

IFMA NEWSLETTER - MAY 2009

17TH INTERNATIONAL FARM MANAGEMENT CONGRESS

"Agriculture: Food, Fiber and Energy for the Future"

Sun. 19TH-Fri. 24TH July 2009, Bloomington/Normal, ILLINOIS, USA.

****JUST 4 WEEKS TO THE CONGRESS REGISTRATION DEADLINE – FRIDAY 19TH OF JUNE****

We are now into the final 2 months before the congress starts and Carroll Merry and his happy band of organisers are full speed ahead with the final preparations for the congress. You can see what the "locals" have been making of the congress coming to Illinois by reading a few of the agricultural press cuttings on the home page of the [congress website](#). They are certainly looking forward to giving delegates and their accompanying persons a great welcome and to showing them around their farms. Carroll has had good support from members of the Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers (ISPFMRA - the host organisation) many of whom will be "volunteers" to help with the running of the congress and day tours.

Whilst the current world financial meltdown has not been helpful, we have a good number of delegates registered for the congress, and an excellent set of contributed papers as well as top ranking plenary and panel speakers all lined up. So far there are delegates coming from **23 countries** with 25 nations represented; including a delegate from **Papua New Guinea** (believed to be a first time for an IFMA Congress) and several countries are being represented for the first time for a long time such as Finland (last represented in 1988). Many of the major agricultural producing countries have 10 or more delegates attending – so we will have interesting discussions about the many current farm management issues!

With lower than hoped for numbers (they did have ambitious targets!) some minor adjustments have had to be made, and in particular the Post Congress tour has been cancelled due to too few people registering for it. However the **Pre Congress tour** is well supported and will kick off in St Louis on Sunday 12th July. There are still places available on this tour for those who want to participate – but don't leave it too long before registering for it. If you have already registered for the congress and want to go on the Pre Tour you can do so by just registering for the tour online at the [ISU IFMA17 registration website](#). In fact you can add any extra you want after registering for the congress by just selecting the item you want – such as IFMA Membership or a hard copy of the proceedings – and going through the 'Check Out' process.

If you have someone interested in the Accompanying Persons' Program – this is well supported too, and they are in for an interesting and enjoyable time, so you can book with confidence.

The target deadline for registering for the congress is Friday 19th June, with an absolute final date for registering of **July 1st**. After Friday 19th June the selected hotels will have released all their blocked rooms for the congress and the special rates may not apply. Also the organisers will allocate people for day tours depending on what is available as the final arrangements for the day tours will have been made by then.

By any standards we have a brilliant congress program ahead of us – so if you are not already registered please don't miss out; you still have time to plan your attendance! All the information you need should be on the Congress Website, but if it isn't please contact [Carroll](#) or [Myself](#).

And finally - the good news is that the US dollar has lost value against most currencies in recent weeks – so now is a good time to register!

I look forward to meeting you in Bloomington / Normal,

Best Regards,
Tony.

Tony King
Hon. Secretary

International Farm Management Association

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IFMA Website - www.ifmaonline.org

17th IFMA Congress, USA website - www.ifma17.org