

**October 2022**



**President: Prof. Christine Foyer, BSc, PhD**

***'Promoting Applied Research in  
Agriculture, Horticulture and Food Science'***

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK  
Registered Charity No. 1195899; <http://www.aab.org.uk>

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## ***OUR Mission***

"To promote the study and advancement of all branches of Biology and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing), to foster the practice, growth and development of applied biology, with a focus on the application of biological sciences in the production of food, materials and energy, and for the maintenance and improvement of earth's environment"

## ***AAB Executive Council Members***

Officers of council have been elected to administer the efficient running of the association. They adhere to working rules with each of the council members having specific roles. Those roles are also shown by task area.



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# AAB Quick Links!

AAB Council

AAB Conference  
Calendar

AAB Specialist  
Groups

**From September 2022 AAB Early Career Professional members will have FREE Online registration to ANY AAB-organised hybrid event!**

**AAB ECP non-members will pay a nominal fee (£5) for access and also gain free membership!**

**We aim to broaden our impact!!**

## AAB to play a leading role at the Global Plant Council

The Global Plant Council (GPC) is a vibrant community of plant scientists that provides an avenue for networking and collaboration. Currently the GPC is a coalition of 28 member organisation across the globe. As a member of the GPC, organizations become part of a 'global network' of plant, crop, agriculture and environmental researchers that are assisting the GPC to reach its mission



**To promote plant science across borders and disciplines: the GPC supports those involved in plant science research, education and training and to increase awareness of the key role of plant science in society.**

GPC features organisation information on the extensive GPC webpage and promotes activities through social media. All members have their own section devoted to their organization in our website, tailored to their needs.

GPC is very active social media with ~30K cross-platform followers and a website updated daily featuring global plant science stories.

- [@GlobalPlantGPC](https://www.instagram.com/globalplantcouncil)

- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/globalplantcouncil>

### Current GPC initiatives include:

- Lead a working group on digital sequence information (DSI) obligations to respect ABS rights.  
<https://globalplantcouncil.org/activities/challenges/dsi-wg/>

- Host an Early Career Researcher (ECRi) network that includes a monthly digest of available global jobs in plant science.  
<https://globalplantcouncil.org/ecri/>

- Host regular webinars and events on a variety of global topics relevant for plant scientists.

GPC activities are overseen by a Board of Directors that is led by a President, Chairman and Treasurer. The **AAB Executive Officer Geraint Parry** has been elected as the new President with a term of three-years.

We encourage all AAB members to interact with the GPC. This might be through interacting with their monthly #plantscijobs twitter storm, suggesting a possible workshop or by writing an article for the GPC website that is relevant to their work. This provides an excellent opportunity for members to promote their work to a global audience.

Please check out the [Global Plant Science website](https://www.globalplantcouncil.org/).



Map of GPC current members

## Summary from IAPV22 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

### Trisna Tungadi

The 2022 AAB Advances in Plant Virology meeting was held in Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana, Slovenia from 5th-7th October 2022, in collaboration with the European INEXTVIR project (<https://inextvir.eu/>). The meeting was set up in a hybrid format. attendance rate was great with 120 in person and 60 online delegates. Both oral and poster presentations were made available to participants in an online format. The meeting was split up onto 9 sessions, with more than 50 oral and 60 poster presentations. It was very much an international meeting with keynote speakers from the USA, France, Italy, and Vienna. In-person meeting participants came from European countries, UK, USA, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Pakistan, Japan. Online participants further widened our engagement with the global community of plant virologists, where online attendees from Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda, Japan, Australia were present. The theme of this meeting was focused on how the impacts of globalisation, climate, and environmental changes relate to the transmission, adaptation, and pathology of plant viruses.

The meeting covered a wide variety of topics which ranges from epidemiology and community analysis, omic analysis, characterisation of novel viruses, cell biology, immunity to infection, gene expression, control strategies, and technical developments. The presentations and quality of science discussed were great and audience engagement was high where multiple questions were asked at the end of each presentation. Day 1 of the meeting includes talks which highlighted the ecological role of viruses to shape the ecology and evolution of wild plants, virus flow between crop and non-crop plants, and the influence of cropping system on virus diversity in the community. Insightful talks were given on the role of seeds as virus shelter under climate change condition, detection and transmission of a plant virus in wastewater and irrigation system. The rest of the presentations on Day 1 were given on bioinformatic analysis pipeline, a deep learning artificial intelligence method to detect novel viruses, and characterisations of novel viruses. Poster sessions accompanied with buffet dinner were held on the evening of Day 1, where judging panels for the Raymond/Roger Hull student poster prize had a chance to speak to the students about their posters.

