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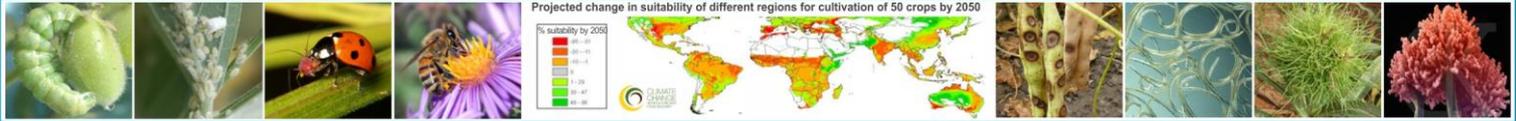
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Biography -

Prof. Tjamos, Founder and President of the Hellenic Society of Phytiatry, has been appointed to serve on the IAPPS Governing Board in his role as IPPC Host Country Representative. Prof. Tjamos obtained his BSc and MSc in Agronomy with major in Plant Pathology, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece, and his PhD in Plant Pathology, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London, U.K., in 1974. During his rich career, he has been Research Plant Pathologist, Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Kiphissia, Athens, Greece (1970-1987), Visiting Scientist, Host Pathogen Interactions, University of Lexington, Kentucky, USA (1981-1982), and Visiting Professor, Biological Control of soil-borne pathogens, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, MD, USA (1993). At the Department of Plant Pathology, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece, he has been subsequently Assistant Professor (1987), Associate Professor (1991), Professor of Plant Pathology (1994-2010), and Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology (2010 to date). Within the same institution, he has served as the Director of the Section of Plant Protection and Environment (2003-2005), and Dean of the Faculty of Crop Science (2005-2009). He has directly supervised 55 MSc and 7 PhD students.

His research interests spawn from phytoalexins and induced resistance, to biological control of plant diseases, Verticillium wilt with emphasis on olives, soil solarization and methyl bromide alternatives, and mycotoxigenic fungi in grapes and wine. Eris has also substantially contributed to extension, by publishing several layman journal articles in extension plant protection journals to inform extension plant pathologists and farmers about various aspects related to the management of soil borne pathogens, while at the same time numerous leaflets were produced to promote soil solarization and soil fumigation to help farmers move out of the methyl bromide use.



Presentation title: **Plant Medicine Doctors, the urgently needed scientists for confronting Plant Medicine (Phytiatry) and Plant Health related problems in global agriculture**

Abstract

Plant health is an extremely crucial issue for world agriculture in its broad sense, since it prevents spread of dangerous plant pathogens and pests internationally and confronts plant medicine problems. That's why, several international organizations emphatically raise relative alarming discussions and undertake initiatives towards contributing to urgently needed solutions. Indeed, FAO commission on phytosanitary measures and the international plant protection convention are discussing Plant Health issues and stress the need of developing the most effective ways to control plant diseases and pests. Approximately \$300-400 billions of global crop yields are lost annually due to the damage wrought by plant pests and diseases. The American Phytopathological Society (APS) declared his 2019 annual meeting as PLANT HEALTH 2019, while UN declared 2020 the International Year of Plant Health to highlight the importance of plant health and trigger a global alliance to support plant health polices as a significant contributor to global food security. Scientists who could contribute to the crucial role of reversing this extravagant financial damage each year globally, such as Plant medicine doctors are very rare globally. Thus, Scientific Societies such as APS present YouTube videos to emphasize the emerging need for plant doctors worldwide. Similarly, British Society for Plant Pathology initiated an alarming campaign by stating that Britain's ability to combat new diseases is threatening due to the loss of skills and expertise in plant pathology, asking young people to become plant doctors. Apparently, these alarming cases mean that this significant task could be carried out mainly by Plant Medicine (Phytiatry) professional doctors, properly educated to act as consultants or researchers at the sites of the agricultural practice and as experts of important international organizations, otherwise the problem of world hunger will be perpetuated. In an era of super specialization, qualified scientists with a deep and broad Phytiatry educational background, able to work as Phytiatry doctors for spotting quarantine pests and pathogens, diagnose complicated plant diseases and pests, and prescribe management recommendations are needed. Furthermore, they are important in dealing with complicated postharvest measures (managing mycotoxigenic fungi), in dealing with organic farming problems in contributing to reduce unjustifiable expenses in crop production. Unfortunately, this task is currently played by the so-called plant doctors. I appreciate the global effort of Plantwise developed and led by CABI to increase food security. A real precious initiative for providing useful information on plant health management. But independently of their useful contribution to low income regions, I strongly believe that plant doctors must be graduates of University Phytiatry schools. Universities, National governments and Agricultural associations along with organization of the international agricultural economies must enter into the heart of educating Phytiatry doctors. Our presentation analyses all issues and demonstrates the necessity of introducing Phytiatry in the Universities worldwide.