

## The International Plant Propagators' Society®

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The International Plant Propagators Society is organised into eight regions:

- Eastern Region, North America, which is the mother region of all regions, was founded in 1950;
- Western Region in 1960;
- Region of Great Britain and Ireland in 1968;
- New Zealand Region in 1971;
- Australian Region in 1972;
- Southern Region of North America in 1976;
- Scandinavian Region – initially Denmark Region – was founded in 1992;
- IPPS Japan Region in 1997;
- Plus one Potential Region – yours!

A region's own local committee or board, chaired by its own President, runs each region and each region maintains its own finances. Each region elects an International Director and Alternate, who represent the region on the International Board.

I.P.P.S. members pay their subscription locally, but a proportion of each subscription is paid into an International account which helps cover the cost of the I.P.P.S. Proceedings and to help fund expansion of I.P.P.S. into other regions. Presently, existing regions individually or in cooperation are initiating further expansion of the Society into South America, Eastern and South Eastern Europe, the Philippines, The Netherlands, and Germany.

Each Region holds at least one annual technical conference, and the submitted papers from all the regional conferences are published as the *Combined Proceedings of the International Plant Propagators' Society* (the black book).

Many of the regions offer exchange travel programmes, awards, and scholarships to raise awareness of I.P.P.S. and to help its members develop their personal and technical skills.

The I.P.P.S. website on the Internet is a new development, which is helping to improve communication between the members worldwide. Members can access the page on <[www.ipps.org](http://www.ipps.org)>.

It has often been asked, what is the success of this International Society, which has currently around 2800 members worldwide in the 50 years since it was first set up, “– you don't sell anything!” The answer is PEOPLE!

The majority of our membership is learning and at the same time sharing knowledge they might possess relative to the topics being discussed. Commercialisation, as conducted at industry trade shows, does not fit Society conferences.

Our “competitors” are ignorant, with a lack of knowledge on specific topics. While our fellow I.P.P.S. nursery members gain knowledge from the regional meeting around the world.