Day 2 of the meeting shifted the focus to cellular and molecular pathways with topics in the area of gene expression, plant immune responses, and gene expression. Illuminating talks

**aab**  
ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS  
President: Professor Christine Foyer

## International Advances in Plant Virology 2022



were given on host cellular components and their role during virus infection such as nucleoporins, the role of RNA granules during Cauliflower mosaic virus infection, and how a Potexvirus induces early gene expression involved in unfolded protein response in the host plant. Day 2 of the meeting was ended by a walking tour around Ljubljana under the sun and followed by the conference dinner.

Day 3 of the meeting covered topics on technical developments, detection methods, and control strategies. Great talks were given which highlight the need to benchmark high throughput sequencing (HTS) approaches for metagenomics and viral diagnostics, live imaging of virus infection in real time, and an optimised, fast, and sensitive detection of soil-borne cereal mosaic virus from leaf extracts which will ease future field surveys. Overall, the meeting covered a complete range of talks from the ecological perspective down to cellular biology of virus infection. Fantastic imaging of virus localisations within the host cells were shown in several talks. Various pipelines to streamline data analysis from HTS and metagenomics studies were introduced.

Student participation was very high with excellent quality of presentations at this meeting and the judging panels for the Raymond/Roger Hull poster and Bryan Harrison platform presentation student prizes found it challenging to pick a winner. The judging panels awarded three Bryan Harrison prizes for Gesa Hoffman (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden), Babalola Bisola (CBGP, Madrid), and Grigorii Sukhorukov (University of Bordeaux, France) for their excellent oral presentation. For the Raymond/Roger Hull poster prize, the winner was Jesus Ubeda (CEBAS-CSIC, Spain). In summary, the meeting ran smoothly with great collective effort from the AAB, colleagues from the National Institute of Biology in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and the conference team from Cankarjev Dom. The next location for IAPV meeting in 2024 has not been decided yet.



# International Advances in Plant Virology 2022

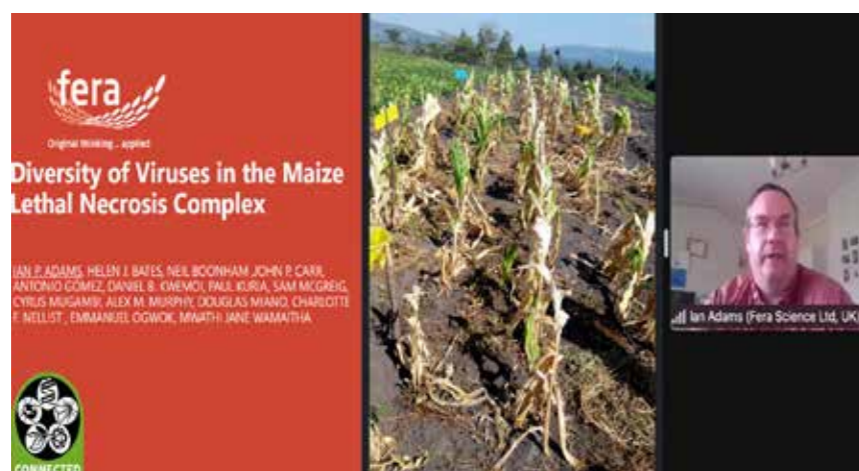
Hybrid event hosted in  
Ljubljana, Slovenia.  
5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

AAB were delighted to award a number of travel grants to support attendance of IAPV22 in Slovenia. Here is a selection of reports from grant awardees.

