

Spring 2026



Dear all,
Welcome to the Spring 2026 newsletter of the European Association for Potato Research (EAPR).

News about Potato Research is provided on page 3.
Two Section Meetings will take place in 2026 (see page 4).

Get ready for the 23rd Triennial Conference in Edinburgh 2027.

Finally, we wish to remind those who have not yet joined or renewed their membership to please do so as soon as possible (it's easy to do on the website). We also encourage you to continue to submit articles to Potato Research and would encourage those with an interest in becoming an editor to contact the Chief Editor **Paul Struik: paul.struik@wur.nl**

We look forward to working with you in 2026 and beyond.

For more information on EAPR and to renew membership go to:
<https://www.eapr.net>

Image: Potatoes. Credit — Hans and Jeyaratnam Caniceus from Pixabay.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

23rd EAPR Triennial Conference.....	2
Potato Research	3
Section meeting updates.....	4
Field Days.....	5
Membership—join now.....	6
Website.....	6

23RD EAPR TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

We are pleased to share that planning is well underway for the 23rd EAPR Triennial Conference, which will take place in Edinburgh, Scotland, from 6–10 June 2027. Our website is now live at <https://abdn.eventsair.com/eapr2027>, and we will continue to update it as further details are confirmed.

This conference will highlight how science and industry collaborate to support a vibrant potato economy. We are also committed to promoting a clear, jargon-free approach to ensure the science is accessible to all attendees. Registration and abstract submissions are expected to open in June 2026, and we will share reminders as soon as these go live.

We are delighted to confirm that our main conference venue, McEwan Hall, has been secured. This beautiful 19th-century building, originally opened in 1894 as a ceremonial graduation hall for the University of Edinburgh, has recently undergone an extensive restoration, combining its historic character with modern facilities.

Our conference dinner will be held at The Caves, a unique venue formed from a series of arches beneath South Bridge, dating back to the 1780s. Once home to trade workshops and later associated with some of Edinburgh's more colourful history, including links to Burke and Hare, the space was rediscovered in 1980 after being hidden for over a century, and modernised to create an cosy historical setting for our dinner and ceilidh dancing.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event, we invite you to explore our sponsorship packages at <https://abdn.eventsair.com/eapr2027/sponsorship>. Please feel free to get in touch via the website or directly with our event organisers at cpdservices@abdn.ac.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you to Edinburgh in summer 2027.

Best wishes,

Ian Toth

EAPR President



Image: McEwan Hall (left) and The Caves (right). Credit — Ian Toth

“The 23rd EAPR Triennial Conference will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland on 6th—10th June 2027”

POTATO RESEARCH

Members must have noted that the issues of Potato Research were exceptionally thick in 2025. The number of manuscripts submitted to the journal has increased tremendously over the last few years. In two years, the number of manuscripts submitted per year increased from 200 to 442. We have published 222 papers in the 2025 volume (Volume 68) originating from 45 different countries and with a total of 4950 pages. About half of them are on the agronomy and physiology of potato. We are very pleased with that development, although finding processing editors and reviewers for such large numbers of submissions is a challenge.

With the help of Springer staff, we have recruited 12 new processing editors. These new processing editors have profiles on topics that were not well represented in the existing team and come from countries where potato is an important crop, but which were not well represented in the team. These new editors have been trained in managing the editorial management system and have become very active members of our editorial team.

We invited literally thousands of reviewers last year. The success rate of these invitations is about 50%, but for some topics much lower. Please consider saying yes when you are invited to review a paper for Potato Research.

Starting with the 2026 volume (Volume 69) two new developments have been implemented:

1. Potato Research is now a journal with continuous article publishing. This means that a paper will be published directly in its final form and will immediately get a final article number and is thereby assigned to an issue which is gradually being built up. Authors do not have to wait until the paper is assigned to an issue and paginated to have the final publication details of their paper. For many scientists this is important as their institutions only recognize a paper as published when it is present online in its final form.
2. Potato Research will publish 6 issues per year instead of 4 given the large supply of papers.

Soon we will also implement yet another innovation. Potato Research will switch to SNAPP, the novel online submission system developed by Springer Nature. The journals who are already working with this system report great satisfaction among authors because it is so user friendly.

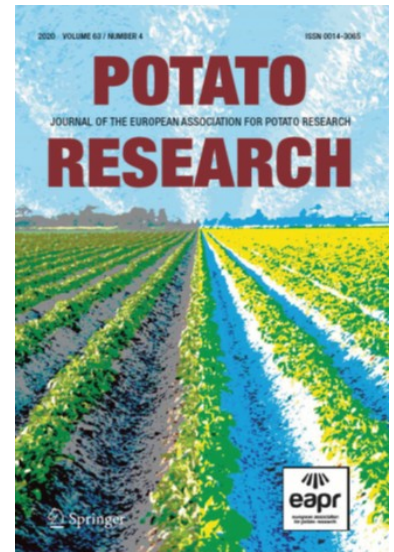
Please note that - in an attempt to reduce paper usage - sustaining and ordinary members have the option of not receiving hard copies of the journal. If you do not wish to receive a hard copy anymore - while keeping your access to the online version of Potato Research and American Journal of Potato Research through your membership - please inform the vice-president of the EAPR (email: kurt.demeulemeester@inagro.be).

