



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 63 – August 2022

## FOREWORD

*The world is slowly reopening. In-person meetings are making a timid, tentative comeback, and a new kind of normality is being adopted - a hybrid between the virtual and the physical realms.*

*With the 2022 CORESTA Congress in October once again being held virtually, a shift from the usual schedule of CORESTA meetings was tested in June 2022. The statutory requirement to have a physical General Assembly led to the organisation of what was to be a mini CORESTA conference for CORESTA Member Organisation Official Delegates, Board and Scientific Commission Members, and CORESTA medal awardees.*

*The framework of the event offered the opportunity to include Reading Committee, Scientific Commission and Board meetings, the election of the new Board and Scientific Commission (results further on in this Newsletter), and a brainstorming “World Café” Workshop on the future of CORESTA. A Science Day featured keynote speakers who then led discussion sessions during a second Workshop focusing on important current topics. CORESTA gratefully thanks the speakers for their time and contributions.*

*In addition, a medal ceremony was held to honour deserving members who have greatly contributed to the work and activities of CORESTA.*

*Feedback shows that participants were more than happy to meet again after such a long period of online meetings and that the interactive atmosphere was particularly appreciated. This event can be considered a post-Covid test phase and an encouraging example for future CORESTA events.*

*Arrangements are underway for the 2022 CORESTA Congress, which it is hoped will be held online for the last time. An exciting programme has been prepared that will showcase work being done in the field of tobacco and tobacco product research. Registration, opened in early August, has been very encouraging so far and active participation is expected.*

*The CORESTA working groups have seen a number of changes in their leadership due to resignations and retirements and a new set of enthusiastic Coordinators have taken charge. A new Task Force has been created to work on “green tobacco sickness” and is recruiting participants, and the Task Force on cigarette variability has been disbanded following the completion of its objectives. Two other groups are calling for more participants to expand reach and extend expertise.*



## 2022 CORESTA CONGRESS ONLINE 10 – 28 October 2022

The 2022 CORESTA Congress Online will be held over a period of 3 weeks, with 26 sessions and more than 140 presentations. The daily sessions will focus on a specific topic area and each pre-recorded presentation will be followed by a live Q&A with the presenters. Videos will be available for replay after the event and the presentations will be published on the CORESTA website.

### Programme

The Congress is open to all.

Participant belonging to:	Registration fee
CORESTA Member Organisation	100 Euros
Non-Member Organisation	150 Euros

### Registration

Registration deadline: 25 September 2022

Details on how to sign up to the different sessions will be provided in the registration confirmation email.

For any questions, please contact the CORESTA Secretariat [here](#).

CORESTA looks forward to welcoming participants to the 2022 Congress online.

The programme is set, the presentations are being prepared and logistics are being put in place.

All information related to the Congress can be found on the Congress webpage on the CORESTA website.

[www.coresta.org/events/coresta-congress-2022-35938.html](http://www.coresta.org/events/coresta-congress-2022-35938.html)

Registration is open to all for a small fee.

Once successfully registered, participants will be able to sign-up to individual sessions that are of interest to them and will automatically receive an individual link via email.

## READING COMMITTEE

This year the Scientific Commission (SC) Reading Committee met both online and in-person to select the abstracts and set the programme for the 2022 CORESTA Congress. The Agro-Phyto SC members held a set of virtual meetings from 1-3 June, and the Smoke-Techno SC presidents and secretaries seized the opportunity of being in Paris, France, to meet physically in the offices of the CORESTA Secretariat from 5-6 June.

A total of 152 unique abstracts were submitted and **144** selected:

- Agro-Phyto: 42 agro, 15 phyto (Total: **57**)
- Smoke-Techno: 58 smoke, 29 techno (Total: **87**)

Authors have been informed by email of the selection status of their abstract and have been provided with an Instruction Booklet containing information on the preparation of their presentations and practical and administrative requirements. Authors have also been contacted by SC members should there be a need for clarification/modification of their abstract.

To familiarise presenters with the event platform, rehearsal sessions will be organised in September. To improve the participant experience during the live event, it has been decided to switch from the MS Teams platform to that of Livestorm that offers a more comprehensive service and provides a smoother user experience.

## WORKING PROGRAMMEE

All daily sessions will start at 1:30 pm CET. The Congress will be composed of daily sessions focused on a specific topic area with pre-recorded, 10 to 12 minute oral presentations, followed by a live Q&A with the presenters. The full sessions will be recorded and made available to registered participants.

The full programme is available for download via the link below and abstracts will be available in September.

[www.coresta.org/sites/default/files/events/CORESTA\\_2022\\_Programme.pdf](http://www.coresta.org/sites/default/files/events/CORESTA_2022_Programme.pdf)

Date	Mon, 10 Oct	Tues, 11 Oct	Wed, 12 Oct	Thurs, 13 Oct	Fri, 14 Oct
<b>AP Session 1</b>	Production: impact of nutrition, soil and management	Sucker control: management and genetic control	Genetics: impact of breeding and biotechnology	Pest and disease management	Crop Protection Agents (CPAs) in tobacco production and residue analysis
<b>AP Session 2</b>		Technology application in genetics and physiology			Microbial impact on cured leaf
Date	Mon, 17 Oct	Tues, 18 Oct	Wed, 19 Oct	Thurs, 20 Oct	Fri, 21 Oct
<b>AP / ST Session 1</b>	Sustainability through integrated programmes and production practices	Leaf constituents: TSNA and other chemistry	Perception and behaviour: understanding how nicotine products are perceived and used	E-vapour: product design and chemistry	Clinical studies: nicotine effects and data analysis
<b>AP / ST Session 2</b>		Low nicotine tobacco	Biomarkers: method improvement and effects of product switching	Nicotine science	Oral tobacco products: product analysis and methods
Date	Mon, 24 Oct	Tues, 25 Oct	Wed, 26 Oct	Thurs, 27 Oct	Fri, 28 Oct
<b>ST Session 1</b>	E-vapour products: product assessment	E-vapour products: <i>in vitro</i> toxicological assessment	Heated tobacco products: product design, modeling and testing	Tobacco and cigarette smoke: analytical methods	Cigarette component testing and design
<b>ST Session 2</b>	E-vapour products: analytical methods	Novel tobacco products: <i>in vitro</i> toxicological assessment	Heated tobacco products: analytical methods	Flavours and water pipes: analytical methods	E-vapour and e-liquid modeling



The Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically changed the environment in which organisations have had to operate over the last two years. As a result, statutes and rules have become inadequate to cover several unforeseen circumstances and situations faced by organisations. This has also been the case for CORESTA and the Board decided to review the associations Statutes and Rules to meet the new challenges.

The existing CORESTA Statutes stipulated that any modifications to its contents must be made at a physical Extraordinary General Assembly. Consequently, the Official Delegates of CORESTA Member Organisations were convened to an Extraordinary General Assembly in Paris, France, on 8 June 2022, to vote on a revised set of Statutes and Rules.

Taking the opportunity of the need to meet in-person, the Extraordinary General Assembly was combined with an Ordinary General Assembly to elect the CORESTA Board for the period 2022-2024, and elections were also organised to elect the 2022-2024 Scientific Commission. In addition, these events were supplemented with a Workshop and a Science Day, and a Medals Presentation ceremony, making the whole two-day event a fitting start to a return to some sort of normality.

## EXTRAORDINARY & ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 8 June 2022

### Revised Statutes & Internal Rules

The principal changes to texts included:

- the harmonisation of terms
- the amendment of the association’s purpose: “... to promote and facilitate international cooperation and best practices in scientific research relative to tobacco and its derived products”
- the possibility for CORESTA to hold virtual general assemblies and online consultations in the future.