**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Ricardo José Gonzaga Pimenta**, University of Warwick/ University of Campinas, ricardojgpimenta@gmail.com

It was hard to pick highlights from the conference, as most works presented were extremely interesting and the meeting as a whole was very enjoyable. One of the talks I enjoyed the most was that by Carolyn Malmstrom. Working with sugarcane, I am aware of the challenges of dealing with large perennial grasses. Hearing about Carolyn's comprehensive and beautiful work on switchgrass was truly inspiring and made me aware of the gaps in sugarcane virology that represent possibilities of future research. I was also deeply interested by Ian Adams' talk. I was familiar with some of his work on maize lethal necrosis, and it was very pleasurable to hear him go through its latest advances and prospects. And of course, meeting, listening and speaking to Roger Hull, one of the most prominent members of the plant virology community, was a great privilege. I was fascinated by his bold and progressive proposition of using numbers and even QR codes in viral nomenclature, which really made me question the limitations of current taxonomical practices and how it needs to be updated to accommodate the massive data being generated by current sequencing technologies.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:** This was my first time at an IAPV meeting and my first conference abroad, so initially I was rather nervous about doing an oral presentation. However, already during the first sessions and breaks I realised how receptive and integrated the attending community was. This meant not only that I was more relaxed for my presentation, but that I could easily approach and have insightful conversations with colleagues during the conference, which made this a very productive and enjoyable experience. I would like to acknowledge the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) for the Research Internship Abroad fellowship (grant number 2021/11449-5), and AAB and the organizing committee of IAPV 2022 for the opportunity of presenting my work.



**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Sam Crawshaw** – University of Cambridge, sc945@cam.ac.uk

#### Meeting Highlights:

- 1) Discussing my research with other members of the conference after my talk and hearing their thoughts and ideas for potential collaborations.
- 2) Meeting a diverse group of people researching viruses from all over the world.
- 3) Seeing the work being undertaken in different labs and gaining a better idea of where I might be interested to work after my PhD.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:** Having to condense your work into a 15 minute presentation is challenging but very helpful at discerning which elements of your research are most important and what the main 'story' of your PhD is. Thanks to my supervisor John Carr for all his help and to the BBSRC UKRI for funding my PhD project.

**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Satish Bharathwaj Viswanathan**, University of Cambridge, UK, sbv23@cam.ac.uk

#### Meeting Highlights:

- 1) First and foremost was the collection of talks and presentation from various corners of the field of plant virology. Listening to the seminars provided a larger canvas in which you could portray your part of science.
- 2) This conference provided everyone with a chance to meet and share ideas about the different projects we were doing and it was great to gain new perspectives on my work.
- 3) The combination of virologists from both academia and industries meant this was a chance to bridge the conceptual gaps between the two fronts and form innovative collaborations.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:** This was my first opportunity to attend an international conference and I had a chance to present my work as a poster to the other attendees. It was initially difficult to gauge if everyone would indeed be interested in what I had to show. But over time, as I conversed with people I grew in confidence and ended up having a lot of fruitful discussions which I believe will help my work. I thank my PhD supervisor Prof John P Carr for guiding me and my project in the world of plant virology. I also would like to thank Geraint Parry from AAB and Trisna Tungadi for helping me with the arrangements to attend this conference.

**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Ali Pasha**, Julius Kuehn Institute, Germany, ali.pasha@julius-kuehn.de

The meeting was quite interesting to me as a PhD student. It was the first time I attend an international conference concerning Plant virology. Moreover, it was a great chance to meet other plant virologists from all over the world, especially meeting an extraordinary scientist in plant virology like Professor Roger Hull. The talks were well categorized in various sessions according to their topics. This made it easier to understand the general idea of each talk as well as the used methodology for each research. The posters session was also successful, although the allocated time was relatively short comparing to the number of the presented posters. The meeting subsidiary events such as conference dinner, city tour, etc. were useful opportunities for networking and further discussions with other



scientists. The digital Abstract and Poster books are a good implementation to reach some outstanding researches at any time as well as other scientists contact details.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:** From my perspective, the meeting was quite successful and well organized. It added a lot to my knowledge, expanded my network, and brought to me many useful ideas to apply on my research. I would suggest allocating a longer time for the poster session for the upcoming conference, and at another/ earlier time slot. Because the official time for poster session was a bit late, when most of the delegates were tired after a long day of talks. I would like to acknowledge AAB organizing team for their efforts to get this event successful. Furthermore, I appreciate your support to the early career researchers by inviting for such events as well as offering travel awards. I am eager to attend the upcoming IAPV!



