



XXI International Congress of Arachnology

Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand

10–15 February 2019

ICA2019NZ@gmail.com

First Circular

www.arachnology.org

Dear Colleagues,



The International Society of Arachnology invites you to the 21st International Congress of Arachnology to be held at Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand.



Have you always wanted to visit New Zealand? Now you have the perfect excuse, and if you're in the Northern Hemisphere, you can escape a bit of winter. New Zealand is a long flight from anywhere, so why not come for a long deserved holiday before and/or after the Congress.

If you plan on attending the 21st ICA in Lincoln, New Zealand, please fill in the preregistration form at <http://arachnology.org/21st-ica-2019/pre-registration-form.html>

Venue

Lincoln University is the venue for the Congress. It is the smallest of New Zealand's eight universities and is the oldest agricultural tertiary institution in the Southern Hemisphere. Registration, talks, poster sessions, coffee breaks, meals, dormitory accommodation and the conference dinner will all be on campus. There is also a bar on campus.



Lincoln University is by the small town of Lincoln, which is on the Canterbury Plains, 22 kilometers southwest of Christchurch. It has a population of 6,000 and isn't an especially historic or culturally significant place; however, it has a supermarket, two pubs and a few restaurants and cafes.

Schedule of Events

The Congress starts on the evening of 10 February. Attendees will be welcomed at an evening social gathering at the Lincoln University campus. The oral and poster sessions will be held from 11–15 February with a mid-week excursion scheduled for 13 February. The now traditional Russian Party will occur the evening of the 12th. The congress dinner will be held on the 14th at Te Kete Ika (Lincoln University food and function center). Attendees should plan to depart on Saturday 16 February, except those planning on either on attending the post-congress excursion or staying on and seeing New Zealand.

Transport

Almost everyone will have to fly to get to the Congress. Christchurch International Airport has flights arrive daily from Australia, Singapore and there are several flights a day from Auckland Internal Airport, which is New Zealand's principle international airport. From Christchurch International Airport, delegates can bus, taxi or shuttle to Lincoln University.

Registration and costs

Registration costs have not been fixed yet, but will be similar to the costs of previous congresses.

Excursions

A mid-congress excursion to Hinewai Reserve (www.hinewai.org.nz) on the Banks Peninsula is planned. This 1250 hectare reserve is privately owned and managed by the Maurice White Native Forest Trust, but freely open the public on foot. A limited amount of collecting should be possible and will not require a permit.

Other possible trips will depend on numbers and may include a scenic trip to Arthurs Pass.

A three day post-congress excursion in the South Island is proposed; details and costs are yet to be determined.

Call for symposia

Symposia should be of general interest and will have one or more coordinators, which is usually the person or people who suggested the theme. The coordinators will be responsible for inviting speakers and will liaise with the organising committee. At this stage, symposia talks will be 15 minutes (including discussion time) to allow coordination with concurrent sessions.

Please send your suggestions to ICA2019NZ@gmail.com Please include the term “symposium suggestion” in the subject line.

Accommodation

Accommodation for most attendees will be in dormitories on the Lincoln University campus where there are several halls of residence with space for around 600. Each room has a single bed and there are shared bathrooms, which you'll share with three other arachnologists.

If you want to get physical during your stay at Lincoln University, the Lincoln University Recreation Centre (<https://hail.to/lincoln-university-recreation-centre/a/PEIsT6x>) will be available to all folks staying in the dorms.

Breakfast will be provided at Te Kete Ika for all those staying in the dorms.

Accommodation booking will be available soon! Please do not book now as we're still finding out about the rates and easiest booking procedures!

Dormitory prices per night:

- NZ\$85 per person with a cooked breakfast
- NZ\$75 per person with a continental breakfast

If dorms are not your thing, there is a motel and hotel in Lincoln. Both are 1.6 km (1 mile in old fashioned distance) from the Congress venue. There are limited numbers of rooms, so book as soon as you can.

Accompanying persons

Accompanying persons, who pay a registration fee, will be welcome to participate at all social events, including the welcome party, mid-congress excursion and the Russian party. We plan to have three day trips by bus; details TBC. The fee for accompanying persons will include transportation, but will not include lunches and any admission fees. Possible trips include:

Hanmer Springs, where you can enjoy walking or cycling in the forests and a soak in the thermal pools.

A walk along part of the Crater Rim Walkway in Port Hills, which overlooks Christchurch, the Canterbury Plains and Lyttleton Harbour.

An Earthquake tour of Christchurch, which includes a visit to Canterbury Museum's Quake City exhibition and a walking tour of the city.

A walk in Riccarton Bush, Canterbury's sole remnant of kahikatea floodplain forest that's right in the city and a stroll around the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Collecting in New Zealand

The most interesting arachnids in New Zealand are found on Department of Conservation land, which requires a permit. Use the interactive map at <http://maps.doc.govt.nz/mapviewer/index.html?viewer=docmaps> to see which areas are public conservation areas; just tick the "Public Conservation Areas" box at the bottom left.

Collecting outside of Department of Conservation land does not require a permit but you will require landowner permission if on private land.

If you want to collect before or after the Congress, apply for a permit as soon as you can! All information can be found at <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/research-and-collection/>

The Department of Conservation website mentions species protected by the Wildlife Act, which consists of just two arachnids, *Spelungula cavernicola* and *Latrodectus katipo*, all other New Zealand arachnids are not specifically protected.