The revised Statutes, Internal Rules, and Rules Governing the Functions of the Scientific Commission and Study Groups can be consulted on the CORESTA website:

[www.coresta.org/sites/default/files/books/STATUTES-MAIN\\_RULES\\_CORESTA-2022.pdf](http://www.coresta.org/sites/default/files/books/STATUTES-MAIN_RULES_CORESTA-2022.pdf)



## ELECTIONS

### Renewal of the Board

Five Member Organisations were elected to the Board at the Ordinary General Assembly. Four additional Member Organisations were subsequently co-opted at a special Board meeting held on 30 June 2022. The mandate of the new Board will come into effect on 1 December 2022, at which time the new Board President and Vice-President will be elected.

<p><b>Members elected in 2018</b> <i>whose terms were due to expire 2022 but were exceptionally extended to 2024</i></p> <p>Borgwaldt KC GmbH (Germany) delfort (Austria) Reynolds American Inc. Services Co. (USA) Swedish Match AB (Sweden) Universal Leaf Tobacco Company (USA)</p>	<p><b>Members elected in 2022</b> <b>(for four years)</b></p> <p>Altria Client Services (USA) British American Tobacco (UK) China National Tobacco Corporation (China) Imperial Brands (UK) Japan Tobacco Inc. (Japan)</p>
<p><b>Co-opted members (for two years)</b></p> <p>Alliance One International, Inc. (USA) Alternative Ingredients, Inc. (USA) KT&amp;G Corporation (South Korea) University of Kentucky (USA)</p>	



## ELECTIONS

### Renewal of the Scientific Commission

A number of members having reached the three-term limit on the Scientific Commission, and a few others having resigned or retired from their organisations, the makeup of the new Scientific Commission after the elections saw a significant number of positions filled with new faces. The official handover of roles will take place on 1 December 2022 when the mandate of the new Commission will take effect and a new President and Vice-President elected.

<p><b>AGRONOMY &amp; LEAF INTEGRITY</b></p> <p>President: Matthew Vann (NCSU, USA)            Vice-President: Stewart Livesay (ULT, USA)            Secretary: Leonardo Caruso (JTI, Switzerland)            Members: Chengalrayan Kudithipudi (Altria, USA)                        Limeng Zhang (Yunnan Tob. of CNTC, China)</p>	<p><b>SMOKE SCIENCE</b></p> <p>President: Mohamadi Sarkar (Altria, USA)            Vice-President: Sarah Baxter-Wright (RAIS, USA)            Secretary: Xavier Cahours (Imperial Tob., France)            Members: Cyril Jeannet (PMI, Switzerland)                        Kei Yoshino (JT Inc., Japan)</p>
<p><b>PHYTOPATHOLOGY &amp; GENETICS</b></p> <p>President: Dongmei Xu (Altria, USA)            Vice-President: Colin Fisher (Uni. of Kentucky, USA)            Secretary: Fabienne Lalande (JTI, Germany)            Members: Albert Chamango (ARET, Malawi)                        Simon Goepfert (PMI, Switzerland)</p>	<p><b>PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY</b></p> <p>President: Jutta Pani (Imperial Tob., Germany)            Vice-President: Jana Jeffery (BAT, UK)            Secretary: Bernhard Eitzinger (delfort, Austria)            Members: Bin Hu (ZTRI of CNTC, China)                        Johan Redeby (Swedish Match, Sweden)</p>

## WORKSHOP – 8 June 2022

### “Mapping the Future”

Participants were ‘Mapping the Future’ on Wednesday afternoon. Joe Thompson, President of the CORESTA Board, welcomed participants and introduced the Workshop, the purpose of which was to share information on the association’s inner workings, such as the Board Committees and how their activities are structured. The main focus of this Workshop was the Board’s Event and Strategy Committees.

**Meetings:** Presentation of the Event Committee was made by Mauri Winegardner. Mauri sketched out the main characteristics of CORESTA events and explained how these are seen as recognised international forums with solid member support. He warmly encouraged CORESTA Member Organisations to host CORESTA events, explaining how to do so, what were the requirements, and how the Secretariat can assist organisers. He pointed out that since 2020 only virtual meetings organised by the CORESTA Secretariat had taken place, but that in-person meetings were now once again authorised and most welcome.

**Collaborative approach:** Johan Lindholm, on behalf of the Strategy Committee presented a key topic of CORESTA: strategy and collaboration. This was followed by an exhaustive presentation by Stéphane Colard, Secretary General of CORESTA and a member of the Strategy Committee, on the four Board Committees (Administration, Finance and Information Technology (AFI), Science Communication, Strategy and Events) and their respective scopes and roles. He also described the process of strategic subject identification, workstream scoring and project monitoring.

**2-year and 5-year plans:** Rob Stevens, President of the Scientific Commission, in turn stepped in to explain CORESTA’s 2- and 5-year plans for Sub-Groups and Task Forces. Included in the 2-year plan were the launching of initiatives on human rights, monitoring of plant breeding, conducting field trials and collaborative studies, developing methods for conventional and emerging products or tools for evaluating consumer exposure. The longer term 5-year plans included the development of guidelines and best practices for new and existing CPAs and developing CORESTA reference products or investigating product use behaviour for emerging products. A long list of other projects are underway or planned – CORESTA Sub-Groups and Task Forces currently have about 100 on-going projects that fall into the 2- and 5-year planning schedule.

**Strategy House:** Johan continued by illustrating, in particular, a concept called the ‘Strategy House’, a term which might not be crystal clear to a layman. He described the ‘Strategy House’ as a tool to improve collaboration between the Board, Scientific Commission, Sub-Groups and Task Forces. It offers a common view of CORESTA strategy and goals that are aligned with CORESTA’s vision and mission. By using this tool, the Strategy Committee intends to promote and encourage the creation and development of emerging strategic subjects for CORESTA members.

**Prioritisation:** Diane Raverdy-Lambert, also a member of the Strategy Committee, described how the Strategy Committee operates and gave a concrete example on how workstreams are allocated a ‘score’ in view of prioritising projects. She explained how workstreams, in particular, can be prioritised using what is called the ‘helicopter view’ approach.



### World Café

#### “To gather inputs and collect feedback from participants”

The interactive part of the afternoon began after Stéphane Colard’s introduction to the principles of a “World Café”. This methodology provides a simple, effective, and flexible format for hosting large group collaborative dialogue. Four small discussion areas were created and pre-determined groups of participants were requested to join each area during four revolving rounds of 15 minutes. Each area was hosted by a moderator and a secretary from the Board and Scientific Commission, respectively. The discussion areas focused on four topics on which participants were invited to comment, namely Strategy House, Product Science and Regulations, Sustainability, Communication and Events. In every group relevant questions and new ideas flowed in a very studious, yet relaxed and open atmosphere. All the points raised were noted and final summaries presented by the secretaries during the wrap-up session (*see World Café reports*).

The World Café exercise also showed that working concurrently on different subjects was critical. It valued the experience, energy and wisdom of all participants. By stepping forward the CORESTA Board Committees and the Scientific Commission members showed how to take part and get actively involved personally to support and innovate the general policy and dynamics of the association together with the participating delegates.

Based on the results of the World Café brainstorming sessions, the Strategy Committee, with the aim of prioritising and refining ideas in the process of scientific collaboration, will make recommendations to the Board and together decide on the future actions and the way forward.

### World Café – Summaries

#### Strategy House

During this session, participants had a critical discussion on:

- alignment with current strategic areas and strategic subjects
- alignment with 2- year or 5-year plans

They also:

- evaluated the communication on the Strategy House
- collectively identified priorities for future work and made suggestions

Interesting proposals emerged on how to increase the robustness of the Strategy House. Also, the connection between the Scientific Commission and the Board in the Strategy House and the meaning of their respective roles in decision making was better understood by participants.

#### Sustainability

Participants were asked the following three questions:

- What does sustainability mean for you?
- Is CORESTA addressing enough sustainability issues?
- What strategic subject and workstreams should we focus on in the future?

The groups’ respective views on sustainability were reflective of the participant’s industry segment and the individual’s position within their organisation. Those participants with a direct agricultural connection, most commonly members of the Agronomy & Phytopathology Study Groups, tended to have more experience in a holistic view of sustainability, especially as it related to farmers. Several members of the Smoke Science & Product Technology Study Groups viewed sustainability as more environmentally focused, but also addressed the broader role of sustainability as related to their company’s trade focus.