Potato Research is sending out two calls for papers on special issues / collections in each calendar year. We recommend members check these calls on a regular basis and submit their papers, thus making these special issues a success.

Paul Struik

Editor in Chief

“Starting with the 2026 volume, two new developments have been implemented”



UPDATE FROM THE SECTIONS

Agronomy and Physiology and Postharvest

Registration for the joint EAPR Sections Meeting on Agronomy & Physiology and Postharvest is open, taking place 16–19 June 2026 in Warsaw, Poland.

<https://ihar.edu.pl/en/news/conference/meeting-of-the-joint-eapr-sections-agronomy-physiology-and-post-harvest>

Registration and abstract submission are now open.

Pathology and pests

The registration for the EAPR Pathology and Pests Section Meeting 2026 is now opened. taking place 5–8 July 2026 in Oulu, Finland. Please use the link [Program | EAPR Pathology and Pests Section Meeting](#) for your registration and abstract submission into the Meeting. Please, notice that through the EAPR registration form, you may also find the link for the registration to the Wireworm Workshop.

Virology

The 18th EAPR Triennial Virology Meeting was held 1–5 June 2025 in Nyon, Switzerland. Organizers and the scientific committee are thanked for excellent execution (images below).



The Virology session accommodated for the first time a section dedicated to Phytoplasma and Arsenophonus. It proved to be very successful, with large numbers of participants and fruitful interactions and discussions. Major themes included climate-driven epidemiology, molecular mechanisms of virus detection, plant–aphid interactions, long-term virus monitoring, Stolbur and Arsenophonus challenges, and diagnostics for viral and phloem-borne diseases. The virology session will remain separate and will include Phytoplasma and Arsenophonus.

The next meeting will be held in France. Plans for improved information sharing and adding materials to the EAPR Virology website were discussed.

Breeding and Varietal Assessment

The section meeting took place 15–18 June 2025 in St Andrews, Scotland, co-organized with EUCARPIA “Potatoes.” It was the first meeting since 2018 and received very positive feedback. The meeting hosted 105 attendees from 17 countries, featuring 38 talks (including 8 keynotes) and 19 posters under the theme “Potato breeding in the era of pan-genomes and advanced genetics.” A half-day excursion was organized to the James Hutton Institute, where participants had the opportunity to visit the Commonwealth Potato Collection. A “Business meeting” was held on the evening of the first day.

The next section meeting will be organized by Neiker in Spain, likely in 2028, though the date is not yet confirmed.

“The EAPR council decided to increase the support for the section meetings from 2000 € to 5000 €”

FIELD DAYS IN 2026

Potatoes in Practice 2025

August 13, 2026, Dundee, Scotland

The event brings together variety demonstrations, research and trade exhibits in one place making it an essential date in the potato industry calendar.

Weuthen Kartoffeltag 2025

August 27, 2026, Schwalmatal, Germany

An international potato day showcasing the latest potato technology, variety demonstrations from leading European breeders, and expert information on crop protection, fertilization, storage, ventilation, and quality assurance.

Aardappeldemodag 2026

September 2, 2026, Westmaas, The Netherlands

A gathering for professionals in the potato industry to explore new cultivation methods, machinery, and innovative technologies, aiming for more sustainable and efficient potato production.

Potato Europe 2026

September 9-10, 2026, Springe, Germany

An international event dedicated to the entire potato value chain, featuring over 350 exhibitors and attracting around 15,000 visitors.

British Potato Confex 2026

November 18-19, 2026, Lincolnshire, Great Britain

A brand-new event designed to keep the industry connected in the years between the much-loved British Potato Industry Event in Harrogate.

INTERPOM 2026

November 29- December 1, 2026, Kortrijk, Belgium

Europe's largest indoor potato trade fair covering the entire potato chain: growing, storage, machinery, processing, packaging, marketing, and trade. The event connects growers, processors, packers, and technology suppliers from across Europe and beyond.



Image: Potato cultivation. Credit — Susanne Stöckli from Pixabay.

MEMBERSHIP—JOIN NOW!

The Association has three membership categories: Ordinary, Sustaining and Honorary membership. At present the Association has over 225 Ordinary members, 14 Sustaining members and 11 Honorary members. Membership is drawn from many countries in all five continents.

For existing members: don't forget to renew your membership in time, to profit of the membership advantages, for example the reduced rates on the upcoming section meetings.

For more information on membership and to join using our easy-to-use electronic system visit:

eapr.net/membership

NEWS

Transition to E Invoicing (Peppol)

As an international non-profit association based in Belgium, EAPR is required to adopt structured electronic invoicing since January 2026 via the so-called Peppol network. This shift aligns with the broader European ambition to expand e invoicing across all EU member states by 2030.

For EAPR members who do not renew their membership online via credit card, it remains possible to request a digital invoice. To make this process easier, an additional field has been added to your account information, allowing you to enter the VAT number of your company or institution.

We appreciate your cooperation as we transition to a more efficient, secure, and future proof invoicing system.

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WEBSITE

There is only so much we can put in a newsletter so for more information on our activities please visit the web site (www.eapr.net).