**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Giuliano Sting Pechar**, gspechar@cebas.csic.es

The congress had a very high scientific level, as some of the leading experts in different areas of plant virology participated. The organisation and location were also of a high standard. Finally, I think it was a great success to combine the Inextvir consortium talks with the congress.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:** I believe that the possibility to interact with experts in different fields of plant virology has enriched my professional and personal development. I would like to thank the Plant Pathology Group at CEBAS-CSIC for its support in helping me to participate in this congress.

**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:** **Ruth Festus** University of Greenwich, R.O.Festus@greenwich.ac.uk

**Meeting Highlights:**

- The need to establish sustainable strategies for organising the taxonomy of existing and new putative viruses.
- The importance of the downstream analysis (e.g. biological properties) of newly reported viruses.
- The use of high throughput sequencing technologies and bioinformatics for unravelling and characterising viruses in plants and irrigation water.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:**

- It was exciting to see different plant viruses' transdisciplinary concepts, research methodologies and diagnostic tools.
- Meeting leading scientists in plant virology in person and having the opportunity to discuss my research ideas with them was something I also found helpful.
- I also made contacts which I believe could lead to possible collaborations.

I sincerely appreciate AAB for the travel grant offered to me. This made it possible to attend the meeting as it helped to cover a significant amount of the travel expenses. I am also grateful to Geraint Parry, who promptly responded to my several emails and provided support towards getting an invitation letter for my visa application to Slovenia.

**Name of Grant Recipient and Affiliation:**

**Ines Vazquez Iglesias**, Fera Science Ltd, Ines.Vazquez@fera.co.uk

**Meeting Highlight:**

1. For me, it was interesting attending to the first session on Epidemiology and community analysis. I absolutely enjoyed this session, as I am starting to work on this field. Listen to talks, for example, from Carolyn Malmstrom, gave me an overview on this topic and showed interesting data that will help my research in the future, as well as establish contacts for the future.

2. Inextvir organisation and attendance of students to the conference. I think it was great to have many students participating in the conference. All talks were incredible, and it is good experience for students to talk in international conferences for the development of their skills. I think it was a great idea to have this joint with Inextvir students, as well as other students participating.

3. Hybrid event – I think the idea of hosting a hybrid event was an absolute success. In terms of the technology, I think it worked well for everybody – from an in-person attendance opinion. The hybrid event gives flexibility for people to attend when they have other compromises or cannot afford to travel in terms of time or money. I think it was probably hard work in terms of the logistic and technology to make sure everything was working on the date, but it was worthy.

**Provide a personal perspective on the meeting:**

I am truly pleased and grateful for the opportunity of attending this conference. I have met brilliant scientists and great people for the first time, and renewed contact with others I knew from previous events or collaborations. I felt an evolution as last time I attended an international conference, as I was a PhD student, whereas I am now continuing my career and starting my own projects. It is nice to see how my network is growing, and how I can discuss possible projects or experiments with others working in similar fields. I met different experts and students, working in similar or more broadly related areas. As mentioned above, I was really pleased to attend the first session on Epidemiology and community analysis, but I was also pleased to discuss and see other researchers working in a similar field as my current research on 'Understanding the risk to crops of viruses affecting *Apiaceae* spp. in the United Kingdom'.

It was good to see and compare different outcomes, and the application of the techniques and methods we use. I found it to be a very enriching experience. I have attended this conference in several occasions and the environment is always great, full of friendly Virologists. I found useful the poster session. Sometimes in conferences they 'forget' the posters, allowing people only to visit them during coffee breaks or lunch – and some time this is not enough if people want to network or catch-up with other researchers. Having the poster session on the first day allowed people to talk with other researchers which was helpful in terms of meeting people, establish contact, and keep discussing with them for the next two days of the conference.

I would like to thank Fera Science Ltd. and Defra for giving me the opportunity to attend the conference, as well as Euphresco, Caliber and the Bacterial Plant Diseases Programme for funding the project. Thank you to the AAB for helping with my travel expenses.