## World Café – Summaries (continued)

### Product Science & Regulation

The questions discussed were the following:

- What are the main drivers for future work in product science?
- What is the effect of resources, if any?
- How do we weigh the importance of regulations from different regions in decision making?

The overall impression was that the main driver was regulation. All regulations substantially reduce the freedom of product design and are thus the most limiting factor in product development and ultimately in product science.

Effects on resources were observed in relation to two fields: diversity of products and need for new expertise. Certain product categories are also not yet fully covered by CORESTA, for example, electrical and electronic components of HTPs. Currently, there are no CORESTA Sub-Groups or Task Forces to work on these topics and potentially not enough expertise within work group participants.

Concerning the importance of regulations, the international situation is considered to be rather unpredictable and the efforts needed to monitor and comply with all national regulations is a challenge. A particular issue is making authorities aware of the difference in purity between natural products such as tobacco and synthetically produced pharmaceutical products.

### Communication and Events

#### Step 1. Survey

To start the discussions a survey on communication and events was organised and the participants were asked to answer the following questions:

1. What were the most beneficial communication tools considering the organizational activities of CORESTA?  
-- The two most popular communication tools were CORESTA Congresses or Conferences and the website
2. What were the most beneficial communication tools for sharing scientific knowledge?  
-- Here the two most beneficial tools were CORESTA Congresses or Conferences and SGTF Meetings
3. Is it easy for you to translate the value of CORESTA involvement to your senior management team?  
-- The answer was “yes” for the majority of participants
4. Considering the benefits (and shortcomings) of virtual events, do you anticipate continued value from CORESTA events with a mix of live, in-person and virtual events?  
-- The answer was “yes” for the majority of participants
5. Would your organization consider hosting future events like conference or congress?  
-- The majority of participants answered “maybe”
6. Are the CORESTA tools and resources adequate for your organization to participate as a host?  
-- Majority of people answered “I do not know” and many said “yes”

#### Step 2. World Café

Discussion was divided into two parts:

- Part 1. Communication discussion of outcome of Questions 1 and 2. Collecting ideas.
- Part 2. Events: What would hold you off to organise/host a conference?

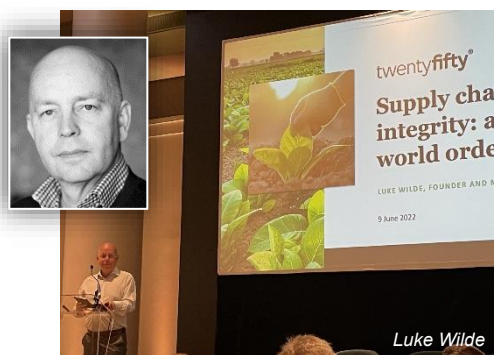
CORESTA communications and meetings were discussed and different options were put forward and considered.

## SCIENCE DAY – 9 June 2022

An entire day was devoted to key scientific topics around two major themes, **Supply Chain Integrity** and **Challenges and Opportunities Associated with Harm Reduction Approaches**. In line with CORESTA’s vision and mission to provide credible science and promote best practices, independent guest speakers were invited, alongside those from the industry, to present their work on a number of key topics around these issues.

The Science Day opened with an introduction by Lea Scott, Vice-President of the CORESTA Scientific Commission, who outlined the focus of the morning session on Supply Chain Integrity, and presented the three guest speakers.

In the first talk entitled ESG - *An industry perspective*, Tony Dunnage, Global ESG Director at Imperial Brands, UK, stressed how important it is that companies should align on UN SDG goals and mentioned some resources available to help and report on SDG progress through the GRI Standards.



## SCIENCE DAY (continued)

*Supply Chain Integrity: a New World Order* was the next presentation made by Luke Wilde, Founder and Managing Partner at twentyfifty, UK, who suggested approaches on how to build integrity in the supply chain.

A third presentation by Vuk Pribic, Leaf Supply Chain Due Diligence Director at JT International, Switzerland, introduced the JTI Leaf Sustainability Strategic Framework powered by the *Leaf Supply Chain Due Diligence Process* as a robust process of continuous improvement. He provided an example of its application to CPAs and an overview of contribution to a sustainable tobacco programme.

A 30-minute Q&A session followed with participants engaging with the presenters on how CORESTA can become more involved in addressing the key sustainability issues raised during the talks to ensure supply chain integrity.

After a short coffee break, the session was complemented by a fourth and final presentation entitled *Sustainable Use of Agrochemicals: ACAC 10 Years of Achievements*, presented by Lea Scott and Leo Caruso, respectively Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ACAC, CORESTA's Agrochemical Advisory Committee. In the Sustainability and ESG context, ACAC's engagement and guidance have resulted in better management of CPAs and led to deep environmental and social changes in tobacco growing, directly impacting the whole supply chain and stakeholders associated with tobacco and its derived products.

In the afternoon, Rob Stevens, President of the CORESTA Scientific Commission and Board member, introduced the second session focused on *Challenges and Opportunities Associated with Harm Reduction Approaches*. Within this framework, three key topics were presented and discussed, with the presence of invited speakers whose work provided interesting approaches on issues and challenges currently facing the tobacco industry.

Karl Fagerström, Director of Fagerström Consulting, Sweden, and Mohamadi Sarkar, Fellow Scientific Strategy and Advocacy at Altria, USA, were invited to talk on *Nicotine: role of nicotine in harm reduction and misperceptions on the harm potential of nicotine*.

Is a drug free world a realistic goal and what would be the implications if tobacco/nicotine products without a medical license had the same safety profile as NR products used on a long term? Is additional scientific evidence necessary to determine acceptability of smoke-free nicotine products and what should be done? What role can CORESTA play to correct the misperceptions of nicotine? These questions were some of the key issues raised during the presentation.

The second talk, *Risk vs Harm: How to translate reduced exposure and reduced risk data to support evidence of reduced harm?*, was made by Senthil Vel, Chief Medical Officer at British American Tobacco, UK, and Riccardo Polosa, Professor of Medicine at the University of Catania, Italy.

Senthil Vel presented the results of a long-term clinical study on the risks of glo™ through the assessment of biomarkers of potential harm, with the conclusion that a complete switch to using glo™ among smokers may reduce the negative health impacts of cigarette smoking. Riccardo Polosa pointed out the need for science evidence with both epidemiology and clinical studies and the combination of existing and novel health effect indicators that are relevant to smoking cessation and switching studies.

The third and last topic was covered by Clive Bates, Director of Counterfactual Consulting Limited, UK, and Luca Rossi, Vice-President of Product and Process Technology at Philip Morris International, Switzerland. The title of the presentations was *Innovation and harm reduction of alternative nicotine products: balancing the need for rapid product innovation with the need for robust evidence-based science*. How much science is enough science? Why is there so much controversy about harm reduction? These were some of the questions raised by Clive Bates to address the issues of scientific burdens and barriers to innovation generated by authorisation systems and the assumption that new technologies carry unknown risks. In the context of PMI's main goal to design a smoke-free future, Luca Rossi stressed the need for rapid innovation in product science as the key to develop and provide a portfolio of smoke-free product options.

Rob Stevens then concluded these talks and presentations by announcing the opening of the breakout sessions. Over the next 60 minutes participants were split into discussion areas designed to allow for brainstorming and exchange of ideas on the key topics raised during the talks, with the aim of providing new inputs for the future.

After a short coffee break during which the discussion notes were formalised, the secretaries of the discussion groups presented short summary reports.

The session was closed by Rob Stevens who thanked attendees for participating and for their enthusiastic contributions. The outcome of the Science Day would be considered and addressed by the Board and Scientific Commission and reported back to the CORESTA membership and beyond, together with future steps that will be taken. It was already envisaged to make a presentation at the forthcoming TSRC.



