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63rd International DWV Congress Conference programme released

From 4-6 November, at the same time as the INTERVITIS INTERFRUCTA HORTITECHNICA 2018 technology trade fair, the Deutsche Weinbauverband e.V. (DWV) is also hosting the 63rd International DWV Congress in Stuttgart. The theme for the congress is "Viticulture 4.0", and it will explore the opportunities and risks of digitisation in the manufacturing and marketing of wine. Alongside digitisation, the focus will also be on climate change and its consequences for winegrowers in the form of extreme weather events. As well as individual insurance cover which every winery can use to protect itself against crop failure, politicians are also called upon to make risk provision part of the Common Agricultural Policy, whereby research, investment and insurance solutions are encouraged. With this in mind, the first day of the congress will be devoted to a cross-border project in the Danube basin, which will investigate the effects of climate change on viticulture and wine tourism. The aim of this project is to put a professional network in place to encourage those working in the viticulture industry to share their experiences of climate change and to work on solutions together. At the invitation of Peter Hauk, the Minister for Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection in the state of Baden-Württemberg, government representatives and professional delegations from Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova as well as Ukraine will discuss problems and possible solutions with their German colleagues. Those interested can take part in the expert conference free of charge after registering in advance through the Congress website.

The conference on 5 November will focus on the digitisation of work processes. After some introductory speeches in the plenary session, those taking part in the sessions will have the opportunity for an interactive exchange on special areas of viticulture, namely producing and marketing wine. The expert conferences on 6 November will be focused on aspects specific to organic viticulture, as well as the issue of wine in tourism and architecture. Additional expert conferences, such as the 2nd International Co-operatives Congress and the International Wine Marketing Day will be held by the DWV's partner organisations.

Further details on the programme and on how to register for the expert conferences on 5 and 6 November, for which an early booking discount applies until 31 August 2018, are available online on the Congress website at www.dwv-kongress.de.