## AAB Presidential Meeting: Nature-based and Engineered Biology Solutions to Climate Mitigation

Hybrid event at Rothamsted Research  
1st-2nd November 2022

Sign up as an online delegate TODAY!

Free for Early Career AAB Members  
Just £5 for Early Career Non-Members

<https://cvent.me/X3Olmo>

### Featured speakers:

DIRK INZE (VIB-Ghent, Belgium): Molecular mechanisms underlying plant organ growth: From models plants to improved crops

JANE LANGDALE (University of Oxford, UK): C4 Rice – the fruit at the top of the tree

STEVE LONG (University of Illinois, USA): Enhancing and Adapting Photosynthesis for Food Security under Climate Change

TINA BARSBY (Cambridge, UK): Agricultural Botany

VIVIENNE ANTHONY (Syngenta Foundation Basel): Translating crop research into products perspectives from a practitioner

LUKE MCCORMACK (The Morton Arboretum, USA): Highs and lows: fine-root strategies associated with tolerance to too much and too little water in urban trees

Date	Title Location Organisers Website	Specialist Group and Affiliates	Abstracts/ Aspects/ Annals/ Other
1-2 November	AAB Biennial AAB Presidential Look-Forward: Nature-based and engineered biology solutions to climate mitigation Venue: Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, UK CHRISTINE FOYER <a href="https://cvent.me/X3Olmo">https://cvent.me/X3Olmo</a>	All	Abstracts
16-17 November	Advances in Biocontrol and IPM: Putting IPM into Practice Venue: Olde Barn Hotel, Grantham, UK KEITH WALTERS <a href="https://cvent.me/rDMINV">https://cvent.me/rDMINV</a>	IPM	Abstracts
8 December	Advances in Nematology Venue: Linnean Society, London STEVE EDINGTON <a href="https://web.cvent.com/event/9513f889-2a18-42a1-b8d5-dc88bd9f08d2/summary">https://web.cvent.com/event/9513f889-2a18-42a1-b8d5-dc88bd9f08d2/summary</a>	Nematology	Abstracts

## Conference Updates



ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS  
BIOCONTROL AND IPM GROUP

President: Prof. Christine Foyer

### Bringing Biocontrol and IPM to Market

Hybrid event hosted online and live at the  
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, UK  
16-17 November 2022



Image from Keith Walters

### [Bringing Biocontrol and IPM to Market](#)

16-17 November 2022

Hybrid event hosted in the Olde Barn  
Hotel, Marston, UK

[VISIT EVENT WEBSITE](#)

[REGISTRATION](#)

[DRAFT SCHEDULE](#)

## Advances in Nematology 2022

8 December 2022

09:00-17:00

**We are delighted that 'Advances in Nematology 2022' will take place as a single-day hybrid event on Tuesday December 8th hosted at The Linnean Society in London**

[Visit Event Website](#)

This event is hosted by the Association of Applied Biologists Nematology Specialist Group and invites contributions from areas encompassing all the applied biology of nematology (molecular biology of nematodes or hosts, ecology, epidemiology, management of plant-parasitic nematodes, entomopathogenic nematodes and emerging diagnostic methods).

#### Abstract Submission

We encourage submission of abstracts for delegates to present their work on any aspect of Nematological research. The sessions will be built around the topics of the submitted abstracts.

We will select ~10 speakers to provide a 'regular presentation' and ~10 speakers to provide a short talk. As this meeting is just one-day we have decided NOT to host a poster session as there is limited time to do justice for the time taken for presenters to produce their posters.

The ~20 slots available for oral presentations will provide great opportunities for delegates to present their work. We will select oral presentations from both in-person and online delegates so please submit an abstract however you will participate in the meeting.

Abstract Submission closes on **November 1st 2022** and we will announce the meeting schedule in the second week of November.

