



SIP goes Nordic!

**37th Annual Meeting of the
Society for Invertebrate Pathology
7th International Conference
on *Bacillus thuringiensis*
Helsinki, Finland
August 1-6, 2004**

The organizers of the next SIP Annual Meeting look forward to welcoming our colleagues from all over the world to participate in the exciting conference now being arranged at the northernmost locality in the history of the Society- above 60°N. Invertebrate pathology has gained steady ground in the Nordic countries of Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland during the past decades. An annual meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology has so far never taken place in any of these countries, and we now are proud to host jointly the 2004 SIP meeting in Helsinki, Finland. This is also the first time in SIP history when several countries [more than two] have joined forces to organize the Annual Meeting. In addition to the five countries behind the organization, the proximity of Helsinki to the famous insect pathology groups in St. Petersburg, Russia [only 400 km from Helsinki] and the Baltic States offers a

a unique opportunity for SIP divisions to invite Russian as well as Baltic colleagues to attend this meeting at a marginal travel cost.

Location. Helsinki, the capitol of Finland, is also called the ‘Daughter of the Baltic Sea’, or the ‘White City of the North’. It is a city of some 500,000 inhabitants – over 800,000 live in the metropolitan area. The city is compact because the downtown is confined to a small cape, surrounded by the sea and numerous islands from three sides. All major attractions are therefore within easy walking distance. Helsinki can be reached by air with frequent flights from all European hubs, and many direct flights from other continents (e.g., New York, Toronto, Tokyo, Bangkok). Participants are urged to explore other forms of travelling as well: by a ferry from Stockholm (Sweden), Luebeck, Travemuende, or Rostock (Germany), Tallinn (Estonia) ... or by a train from St. Petersburg (Russia)! A car can be taken on the extremely frequent ferries, so traveling by car might be an attractive option for many. We wish to encourage all participants to take the opportunity to tour all the Nordic countries *en route* to Helsinki, and

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Deadline for the next Newsletter is June 1, 2004

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