

**Invitation to RPW International Symposium with ESA,
Reno, Nevada, USA, Nov. 16 – 19, 2008**

Please forward it to anyone interested in RPW

All reply to: redpalmweevil@hotmail.com

Please Copy to: ajlan@hotmail.com

Red Palm Weevil Home Page (<http://www.redpalmweevil.com/>)

Hello Everyone,

We would like to inform you that we are writing to present you with a rather unique opportunity to participate in the next ESA (Entomological Society of America) Annual Meeting to be held in Reno, Nevada, USA, Nov. 16 – 19, 2008. Specifically, as organizers from the Red Palm Weevil (RPW) Home Page (<http://www.redpalmweevil.com/>) to coordinate the RPW International Symposium ([The Global Threat of Red Palm Weevil \(RPW\), *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*, \(Olivier\) To Major Palm Species](#)) with Grayson Brown, one of the Program Chairs of ESA.

As you know that ESA has used a variety of systems for such presentations but the one that ESA used the most is WebEx – perhaps you have heard of it or used it yourself. It is extremely easy to use – the presenter simply sits at his/her computer, runs the PowerPoint presentation and speaks as if they were at the podium. The audience can ask questions and the speaker can hear them and reply in real time. The remote speaker can also watch other presentations and interact with other speakers and is a fully participating member of the audience. Speakers only need a high-speed internet connection although a web cam is very highly recommended.

As RPW Investigators are scattered throughout the world and may not have the opportunity to meet very often in spite of the economic significance of this pest. ESA and RPW Home Page can use the infrastructure of the technology to allow you to meet, free of charge, virtually over the internet.

We are wondering if you are willing to speak about 20 minutes. If so, please submit your title and abstract no later than May 15, 2008. (Time is 3.5 hours for 10 speakers only).

However, each speaker's presentation would be a regular ESA symposium presentation and each speaker must agree to allow his or her presentation to be recorded for later access via the web (ESA use a process that prevents theft of intellectual property). All speakers will have the opportunity to practice their presentations over the system to confirm that everything is OK.

As organizers with the help of the Program Chair, we can schedule it at any time of the day/night. Please inform us about your best time as GMT.

Any speaker who wishes to re-present his talk from the ICE (International Congress of Entomology) meeting this summer in Durbin, South Africa probably not be a problem.

This is an opportunity to participate in a historically significant entomological event. We would like to see the global entomological community eventually able to meet virtually as necessary and this would be the first real implementation of that capability. We hope that you be able to participate.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Aziz Ajlan & Khalid Alhudaib (ajlan@hotmail.com)