Lea Scott  
Leonardo Caruso

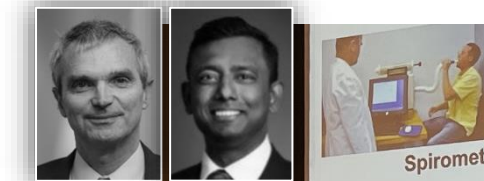


Age Group	Sweden	Min	Max
High (60-89)	87	91	91
Lower	36	107	107
Intermediate	72	178	178
Low	222	222	222

Region	Sweden	Europe	Lowest
Total all cases	70	70	70
Most new population	32	61	61
Most age 15-54	25	18	18
Most high population	25	18	18

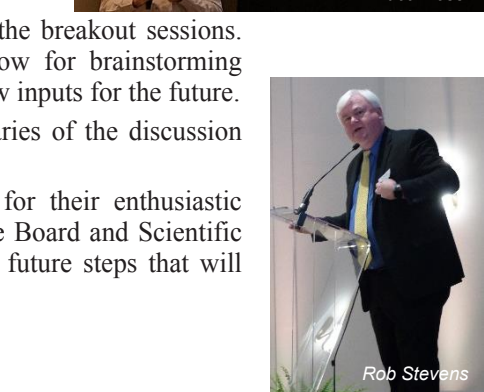
Karl Fagerström  
Mohamadi Sarkar



Riccardo Polosa  
Senthil Vel



Clive Bates  
Luca Rossi



Rob Stevens

## AWARDS

### CORESTA PRIZE

**Marco PRAT** has a MSc in Agronomy and worked for many years as an agronomist for Universal Leaf Tobacco in Italy. In 2002, he joined the JT International (JTI) Scientific and Regulatory Department with responsibility for the crop protection agent (CPA) residue control programme. Marco held the position of Global Product Integrity Director within JTI Global Supply Chain Agronomy until his retirement end of April 2022.

Within CORESTA, Marco was active for many years. He was a member of ACAC from 2003-2022, becoming Vice-Chairman in 2007 and Chairman in 2009. He has served on the Scientific Commission as President of the Agronomy Study Group from 2010-2012, as Vice-President of the Commission from 2012-2014 and as President from 2014-2016.

Marco was involved in the SGs IPM and GMO. He was also a member and initiator of the RFT SG. He was a pivotal member of the AA SG, of which he was also Coordinator from 2006-2016. He also participated in the now disbanded SUST and BM SGs.

In addition to presenting papers at CORESTA conferences, he has organised, co-organised and participated in several Workshops: Sustainability Workshop in 2011, Tobacco Integrity Workshop in 2012, Conservation of Natural Resources Workshop in 2013, Collaborative Studies Workshop in 2014, Extension and Training Workshop in 2016 and Sustainable Tobacco Production Workshop in 2017.

Within the CORESTA framework, Marco has been instrumental in efforts to reduce CPA residues in the tobacco crop through the continued development of CPA Guidance Residue Levels (GRLs). Marco was active in organising and promoting research work on the reduction of CPA residues on cigar dark air-cured tobaccos with the setting up of field trials around the world, in cooperation with other companies involved in cigar production, which led to the publication of C-GRLs in the CORESTA Guide No. 21.

Marco was not able to be present at the award ceremony in June 2022 and will be presented with his prize at a future occasion.



### CORESTA MEDALS

#### Gold Medal

**Anne FISHER** has a long and illustrious 47-year career in tobacco research, having worked for 26 years as a plant breeder at the Tobacco Research Board of Zimbabwe where she was Head of the Plant Breeding Department. She then joined the University of Kentucky 21 years ago and is currently Research Director at the University's Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center (KTRDC) in Lexington, Kentucky, USA.

Anne has been actively involved in CORESTA since the 1990s and has made or contributed to over 70 presentations at various Congresses and Conferences, an absolute record.

Anne is the initiator and Coordinator of the IPM SG. She is presently also involved in the GMO and TSNA SGs and the LNTP TF. She was the initiator and Coordinator of the Bacterial Wilt SG from 1995-2002 and has participated in the work of the SGs NEM, RFT, VIR, BIO, BKS and the TFs STDS and APIC. Anne has also been part of the Website TF working on the redesign of the CORESTA website.

Anne served on the CORESTA Scientific Commission 2002-2006 and from 2010-2016 as Member, Vice-President and then President of the Phytopathology Study Group.

Since 2016, Anne has represented the University of Kentucky on the CORESTA Board and is currently the Board Vice-President.

Anne was awarded the bronze medal in 2002 and the silver medal in 2008.



#### Silver Medals

**François DORLHAC** is Leaf Research Manager at Imperial Tobacco based in Bergerac, France. François' first participation at a CORESTA event was in 1993 and he has since participated in numerous Congresses and Conferences and presented over 26 papers. He has been a member of the Genetically Modified Tobacco: Proficiency Testing Sub-Group (GMO) since its inception in 2004 and its Coordinator since 2008. He has worked in collaboration with ACAC and currently participates in the LNTP and NGPC TFs. He has also contributed to the SG VIR. He served within the Phytopathology Study Group on the Scientific Commission from 2006-2010 as Member, and then Vice-President and President. He was re-elected to the Scientific Commission in 2014 and has since been the Vice-President and Member, respectively, of the Phytopathology and Genetics Study Group. François was awarded the bronze medal in 2012.

**Krishna PRASAD** is Head of Human Studies at British American Tobacco, UK. Krishna has been active in CORESTA since the 1990s and has presented over 28 papers at various CORESTA events. He participated in the activities of the TSB SG and became its Coordinator in 2010. Since becoming the Coordinator Krishna has been instrumental in expanding the scope of the group beyond conventional combustibles to cover the range of emerging next generation tobacco and nicotine products. The group changed its name to PUB in 2017 to reflect the expanded scope. Recognising the role of behavioural data in the introduction of next generation tobacco and nicotine products, Krishna has led the groups' effort to introduce 'behavioural science' expertise in CORESTA. Krishna as the founding and core member of the CROM TF has championed the Consortium approach to build and apply the expertise to benefit the wider CORESTA membership. He is the treasurer of the CROM consortium. With a keen eye on the future under Krishna's guidance the PUB Sub-Group is working on 'Methods for Managing Data Generated by Connected Devices'. He is also actively involved in the BMK SG and has initiated several joint projects to foster closer interaction with the two groups with complimentary expertise. Krishna was awarded the bronze medal in 2014.





**Nils ROSE** is an Independent Consultant representing Borgwaldt KC, Germany, at CORESTA. He was formerly the company's Managing Director. Nils has been attending CORESTA events since 2007 and has made over 18 presentations at CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. He was Coordinator of the Sub-Group Physical Test Methods from 2007-2012 and continued to be an active participant for many years. He has also participated in the SGs EVAP, TTPA, RAC and the STDS and HTP TFs. Nils was elected Member of the Product Technology Study Group on the Scientific Commission in 2012, a position he held until 2016. Nils has represented Borgwaldt on the CORESTA Board since 2016. Nils led the Organising Committee that arranged the Smoke-Techno Conference in Hamburg, Germany, in 2019. Nils was awarded the bronze medal in 2014.

**Huub VIZÉE** is a Consultant for delfort, Austria. He was formerly the company's Head of Regulatory & Corporate Affairs. Huub became involved in CORESTA in 1994 when he participated in the Task Force Fine Cut Tobacco. He was also active in the Tobacco Factory Emissions TF and the RAC and CSM SGs. Until recently, he also contributed to the SA SG. He also was part of the Website Task Force working on the redesign of the CORESTA website. Huub was a CORESTA Board member from 2008-2010, representing Imperial Tobacco. Since 2012, Huub has been the Board representative for delfort, and served as Board Vice-President from 2014-2016, and President from 2016-2020. In 2017, Huub led the organisation of the Smoke-Techno Conference hosted by delfort in Kitzbühel, Austria, in 2017. Huub was awarded the bronze medal in 2016.



