

About IPPS



International
Leadership

International Plant Production Society

April 2026

In this edition:

1. A note from our International Tour Coordinator
2. Events in 2026
3. Southern Africa Post-Conference Highlights
4. Sponsor Appreciation

IPPS International Sponsors





International Tour Coordinator's Message

Dear IPPS Members,

Spring greetings from central North Carolina where we are finally experiencing pleasant weather after a long, cold winter season. For those who I haven't met, my name is Brie (the Plant Lady) and I am the Southern Region International Delegate and tour coordinator for the 2026 International tour.

I have had the privilege of being closely involved with the IPPS International Tour program since 2023, when the Southern Region hosted. In recent years, I had the pleasure of participating in the Southern African and New Zealand tours, experiences that reinforced just how valuable these international exchanges are for our profession. Having seen firsthand the friendships, knowledge sharing, and inspiration that come from these journeys, I am especially excited to invite you to join us for the 2026 International Tour hosted by the Eastern Region.

This will be an extraordinary opportunity to experience some of the most innovative plant production operations in the United States while building meaningful connections with colleagues from around the world. Registration will be closing on April 15, so please do not delay securing your spot on this extraordinary trip!

International President, Liz Erickson and I have worked closely with regional partners to design an itinerary that highlights the diversity, creativity, and excellence of the green industry across the upper Midwest USA. This tour will take participants through Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan, offering behind-the-scenes access to leading nurseries, breeding programs, public gardens, cultural sites, and horticultural enterprises that are rarely seen by visitors.

With two great options, the Long Tour (September 11–25, 2026) beginning in Minneapolis–St. Paul, Minnesota (MSP airport code) and the Short Tour (September 18–25, 2026) beginning in Chicago, Illinois (ORD airport code) we are certain to provide a one-of-a-kind experience for all attendees. Both tours conclude in Grand Rapids, Michigan (GRR airport code) with the Eastern Region Annual Conference, which is full of incredible tour stops and world-class educational sessions.

International tours are among the most valuable experiences IPPS offers. They allow us to step outside our daily routines, learn from different production systems, and build lasting friendships within our global community. I can confidently say that the relationships formed and knowledge shared on these adventures often shape careers for years to come.

I hope you will consider joining us for this memorable journey across the Eastern Region. Whether you participate in the full tour or the shorter itinerary, I promise it will be a rewarding and inspiring experience. Registration details and additional information are available below.

I look forward to traveling with you in 2026.

Warm regards,

Brie Arthur

2026 IPPS International Tour Coordinator

[Register Here!](#)

International Tour Registration Closes in:

19 15 54 55
Days Hours Minutes Seconds



2026 Events

Regional Conferences:

New Zealand: April 30 - May 3, 2026

Australia: May 26 - 29, 2026

Eastern Region of North America: September 22 - 25, 2026

Western Region of North America: September 1-4, 2026

Europe: September 30 - October 2, 2026

Southern Region of North America: October 18 - 22, 2026

Past 2026 Regional Conferences:

Southern Africa: March 3 - 5, 2026

[ipps.org](https://www.ipps.org)

IPPS Southern Africa's 28th Annual Conference Recap



IPPS Southern Africa recently hosted a very successful 28th Annual Conference!

Article by IPPS Southern Africa Secretary, Karen Eichholz

From Tuesday 3 to Thursday 5 March, 50 horticultural professionals, connected to enthusiastically share plant production knowledge, guided by the theme: 'Startups, Reboots & Mainstays'

Early Tuesday morning, the pre-tour started in Cape Town, heading to the beautiful conference venue at Goedgedacht, located on the slopes of the picturesque Riebeek Valley, near Malmesbury. First stop Cape Garden Centre, then a quick stop at Box Tree Company. Lunch was served at The Pink Geranium and last but not the least a visit to Malmesbury Wholesale Nursery. Delegates enjoyed sharing the days experiences at the welcome function, held on the *'Tree House Deck'*, with a magnificent view of Table Mountain, far away on the horizon.

Wednesday and Thursday morning delegates attended the presentations by this years amazing speakers, all specialists in their specific fields of interest. [Click the link](#) to the website page to view all the presentations. During the afternoons

delegates participated in more interesting nursery business visits, Wednesday Tulbagh Nursery and Vitro Plant, Thursday Ellepot SA. [Click here](#) to view photos taken by various delegates.

Another highlight of the event was the final selection of the two young horticulturists participating in the 2026, Australia and New Zealand, exchange program. [Click here](#) to view the presentations by this years two successful finalists.

Thank you to all the delegates, [sponsors](#) and organisers for staging another memorable IPPS Southern Africa Conference!

Please join us next year, 2 – 4 March, in Gauteng, for the 29th annual IPPS Southern Africa Conference.

International IPPS Sponsors



Sponsor Appreciation

The International Plant Production Society (IPPS) is proud to recognize and thank ***all of our sponsors*** around the world. International would like to highlight our ***International Sponsors***, whose ongoing support helps strengthen our global network and advance our mission of "Seek and Share" plant production knowledge.

Our sponsors represent a diverse group of industry leaders, innovators, and partners who are deeply committed to the future of horticulture. Their contributions not only support IPPS programs and events worldwide, but also help provide meaningful benefits for our members across all regions.

As part of our continued effort to connect members with these important partners, we encourage you to explore the sponsor video library available on the bottom of our international home page. These videos offer a unique opportunity to learn more about each organization and their expertise, innovations, and the role they play in supporting plant production professionals around the world. From new technologies and research advancements to practical solutions and services, these insights are both informative and highly relevant to our community.

IPPS thrives in part due to the collaboration between members and industry partners. By supporting our sponsors, you are directly contributing to the continued growth, innovation, and success of our international community.

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