



# COST Action FA1203 Fact Sheet

## Title

Sustainable management of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* in Europe (SMARTER)

## Contacts

### MC Chair

**Prof. Heinz MULLER-SCHARER**

Tel. + (41) (0) 26-300 88 35

Fax. + (41) (0) 26-300 96 98

heinz.mueller@unifr.ch

### Science Officer:

Dr Ioanna STAVRIDOU

COST Office

ioanna.stavridou@cost.e

u

0032498173151

### Administrative Officer:

Mr Christophe PEETERS

COST Office

christophe.peeters@cost.eu

+32 2 533 38 43

## Details

Draft Mou: oc-2011-2-10917

Mou: 4128/12

**Start of Action: 19/11/2012**

Entry into force: 25/06/2012

**End of Action: 18/11/2016**

CSO approval date: 07/06/2012

## Objectives

Common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) is one of the most prominent invasive alien species (IAS) in Europe. Its pollen grains are noxious aeroallergens, it is an important agricultural weed and also occupies large non-crop areas with a range that is likely to accelerate under climate change. As a result, long-term and widely applicable options are required for its sustainable management, as well as the coordination of institutions involved in *Ambrosia* research and management throughout Europe. SMARTER will establish an interdisciplinary network including experts currently involved in the control of ragweed, Non-COST key-experts, health care professionals, aerobiologists, economists, and atmospheric and agricultural modellers. SMARTER will provide a forum for discussing long-term management and monitoring options and the development of new innovative management solutions, such as a synergy between biological, physical and chemical control measures and vegetation management, and assess their cost-effectiveness in mitigating the effects of IAS. SMARTER will act as a catalyst for long-term research, provide an information platform and develop best practice manuals for the integrated management of ragweed. It will also help to tackle other IAS, benefit all sectors affected by IAS, promote outstanding R&D, innovation in industry and provide support for policy-makers in the European Research Area (ERA).

# Parties

| Country        | Date       |
|----------------|------------|
| Austria        | 13/07/2012 |
| Czech Republic | 13/11/2012 |
| France         | 10/07/2012 |
| Israel         | 11/10/2012 |
| Netherlands    | 05/07/2012 |
| Slovakia       | 05/08/2012 |
| Switzerland    | 16/07/2012 |

| Country  | Date       |
|----------|------------|
| Belgium  | 12/11/2012 |
| Denmark  | 04/07/2012 |
| Germany  | 27/07/2012 |
| Italy    | 25/07/2012 |
| Poland   | 19/07/2012 |
| Slovenia | 08/11/2012 |
| Turkey   | 03/08/2012 |

| Country                | Date       |
|------------------------|------------|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 02/10/2012 |
| Estonia                | 20/06/2012 |
| Greece                 | 25/06/2012 |
| Lithuania              | 03/10/2012 |
| Romania                | 24/07/2012 |
| Spain                  | 15/06/2012 |
| United Kingdom         | 13/06/2012 |

| Country       | Date       |
|---------------|------------|
| Croatia       | 27/08/2012 |
| Finland       | 14/08/2012 |
| Hungary       | 28/08/2012 |
| Luxembourg    | 20/09/2012 |
| Serbia        | 02/08/2012 |
| Sweden        | 20/09/2012 |
| fYR Macedonia | 25/06/2012 |

**Total: 28**

## COST Near Neighbour Countries

Russian

Armenia

Montenegro

## COST International Partner Countries

Chinese

## SMARTER participants work in 6 different areas:

1. Population dynamics and biological control (WG 1)
2. Vegetation management (WG 2)
3. Integration of management options (WG 3)
4. Management evaluation: Aerobiology, Allergology, Air quality modelling, Ecological impact assessment, Economic & social impact assessment (WG 4)
5. Training, knowledge and technology transfer (Task 5)
6. Policy support: Biological Control, Invasive alien species (Task 6)



# COST Action FA 1203: SMARTER Meetings and Trainings

The kick off meeting of COST SMARTER was held in Brussels (Belgium), 19-20 November 2012.

Vienna Meeting (Austria): 9-10 March 2013: Extended Steering Committee Meeting  
Extended Core Group Meeting

Samsun Meeting (Turkey): 21-23 June 2013:

Extended Steering Committee Meeting

Working Group Meetings

Management Meeting (only Core Group and MC members)

Montpellier Meeting (France): 23-24 May 2014:

Working Group Meetings

Workshop on Population Dynamics Monitoring

Ragweed excursion

Core Group Meeting

Training: Controlling Common Ragweed by Vegetation Management: Vienna (Austria) and Munich/Freising (Germany): July, 28th to Aug, 2nd 2014.

Italian Association of Aerobiology (AIA) training course in Aerobiology, Parma (Italy): 3-7 November 2014.





Title of proposal:

# **Integrated Weed Management: PRactical Implementation and Solutions for Europe (IWMPRAISE)**

**Countries:** Denmark  
The Netherlands  
United Kingdom  
France  
Italy  
Spain  
Serbia