**Dongmei XU** serves as a Fellow, Product Development for Altria Client Services in Richmond, Virginia, USA. Dongmei began contributing to CORESTA work in 1999 and has presented over 28 papers at various CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. Dongmei has been on the CORESTA Scientific Commission for many years. She was first elected in 2008 and served as Secretary of the Phytopathology Study Group until 2014. She was then re-elected in 2016 and has since served as the Study Group's President. Dongmei has actively contributed to discussions on the vision and strategy of CORESTA. She has been involved in numerous working groups over the years, including the SGs STS, BM, APIC, VIR, GMO, and the TFs TAG, TBO and ECIG. Currently, Dongmei is an active participant in the SGs IPM and TSNA and the TFs LNTP and NGPC. Dongmei was awarded the bronze medal in 2014.

**Kei YOSHINO** is Principal Scientist at Japan Tobacco Inc., Japan. Kei became involved in CORESTA in 2002 when he began contributing to the IVT TF. He subsequently became its Secretary in 2012 and then Coordinator from 2013-2020. Kei also participates in the BMK SG and the contributes to the 21st Century Toxicology for NGTX TF. Kei was elected to the Scientific Commission in 2016 and has since served as Member of the Smoke Science Study Group. Kei was part of the Organising Committee of the 2012 CORESTA Congress held in Sapporo, Japan. Kei was awarded the bronze medal in 2016.

## Bronze Medals

**Xavier CAHOURS** is Global Data Analytics Senior Manager at Imperial Tobacco – SEITA, France. Xavier has participated in CORESTA activities since 2009 and has made or contributed to over 60 presentations at several Congresses and Conferences. He was elected to the Scientific Commission in 2016 and has served two terms as Vice-President and Member of the Smoke Science Study Group, respectively. Xavier has served as Secretary of the PUB SG since 2013. He is also a Scientific Commission liaison member of the CROM TF and BMK SG.

**Stéphane COLARD** is currently Secretary General of CORESTA. He was formerly Head of Scientific Research at Imperial Tobacco Limited. Stéphane has participated at CORESTA meetings since 2000, making or contributing to over 59 presentations. Stéphane was elected to the Scientific Commission and served as Vice-President and President of the Product Technology Study Group, respectively, from 2014 to 2018. He was Coordinator of the CORESTA Standards Task Force that oversaw the existing procedures for the documentation of the scientific output of CORESTA and developed document management systems. He has also been a member of the RAC and PTM SGs and the Website TF. In 2019 he was appointed Secretary General of CORESTA and has been successfully leading the association over the challenging past three years.

**Susan DIMBI** is Research Director at the Tobacco Research Board in Harare, Zimbabwe. Susan has been active in CORESTA since 2006 and made or contributed to over 29 presentations at Congresses and Conferences. She has served on the Scientific Commission since 2014 as Member and Vice-President of the Phytopathology and Genetics Study Group, respectively. She has also participated in the VIR, IPM and RFT SGs and is currently a member of the BIO and LNTP SGs and until recently she led the BKS SG. Susan played a pivotal role in the organisation of the 2018 Scientific Commission Meeting and the 2019 Agro-Phyto Conference, both held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.



**Bernhard EITZINGER** is Senior Manager R&D at delfort in Austria. Bernhard has been involved in CORESTA since 1999 attending and presenting at numerous CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. He was elected to the Scientific Commission in 2016 and has served as Vice-President and Secretary of the Product Technology Study Group, respectively. He was Acting Secretary of the PTM SG and has been its Coordinator since 2015. Bernhard has been extremely active in reviewing CORESTA documents for publication and has contributed to many reports on the activities of his group in the CORESTA Newsletter.

**Jason FLORA** has been with Altria Client Services, USA, for the past 20 years and is currently Associate Fellow, Scientific Strategy & Advocacy. He has been actively involved in CORESTA since 2014 when he became Coordinator of the CVAR TF, a role he still holds pending publication of a final report in a peer reviewed journal. Jason is also Secretary of the HTP TF. He has also contributed to the work of the SMA, TTPA and EVAP SGs over the years. Jason has also made numerous presentations at CORESTA meetings.

**Gene GILLMAN** is Vice President at JUUL Labs. He was previously Vice-President at Enthalpy Analytical, USA. Gene has presented or contributed to over 39 presentations made at CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. He was Secretary of the EVAP SG from 2016-2021 before becoming its current Coordinator. Over the years he has also participated in the SGs TTPA, AA, SMA, RAC, CSM and PTM. He served on the Scientific Commission as a member of the Smoke Science Study Group from 2014-2016.

**Paul HARP** is a board-certified toxicologist and Senior Director, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs at RAI Services Company, USA. Paul has been involved in CORESTA activities since 2009 when he joined ACAC of which he is still a member. He is also part of the SGs RFT and BMK. Previously he participated in the work of the SGs IVT and AA. Paul has been a member of the Scientific Commission since 2014, served as Vice-President of the Smoke Science Study Group from 2018-2020, and is currently serving as President of the Smoke Science Study Group (2020-2022).

**Ramsey LEWIS** is a Professor at the North Carolina State University, USA. Ramsey has a long history with CORESTA having been the recipient of a CORESTA Study Grant in 2000 for work on the "Transfer of Resistance to Potato Virus Y (PVY) from *N. africana* to *N. tabacum*: Possible Influence of Tissue Culture on the Rate of Introgression". In 2012 he was awarded the CORESTA Prize for his research and findings in the area of applied tobacco genetics and breeding, and entered the CORESTA records as the youngest recipient of this award. Ramsey has presented over 35 papers at various CORESTA Congresses and Conferences and has been involved in several working groups, notably the SGs IPM, TTPA, BMK, TAG, TBO and BKS. He currently leads the NGPC TF.

**Johan LINDHOLM** is Vice President Regulatory & Scientific Affairs at Swedish Match based in Stockholm, Sweden. Johan has represented Swedish Match on the CORESTA Board since 2013 – he is the Chair of the CORESTA Board Strategy Committee and has played a major role in determining CORESTA strategy. Johan is also the Secretary of the TTPA SG since 2015 and was active in the startup of the STS SG in 2008. Johan is also a member of the EVAP and SA SGs. Before their merger, he was also part of the SMA and RAC SGs.

**Marcos LUSSO** is a Senior Principal Scientist at Altria Client Services, USA. Marcos has presented or been involved in over 22 papers made at CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. He has participated in the work of the groups TAG, TBO, BKS and EVAP. He is currently part of numerous working groups including the SGs GMO, IPM, RFT, TSNA, and the TF NGPC. He has been of great assistance in the progress of the XDES SG's translation of the Di@gnoplant content into Portuguese. Marcos was also Coordinator of the TF LNTP. Marcos has also served on the Scientific Commission as Secretary of the Agronomy and Leaf Integrity Study Group since 2014.

**G.L. PRASAD** served as Director of Product Integrity, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs at RAI Services Company, USA, until his retirement in June 2021. He now works as an independent consultant. Dr Prasad was actively involved in CORESTA for many years and presented over 23 papers at Congresses and Conferences. He was the Coordinator of the SG BMK from 2013 to 2021 and closely cooperated with the SGs PUB and IVT. He was a founding member of the NGTX TF. He has consistently worked to build collaborations and partnerships between CORESTA, academic and government scientists.



**Rob STEVENS** is currently Director, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs at RAI Services Company, USA. Rob has been active within CORESTA since 2007. He was an original member of the ECIG TF and served as its Secretary from 2013-2016. Rob has been actively involved as the liaison to the Scientific Commission for the ECIG TF, which subsequently became the EVAP SG in 2014. He was also a member of the CVAR TF, and the TTPA, RAC and SMA SGs. He also contributed to the redesign of the CORESTA website by the WEB TF. Rob is currently a member of the EVAP, CSM and SA SGs and the HTP TF. On an executive level, Rob has served on the CORESTA Scientific Commission as the Secretary of the Smoke Science Study Group since 2014. He was Vice-President of the Scientific Commission from 2018-2020, and he is currently serving as the President of the Scientific Commission. Rob has also represented RAI Services Company on the CORESTA Board since 2021.

