilience and management’ (originally planned from 25-27 March 2020 in Lund, Sweden) **has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic**. No postponement is planned at this time. Contacts: Magnus Löf, [magnus.lof@slu.se](mailto:magnus.lof@slu.se), and Hervé Jactel, [herve.jactel@inra.fr](mailto:herve.jactel@inra.fr)

### 2021

**21 January - 1 April 2021**: A Webinar Series on “Behavioral and chemical ecology of bark and woodboring insects” is being jointly organised by **WPs 7.03.16** (Behavior and Chemical Ecology of Forest Insects) and **7.03.05** (Ecology and Management of Bark and Wood Boring Insects). The webinars of 1.5 hours each and usually four speakers are taking place on 21 January, 4 February, 18 February, 4 March, 18 March and 1 April 2021. The webinars are co-hosted by the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute, University of Pretoria, the Institute for Forest Entomology, South Africa; Forest Pathology and Forest Protection, BOKU, Austria; the Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay; INTA-CONICET, Argentina; the Forest Research Institute, Greece; Clemson University, USA; and the Canadian Forest Service. Contact: [jeremy.allison@canada.ca](mailto:jeremy.allison@canada.ca)  
Meeting website: [www.fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/event/IUFRO\\_WP\\_7.03.16](http://www.fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/event/IUFRO_WP_7.03.16)

**September to November 2021, Webinar Series of Pathology and Entomology presentations**. Details and dates to be determined (updates will be shared via our forpath and forest email lists). Contacts: **Tod Ramsfield**, [tod.ramsfield@canada.ca](mailto:tod.ramsfield@canada.ca), **Maartje Klapwijk**, [Maartje.Klapwijk@slu.se](mailto:Maartje.Klapwijk@slu.se), Jeremy Allison, Ecki Brockerhoff

**20 - 24 September 2021** (postponed from 15-18 September 2020 and 31 May - 4 June 2021), **Prague, Czech Republic**: **WPs 7.03.07, 7.03.12 and 8.02.04** “Biological Invasions in Forests: Trade, Ecology and Management”. Contacts: Andrew Liebhold, [aliebhold@gmail.com](mailto:aliebhold@gmail.com), and Rene Eschen, [R.Eschen@cabi.org](mailto:R.Eschen@cabi.org). See: <https://iufro.czu.cz/en>

**11-15 October 2021** (to be confirmed), **Xalapa, Mexico**: 16th conference of IUFRO **WP 7.02.01** ‘Root & Stem Rots’. Contact: [Jonas.Ronnberg@slu.se](mailto:Jonas.Ronnberg@slu.se) Link to first announcement: <https://www.iufro.org/fileadmin/material/science/divisions/div7/70201/xalapa21-first-announcement.pdf>

### 2022

**26 June – 1 July 2022, Durham, New Hampshire, United States**: “Forest Diseases During Global Crises”, **WP 7.02.02** ‘Foliar, Shoot, Stem and Rust Diseases of Trees’ and **WP 7.02.05** ‘Rusts of Forest Trees’. Contacts: Salvatore Moricca, [salvatore.moricca@unifi.it](mailto:salvatore.moricca@unifi.it), Isabel Munck, [isabel.munck@usda.gov](mailto:isabel.munck@usda.gov), and Julio Diez Casero, [jdcasero@pvs.uva.es](mailto:jdcasero@pvs.uva.es). Second announcement: <https://www.iufro.org/fileadmin/material/science/divisions/div7/70202/durham20-2nd-announcement.pdf>



**6-9 September 2022, Lisbon, Portugal: All-Division 7 conference** (including the Pathology and Entomology research groups). More details to come. Organisers: Manuela Branco, [mrbranco@isa.ulisboa.pt](mailto:mrbranco@isa.ulisboa.pt), Ecki Brockerhoff, [eckehard.brockerhoff@wsl.ch](mailto:eckehard.brockerhoff@wsl.ch), Tod Ramsfield, [tod.ramsfield@canada.ca](mailto:tod.ramsfield@canada.ca), Maartje Klapwijk, [maartje.klapwijk@slu.se](mailto:maartje.klapwijk@slu.se). More information to come.

**12-17 September 2022** (note new dates, postponed from 2020 and 2021), **Pontevedra, Galicia, Spain: “7th IUFRO International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions in Forestry - Understanding Forest Tree-Antagonistic Interactions in a Changing World”**. **WPs 7.03.11, 2.02.15, 2.02.20, 7.02.05, 7.02.09** and the **Task Force on Biological Invasions**. Contacts: Luis Sampedro, [lsampedro@mbg.csic.es](mailto:lsampedro@mbg.csic.es), Rafael Zas, [rzas@mbg.csic.es](mailto:rzas@mbg.csic.es). More information at <https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70300/70311>

.... **2022** (date to be confirmed), **Moscow, Russian Federation: IUFRO Regional Congress “Sustaining the Forests of Russia and Eurasia: Management, Innovation, Conservation and Restoration”**. This conference has been postponed to 2022 – The exact date is still to be announced.

.... **2022 or 2023** (postponed from 2021, new date to be confirmed), **Western Australia (?)**: **WP 7.03.04** “Diseases and Insects in Forest Nurseries Working Party Meeting”, Contact: Audrius Menkis, [audrius.menkis@slu.se](mailto:audrius.menkis@slu.se)

### **Have we missed anything? Do you have IUFRO pathology / entomology news to share?**

Please let us know if we have missed any upcoming conferences or if there are any other important news by sending an email to [eckehard.brockerhoff@wsl.ch](mailto:eckehard.brockerhoff@wsl.ch)

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