

## Kiwifruit Symposium on track to success

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Kiwifruit Symposium (kiwi2006) is just four and a half months away and organisers are well pleased with the responses which will make this a world-class event.

The world's kiwifruit science community has responded enthusiastically to a call for oral and poster presentations, making over 150 abstract title submissions. Details of the oral sessions, as well as other useful information, are now available on the Symposium website: <http://www.kiwi2006.com/>. A large number of full abstracts have been submitted and when they have been received, the full titles and author details will also be placed on the website.

Organising Committee Chairman, Bob Martin, says this generous response helps ensure that the latest information from New Zealand and around the world will be presented at the symposium.

"Session topics will vary from plant breeding, through fruit quality, climate, nutrition and physiology to sustainability and pathology (pest and disease). The final session will cover human health and nutrition, which is an increasingly important area."

Organisers say many people have taken advantage of the Earlybird discount offered on the registration fees, with the next significant date being 31 October for a reduced rate for registration fees. After that date, the full fee will be payable plus the day registration rate will apply at all times. Registrations are accepted right up to the start of the symposium.

Mr Martin says they are very pleased with the number of registrations already received, particularly from overseas.

"New Zealanders are always slow to register for events in their own country! Many of the people from the 13 countries that showed their initial interest have now registered so there will be excellent representation of delegates from kiwifruit producing countries."

Many attendees have also registered for the pre-symposium tour, which will give overseas visitors an opportunity to view kiwifruit, as well as horticulture in general, during the three-day tour - plus a chance to see something of the New Zealand countryside.

There is also a one-day tour through the Bay of Plenty, an integral part of the symposium for all delegates. This not only showcases New Zealand's premium kiwifruit growing areas but also gives delegates the opportunity to mix with their colleagues away from the symposium venue itself.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Kiwi2006 is presented by the International Society for Horticultural Science, in association with the New Zealand Society for Horticultural Science.

Registrations close on 31 October 2005 with a late fee applying for registrations from after that date right up to the start of the symposium.

The kiwi2006 logo is based on three types of kiwifruit now available in different parts of the world, the traditional 'Hayward', the yellow as in 'Hort16A' and the red-centred as grown in China.

For further information, visit [kiwi2006.com](http://kiwi2006.com).

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