**Rana TAYYARAH** is Manager, Analytical Services, at ITG Brands, USA. Rana has been a very active member of the CORESTA working groups. She participates in the TF HTP, and the SGs TTPA, EVAP and CSM. She was Secretary of the SMA SG from 2016-2021 and continued the role within the SA SG after the merger of the SGs SMA and RAC. Rana is also the Secretary of the CVAR TF since 2014. Rana has led and supported the development of many CRMs, technical reports, and publications to meet CORESTA objectives.

**Matthew VANN** is Associate Professor & Tobacco Extension Specialist at the North Carolina State University, USA. Matthew holds the record for the second most presentations made at CORESTA Congresses and Conferences, sometimes making several presentations at one single event. Matthew has been Secretary of the RFT SG since 2014 and has coordinated residue trials on behalf of the group at the NCSU. Matthew is also active within the LNTP TF.

**Karl WAGNER** is Senior Principal Scientist, Regulatory Sciences at Altria Client Services, USA. Karl has been active within CORESTA since 2000 when he attended his first Special Analytes Sub-Group meeting. He has presented and co-authored nearly 40 presentations at CORESTA Congresses and Conferences. He is currently active in the SGs TTPA, CSM, SA and the TF HTP. Karl became Secretary of the TTPA Sub-Group in January 2013 and has led the Sub-Group as Coordinator since 2015. He has also participated in the groups PTM, EVAP and RAC. Karl also contributed towards the redesign of the CORESTA website. Karl has served on the CORESTA Scientific Commission since 2014 when he was elected Secretary of the Product Technology Study Group, and has now been President of the Study Group since 2018.

*The CORESTA medals were presented to the recipients on 8 June 2022 by the outgoing President of the CORESTA Board, Joe Thompson, at the CORESTA General Assembly, Workshop & Science Day event held in Paris, France.*

The award of medals is based on proposals put forward to the Board by the CORESTA Scientific Commission. The final decision to award a medal is determined by three criteria that are fully aligned with the CORESTA vision and mission:

1. **Contribution to CORESTA Governance.** The indicator is the number of years as member of the Board and/or Scientific Commission.
2. **Contribution to the Scientific Cooperation.** The indicator is the number of years as Coordinator and/or Secretary of a working group.
3. **Contribution to Scientific Knowledge Sharing.** The indicator is the number of presentations made at CORESTA events as an author or co-author.



## CORESTA Scientific Commission and Board Meetings

The **SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION** (SC) held a series of five meetings since April 2022. The AP Study Groups met virtually from 1 to 3 June 2022 to review the abstracts submitted for presentation at the Congress 2022, and to set the scientific programme. The SSPT Study Groups met in-person on 5 and 6 June 2022 to do the same on their side. In addition, two SC breakout sessions were held in Paris on 6 June 2022 and a plenary meeting on 7 June 2022.

The main outcomes were as follows: ■ A 3-week CORESTA Congress scientific programme composed of 26 sessions and 144 presentations. ■ Compilation of the SGTF 2-year and 5-year plans. ■ SGTF activity reports. ■ Nomination of five new coordinators for the AA, BKS, GMO and PSMST SGs, and for the LNTP TF. ■ Creation of a new TF on green tobacco sickness. ■ Significant interest in a potential project on the effect of potassium chloride fertilizer on TSNA and cured leaf quality. ■ The high number of scientific papers recently published or accepted for publication from the TAG, PUB, BMK and CVAR working groups. ■ Possible organisation of a New Alternative Methods (NAM) Symposium and a workshop on social science in 2023. ■ Disbanding of the CVAR TF, work being completed. ■ Organisation of five (now six) hybrid working group meetings in conjunction with the TSRC in September 2022 in New Orleans, USA.

In addition, the SC organised a Science Day on 9 June 2022 in Paris (*see page 6*), with invited speakers presenting on supply chain integrity and on challenges associated with harm reduction approaches.

The **BOARD** held one meeting in Paris on 7 June 2022. The objectives were to review the open actions, to present Committee, SC and Secretariat reports, to finalise the organisation of the General Assembly and of the Workshop, and to discuss the recommendations made by the NGPC TF.

The main outcomes were as follows: ■ The financial forecast was in line with initial estimate. The impact of the inflation rate to be considered in 2023. ■ Migration of the Secretariat to Microsoft Exchange. ■ Development of a CORESTA Meetings platform to manage registrations to the meetings in Paris in June 2022, and to the hybrid SGTF meetings in September 2022. This platform is sufficiently versatile to be used for other events in the future. ■ The high quality agenda of the General Assembly, the Workshop and the Science Day. ■ Confirmation of the hosts for the CORESTA Conferences in 2023 and the Congress in 2024. ■ The need to review the communication strategy and work plan to enhance internal and external promotion of CORESTA scientific work. ■ A letter in support of the NGPC TF recommendation to be circulated to all CORESTA members.



## CORESTA SUB-GROUPS & TASK FORCES

### SUB-GROUP & TASK FORCE COORDINATORS

- **SG RFT – Agrochemical Residue Field Trials**  
Coordinator: Makoto Sebata (Japan Tobacco Inc., Japan) replaced Naoki Watanabe (Japan Tobacco Inc., Japan)
- **SG BKS – Collaborative Study Black Shank**  
Coordinator: Wei Ding (Southwest University, China) replaced Susan Dimbi (Tobacco Research Board, Zimbabwe)
- **SG AA – Agrochemicals Analysis**  
Coordinator: Aleksandra Pochucha (JT International GmbH, Germany) replaced Masahiro Miyoshi (Japan Tobacco Inc., Japan)
- **SG GMO – Proficiency Testing for Detection of Transgenic Tobacco**  
Coordinator: Colin Fisher (University of Kentucky, USA) replaced François Dorlhac de Borne (Imperial Tobacco, France)
- **SG LNTP – Collaborative Study of Low Nicotine Tobacco Agronomic Production Practices**  
Coordinator: Chengalrayan Kudithipudi (Altria Client Services, USA) replaced Marcos Lusso (Altria Client Services, USA)
- **ACAC – Agrochemical Advisory Committee**  
Coordinator: Lea Scott (Universal Leaf Tobacco, USA) replaced Marco Prat (JT International GmbH, Germany)

NEW

## CORESTA SUB-GROUPS & TASK FORCES (continued)

### AGRONOMY & LEAF INTEGRITY Study Group

#### New Task Force: Green Tobacco Sickness (GTS)

##### Objectives:

1. Determine if green tobacco sickness is a significant risk to workers based upon tobacco type and style, method of harvest and conditions at harvest and topping.
- 2.. Assess the impact of personal protection equipment (PPE) on preventing green tobacco sickness.

GTS is a temporary condition associated with absorption of nicotine from fresh tobacco leaves. GTS is associated with harvesting and post-harvest handling of fresh tobacco leaves, especially wet leaves and/or when an individual's clothing is wet. Many in the tobacco industry have listed topping, harvesting, and handling green tobacco as a hazardous task that should only be performed by adults (>18 years) and while wearing the proper protective equipment (PPE). This obligation applies to all tobacco types and styles and method of harvest and farmers that do not adhere to this standard are at risk of losing their contracts.

Research on GTS has predominated from the U.S., which produces a full-flavour style of tobacco. There is a lack of data on GTS occurrence in oriental and filler style tobacco production, as well as GTS occurrences during topping for all tobacco types. Also, workers may, on their own accord, modify and/or use less PPE than recommended by the contracting company, which may impact a farmer's ability to be contracted in the future, and may cause tension between the workers and the farmer. However, workers that modify their PPE may not experience GTS. There is also the human rights impact and supply chain due diligence to be considered.

The work of this new Task Force will be wide ranging and require many different skills and expertise.

**A call for participants is being made. Anyone interested in collaborating in the work of the GTS Task Force is very welcome to join.**

For more information please contact the group Coordinator, Lea Scott, Universal Leaf Tobacco, USA ([scottl01@universalleaf.com](mailto:scottl01@universalleaf.com)).