[Submit an Abstract here](#)

We are delighted to confirm two onsite invited speakers for the event:

-> **Dr Olivera Topalovic, University of Copenhagen** –  
*Microbial role in suppression and protection of plant-parasitic nematodes*

-> **Dr Maria Inacio, INIAV, Portugal** –  
*Pinewood nematode: a quarantine perspective of more than 20 years' presence in Portugal*

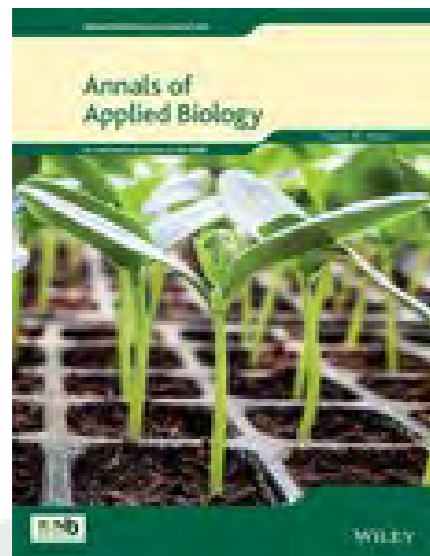
The hybrid format provides the opportunity to interact with a global cohort of interested nematologists. The Linnean Society is a magnificently historic venue for a scientific meeting but they limit the number of **in-person attendees to 45**.

In the case of over-subscription in-person delegates will be selected to ensure a varied group in terms of career stage and topic. We aim that the majority of presentations will be provided in-person but we will also host online presentations.

Virtual attendees will benefit from professional broadcast of the event to an online platform. This will allow questions to be asked by both in-person and virtual attendees.

## AAB Journals: New Issues Now AVAILABLE

Click on the links below to view the latest issues of our scientific journals. Remember that you will need an annual subscription to view our *Annals of Applied Biology* content so please contact Bernadette (bernadette@aab.org.uk) in the AAB Office if you are interested!



*Annals of Applied Biology*  
**Vol. 181 Iss. 3**  
November 2022



*Plant Biotechnology Journal*  
**Vol. 20 Iss. 10**  
October 2022



The Association of Applied Biologists is a member of the Plant Science Group of the Royal Society of Biology. The AAB Executive Officer is the current Chairperson of the group.

This group publishes an excellent monthly Plant Science Newsletter that anyone can sign up for here.:

Members of the RSB are eligible for a 50% DISCOUNT on AAB membership.

PLEASE CONTACT Alberto Vitale to take advantage of this membership offer.



British Crop Production Council (BCPC) Newslink: [CLICK HERE](#)

## The AAB NewsHub

A dedicated section for generic news content which we believe will be of significant interest to our members and their peers, for every single newsletter that we release. These articles may range from blogs, or discussion topics right the way through to some professionally published content.

We will continue to scout around for the latest news but as always, we are more than happy to receive additional content from our readers... If you come across an article or a newspaper column which you think would be of interest to our members please feel free to send it to John (john@aab.org.uk)

### COP27

[Climate change: Can an enormous seaweed farm help curb it?](#) (BBC)

[Why I am keen to get my hands on genetically modified purple tomatoes](#) (New Scientist)

[Global soil map pinpoints key sites for conservation](#) (Nature)

[New ground as tech aims to help boost soil health](#) (BBC)

[Plant turns suspected crop pest into pollinator](#) (Science)

[Climate change: Are potatoes being put at risk by warmer weather?](#) (BBC)



### AAB Membership Rates 2022

Membership Type	£
Full	62.00
Retired	31.00
ECP (Early Career Professionals) and Student Membership	20.00
Members are also entitled to receive the following publications at reduced rates.	
<u><i>Annals of Applied Biology</i></u>	
Printed (hard copy)	91.37
Online (UK & Europe*)	77.82
Online (rest of world)	64.85
Printed + Online (UK & Europe*)	132.91
Printed + Online (rest of world)	126.59
* VAT incl. for UK & European members	

For any membership enquiries please feel free to contact Alberto in the AAB Office by email at: [alberto@aab.org.uk](mailto:alberto@aab.org.uk)

## Why Should I Join the AAB?

- A forum for applied biologists worldwide: Network with the best in your specialism
- Discounted registration fees for our regular scientific conferences and workshops across the AABs research interests
- Eligible to apply for [FESPB short term mobility grants](#) (up to €3000)
- Preferred eligibility when applying for [AAB ECP Travel grants](#)
- Eligible to apply for the '[AAB Carer Fund](#)' £500 accessibility grants
- Opportunities to interact with the Global Plant Council
- Two-way membership discount with the [Royal Society of Biology](#). Members of either society receive a 50% discount membership of the other! [More RSB details here](#).
- 30% discount on publications in our *Aspects of Applied Biology* series
- 20% reduction in publication fees for [Plant Biotechnology Journal](#) -> valued at £100s. Contact Geraint (geraint@aab.org.uk) to obtain the discount code