#### Call for Participants: Pest and Sanitation Management in Stored Tobacco (PSMST)

The PSMST Sub-Group is calling for participants. More information on this group on the CORESTA website at [www.coresta.org/groups/pest-and-sanitation-management-stored-tobacco](http://www.coresta.org/groups/pest-and-sanitation-management-stored-tobacco) or contact the Sub-Group Coordinator, Mauri Winegardner, Universal Leaf Tobacco, USA ([winegam1@universalleaf.com](mailto:winegam1@universalleaf.com)).

### PHYTOPATHOLOGY & GENETICS Study Group

#### Call for Participants: Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The IPM Sub-Group is calling for authors and reviewers for its publication. More information on this group on the CORESTA website at [www.coresta.org/groups/integrated-pest-management](http://www.coresta.org/groups/integrated-pest-management) or contact the Sub-Group Coordinator, Anne Fisher, University of Kentucky, USA ([anne.fisher@uky.edu](mailto:anne.fisher@uky.edu)).

### PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY Study Group

#### Disbanded: Task Force Cigarette Variability (CVAR)

Formed in 2014, the CVAR Task Force completed its objectives in 2022. These were to develop an appropriate experimental plan to explore cigarette variability, conduct a collaborative study to enhance the understanding of overall tobacco and smoke analyte variability relevant to commercial cigarette design features, and to create a CORESTA Technical Report.

The Task Force published three Technical Reports: *Short-Term* (2018) [CVAR-081-CTR], *Medium-Term* (2019) [CVAR-082-CTR] and *Long-Term* (2019) [CVAR-083-CTR] *Variability of Commercial Cigarettes through Select Cigarette Constituent Testing*. With the imminent publication of its report *HPLC Testing of Tobacco and Smoke to Examine Cigarette Temporal Variability* [CVAR-080-CXP] in the journal *Contributions to Tobacco & Nicotine Research*, the Task Force was formally disbanded in June 2022.

NEW

CALL

CALL

CALL

DISBANDED

## CORESTA PROJECTS

The following projects were approved by the Scientific Commission and launched:

- **Projects 328-331 & 337: Internal CORESTA Administrative Projects**  
CORESTA
- **Project 332: Update Guide No. 21 (Cigar DAC Tobacco Best Practices)**  
ACAC - Agrochemical Advisory Committee – Approved March 2022
- **Project 333: Chloride Fertilization Effect on TSNA and Cured Leaf Quality**  
SG TSNA - TSNA in Air-cured and Fire-cured Tobacco - Approved April 2022
- **Project 334: CROM Virtual Workshop on Claim Comprehension and Intention Study for Juul E-Cig Products**  
TF CROM - Consumer Reported Outcome Measures Consortium - Approved April 2022
- **Project 335: 15<sup>th</sup> Collaborative Study on Physical Parameters**  
SG PTM - Physical Test Methods - Approved April 2022
- **Project 336: 5<sup>th</sup> Proficiency Test on Diffusion Capacity**  
SG PTM - Physical Test Methods - Approved April 2022
- **Project 338: 2<sup>nd</sup> Collaborative Study on Crush Strength of Flavour Capsules for Filters**  
SG PTM - Physical Test Methods - Approved May 2022
- **Project 339: CM9 Collaborative Study 2022**  
SG SA - Smoke Analysis - Approved May 2022
- **Project 340: 2022 Collaborative Study of the New CORESTA Monitor Test Piece CM10**  
SG SA - Smoke Analysis - Approved May 2022
- **Project 341: Collaborative Study for the Determination of Very Low Nicotine (VLN) in Mainstream Smoke**  
SG SA - Smoke Analysis - Approved May 2022
- **Project 342: CROM Presentation at TSRC**  
TF CROM - Consumer Reported Outcome Measures Consortium - Approved June 2022

## CORESTA GUIDES

### Update

All CORESTA Guides may be downloaded in PDF format at [www.coresta.org](http://www.coresta.org)

- **CORESTA Guide No. 21**

Cigar Tobacco: Best Practices, Crop Protection and CPA Guidance Residue Levels  
(*Second edition – April 2022*) [ACAC-332-1-CTG-21]

Some important aspects of Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) with regard to crop protection in cigar tobacco are different from the tobaccos used in other manufactured tobacco products, mainly cigarettes. This is due to the fact that any damage, whether mechanical or physiological, significantly depreciates the value of leaves to the extent that they no longer meet market requirements. This applies especially to cigar wrapper leaves. It is therefore necessary to take this into account when setting Guidance Residue Levels specifically for this type of tobacco.

This Guide outlines both the production and crop protection practices that contribute to the difference between cigar and other tobaccos. It also provides guidance on critical best practice for managing Crop Protection Agents (CPAs).

The Guide also contains cigar tobacco Guidance Residue Levels (C-GRLs) that are based on data obtained from a series of field trials measuring residues in cigar tobacco crops managed according to GAP in countries across the globe. The cigar tobacco Guidance Residues Levels complement those for tobaccos used in cigarettes and some other manufactured tobacco products listed in CORESTA Guide No. 1 *The Concept and Implementation of CPA Guidance Residue Levels*.

- **CORESTA Guide No. 21**

Tabaco para Puros: Buenas Prácticas, Protección de Cultivos y Niveles Guía de Residuos para APC (Agentes de Protección de Cultivo)  
(*Primera edición – Abril 2022*) [ACAC-332-2-CTG-21]

A Spanish version of the Guide No. 21 above was also produced so as to reach and assist the large majority of cigar tobacco producers who come from Spanish speaking countries.

## CORESTA REPORTS

The following reports have been published on the CORESTA website at [www.coresta.org](http://www.coresta.org):

- **2019 Collaborative Study for B[a]P and TSNA Compounds in Mainstream Cigar Smoke**

Technical Report [SMA-SA-198-1-CTR] – June 2022 (Sub-Group Smoke Analysis)

In 2019, a Collaborative Study (CS) was launched in an effort to expand the scopes of CRM No. 75 and CRM No. 58, currently only valid for cigarettes, to include cigar smoke analysis for tobacco specific nitrosamines (TSNAs) and benzo[a]pyrene (B[a]P), respectively. Additionally, an experiment to determine the feasibility of simultaneous analysis for volatile organics (VO) (CRM No. 70/ISO 21330) was included. The smoking related parameters were reviewed and statistical analysis was carried out. Based on the results of this study, CRM No. 75 will be updated to include initial r&R values for TSNA analytes. B[a]P participation was too low to warrant the addition of even preliminary r&R values to the CRM. The feasibility experiment with volatile organics (VO) indicates that this work has merit and should be considered for inclusion in SA SG plans as priority and timing allows.

- **2021 Study for NOx in Mainstream Cigarette Smoke**

Technical Report [SA-295-1-CTR] – June 2022 (Sub-Group Smoke Analysis)

In 2021, a project was launched with the objective to establish a CRM for analysis for oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in mainstream cigarette smoke. The study design included reference and monitor samples across a range of nominal ISO 3308 tar levels and use of an intense and non-intense regime in order to evaluate methodology across a broad analyte and matrix level. Laboratories reported method details, basic smoking measures and NOx, and optionally, NO yields. Based on the results of this study, a CORESTA Recommended Method will be developed for the determination of NOx in cigarette smoke by chemiluminescence.

### Agrochemicals Analysis (AA) Sub-Group

Established in 1972, the Agrochemical Analysis Sub-Group (AA SG) is CORESTA's oldest Sub-Group focusing on improving methods for the analysis of the most used Crop Protection Agents (CPAs) in tobacco production. As a group with a wealth of experience, the long track record of being an active contributor in tobacco science continues until today.

The annual meeting in 2021 was held virtually on 3 September with more than 27 participants taking an active role. The meeting was focused on the proficiency test done in 2021 where the performance of 22 laboratories from 17 countries was assessed in comparison with other laboratories. Two test materials were provided to the laboratories – one artificially spiked and one agronomically incurred sample. The overall satisfactory z-scores are evidence of the importance of the Proficiency Test in bringing consistent improvements in CPA analysis.