### *Aspects of Applied Biology Marketplace*

*Aspects of Applied Biology* is a series of conference proceedings produced by the Association from some of our organised events. Each issue of *Aspects* is produced in advance of the relevant conference. *Aspects* articles DO NOT go through a full peer-review process but are thoroughly proofed and edited accordingly to ensure scientific validity. *Aspects* are available after the conference and are a valuable resource for those working or studying in the relevant field or even for those purely interested in the content.

**Postage costs may work out cheaper for multiple purchases.**

**For our full list of *Aspects of Applied Biology* [click here](#)**

If you wish to purchase a book which does not appear on the list or require information on multiple purchases, please contact Bernadette (bernadette@aab.org.uk) for a price.



### **Association of Applied Biologists Early Career Professional Travel Grant Application Form**

Grants are available to all students or early career professionals (ECP, defined as being within 10 years of leaving full time education) to attend AAB events to provide a poster or oral presentation. Recipients do not need to be a member of the Association. Allowances are restricted to standard class flights, rail or bus fares (using a rail card if available). All grants are discretionary.

Applications must be made at least **2 months** before the meeting, to the AAB Executive Officer (EO) Geraint Parry at [geraint@aab.org.uk](mailto:geraint@aab.org.uk). The application will be assessed by the EO and AAB Council

Payments will be made on submission of receipts after the event but on rare occasions up-front payments are possible if deemed essential by the AAB EO and Council.

**For further information: [CLICK HERE](#)**

### **Association of Applied Biologists Carer Fund Application Form**

The AAB wants to provide opportunities for anyone to attend their events, irrespective of their personal circumstances. We understand that this might require financial assistance that is unavailable through conventional travel grants.

The AAB has started the 'AAB Carer fund' that is open for applications from **AAB members**, who require additional help to attend either live and virtual AAB events. Each application will be judged on their individual merit but might be used for childcare, support care of elderly or disabled adult relatives or for personal use to facilitate accessibility needs (travel, audio-visual, personal help).

We have **£500 available** for each application associated with each event. Please return this form to the AAB Executive Officer (EO) Geraint Parry at [geraint@aab.org.uk](mailto:geraint@aab.org.uk). The application will be assessed by the EO and the AAB Council.

Please submit the application at least **2 months** before the selected event, but early submission will be beneficial. Payments will be made on submission of receipts after the event but on rare occasions up-front payments are possible if deemed essential by the AAB EO and Council.

**For further information: [CLICK HERE](#)**

The AAB are delighted to have become a member of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Biology (FESPB)

FESPB aims to advance research, education, and the exchange of information amongst plant biologists within Europe and beyond. <https://fespb.org/>



As part of a FESPB affiliated Societies, AAB members are eligible to apply for these grants:

- **FESPB Awards to young European plant scientists.**

Two FESPB Awards for two young scientists selected by the FESPB Awards Committee from nominations put forward by each of the constituent Societies. Award are for €2000 and attendance to the FESPB congress.

- **Grants for short-term mobility for young researchers**

FESPB would offer short term mobility grants (up to €3000) for young researchers working with a group leader who is an AAB member.

- **Grants to attend FESPB Congress**

Support registration and accommodation at the FESPB congress. They will be open for AAB members or group members of AAB members.

Please contact Geraint Parry ([geraint@aab.org.uk](mailto:geraint@aab.org.uk)) about these opportunities

## Descriptions of Plant Viruses (DPV)

Over 400 individual descriptions of plant viruses or virus groups. Nos 1-354 were originally published in paper form by the *Association of Applied Biologists* (AAB) between 1970 and 1989, while additional descriptions have been added to a CD-ROM (also published by the AAB) since 1998. These can now be accessed from the indexes in the DPV menu or from the Taxonomy pages. New descriptions are being commissioned and will be added as they become available.