Arising from the answered questions from proficiency tests, the Joint Experiments conducted by the member laboratories are another objective of this Sub-Group. Last year, a Joint Experiment Study report related to the matrix effects among Dark Air-Cured (DAC), Burley (BLY) and Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco was published on the CORESTA website.

Additionally, method developments of novel Guidance Residue Level (GRL) candidates with the objective of their future inclusion in the CORESTA Guide No. 1 continues to be another focus area of this Sub-Group, notably Fluensulfone being the CPA of interest in 2021.

Many of these topics will be revisited in this year's annual AA SG meeting.

The activities of the AA SG in 2022 commenced with a change of the Coordinator for the SG.

Masahiro Miyoshi successfully led this SG since 2016 until his retirement from Japan Tobacco Inc. in March 2022. Masahiro Miyoshi had previously taken over from Marco Prat who was the SG's coordinator for more than 16 years. Marco Prat retired from Japan Tobacco International in May 2022. Both have left a significant mark on this SG's activities and footsteps that will be difficult to follow. Accordingly, Aleksandra Pochucha from Japan Tobacco International took over as the new Coordinator.

This year's Proficiency Test has commenced with some technical challenges that were overcome due to the large support of this SG's members. The strength of this SG lies in its social interaction and collegiality and therefore, the annual SG meeting this year will be an in-person meeting and will take place in Dubai from 5-6 October. The Premium Tobacco Group has kindly offered to host this meeting once again. The two-day event will be an opportunity to revitalise the relationships among members as well as launch new studies, projects and experiments.

For those that are interested in the work of this SG, or wish to participate in its annual meetings, feel free to contact Aleksandra Pochucha ([aleksandra.pochucha@jti.com](mailto:aleksandra.pochucha@jti.com)).



Aleksandra POCHUCHA  
AA SG Coordinator



Heather WESTBERG  
AA SG Secretary



Masahiro MIYOSHI  
Former AA SG Coordinator

## CROM Workshop

### Claim Comprehension and Intention Study for JUUL E-cigarette Products: Findings and CROM-Related Measurement

24 May 2022 | 2:00 to 4:30 pm CET

Created in 2018, the objectives of the Consumer Reported Outcome Measures Task Force (CROM TF) are (1) to generate guidelines for the selection, development, modification, and implementation of CROM, and (2) to provide access to CROM for evaluating tobacco and nicotine-containing products, within the context of tobacco regulatory research. The CROM TF also seeks to engage and educate external stakeholders about CROM measurement science in the tobacco regulatory space through presentation at conferences, publications, and CROM TF-funded Symposium and Workshops. This CROM Workshop, “Claim Comprehension and Intention Study for JUUL E-cigarette Products: Findings and CROM-Related Measurement,” represents the first of many workshops that the TF hopes to hold on CROM-related topics in the future.

As articulated by Dr. Stacey McCaffrey of JUUL Labs, Inc., a CROM TF member, at the beginning of the CROM Workshop, tobacco researchers need to start thinking more critically about the selection, validation, and implementation of CROM in their research. Therefore, an objective of the workshop was to build the audience’s appreciation of CROM and the CROM-related challenges that researchers face in the regulatory space. During the workshop, Dr. McCaffrey and Dr. Saul Shiffman (who consults to JUUL Labs and to the CROM TF through Pinney Associates) presented the methodology and results from a recent



Stacey McCaffrey  
JUUL Labs Inc.



Saul Shiffman  
Pinney Associates

Claims Testing Study which will be submitted as part of a modified risk tobacco product application to the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA). They explained that this research was intended to function as a case study with which to highlight CROM-relevant activities, such as the development, validation, and application of CROM for use in a study to meet FDA information needs. They also shared strategies for how they addressed CROM-related decisions that other tobacco researchers may also face when conducting tobacco product perception and intention studies for submission to FDA.

The full video of this workshop can be found on the CORESTA website, along with presenter biosketches and an abstract of the workshop, at:

[www.coresta.org/events/crom-virtual-workshop-2022-36117.html](http://www.coresta.org/events/crom-virtual-workshop-2022-36117.html)

The CROM TF is in the process of planning additional public presentations, and intends to hold a publicly available symposium in November 2022 (topics and speakers are to be determined). If you have suggestions for topics of future CROM TF Workshops or Symposium, please reach out to the CROM TF leader, Dr. Christelle Chrea at [Christelle.Chrea@pmi.com](mailto:Christelle.Chrea@pmi.com). Those interested in being notified via email about upcoming CROM TF Workshops and Symposium should reach out to the CORESTA Secretariat and request to be added to the email distribution list.



## UPCOMING CORESTA MEETINGS 2022

Several Sub-Groups and Task Forces are again meeting in-person over the next few months.

With many CORESTA SGTF participants present at the next Tobacco Science and Research Conference (TSRC) being held in-person in New Orleans in September, six CORESTA groups have taken the opportunity to organise their meetings onsite prior to the Conference. This will be a good occasion to revitalise the groups and resume direct contact with members. The organisers of the TSRC are sincerely thanked for coordinating these meetings.

Below is a list of the scheduled meetings but please visit the CORESTA website for the most up-to-date information ([www.coresta.org/meetings/upcoming](http://www.coresta.org/meetings/upcoming)).

Meeting	Date	Location
SG CSM - Cigar Smoking Methods	10 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
SG EVAP - E-Vapour	10 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
TF HTP - Heated Tobacco Products	10 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
SG BMK - Biomarkers	11 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
SG PUB - Product Use Behaviour	11 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
SG TTPA - Tobacco and Tobacco Products Analytes	11 September 2022	New Orleans, LA, USA
SG PTM - Physical Test Methods	20-21 September 2022	Web meeting
SG AA - Agrochemical Analysis	5-6 October 2022	Dubai, UAE
<b>CORESTA CONGRESS</b>	<b>10-28 October 2022</b>	<b>Online</b>

## Acronyms / Abbreviations used in the Newsletter

AA . . . . . Agrochemicals Analysis (CORESTA)	GmbH . . . . . Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung (Germany)	Q&A . . . . . Question and Answer
ACAC . . . . . CORESTA Agrochemical Advisory Committee (CORESTA)	GMO . . . . . Proficiency Testing for Detection of Transgenic Tobacco (CORESTA)	R&D . . . . . Research & Development
AFI . . . . . Administration, Finance & Information Technology (CORESTA)	GRI . . . . . Global Reporting Initiative	r&R . . . . . repeatability & Reproducibility
AP . . . . . Agronomy & Leaf Integrity and Phytopathology & Genetics / Agro-Phyto	GRLs . . . . . Guidance Residue Levels	RAC . . . . . Routine Analytical Chemistry (CORESTA)
APIC . . . . . Agro-Phyto Information Collection (CORESTA)	GTS . . . . . Green Tobacco Sickness	RAI . . . . . Reynolds American International
ARET . . . . . Agricultural Research & Extension Trust	HPHC . . . . . Harmful and Potentially Harmful Constituents	RAIS . . . . . RAI Services Co.
B[a]P . . . . . Benzo[a]pyrene	HTPs . . . . . Heated Tobacco Products	RFT . . . . . Agrochemical Residue Field Trials (CORESTA)
BAT . . . . . British American Tobacco	IPM . . . . . Integrated Pest Management (CORESTA)	SA . . . . . Smoke Analysis (CORESTA)
BIO . . . . . Efficacy of Biological and Eco-Friendly CPAs (CORESTA)	ISO . . . . . International Organization for Standardization	SC . . . . . Scientific Commission
BKS . . . . . Collaborative Study Black Shank (CORESTA)	IVT . . . . . In Vitro Toxicity Testing (CORESTA)	SDGs . . . . . Sustainable Development Goals
BLY . . . . . Burley	JT . . . . . Japan Tobacco	SG . . . . . Sub-Group
BM . . . . . Blue Mould (CORESTA)	JTI . . . . . Japan Tobacco International	SGTF . . . . . Sub-Group and Task Force
BMK . . . . . Biomarkers	KTRDC . . . . . Kentucky Tobacco Research & Development Center	SMA . . . . . Smoke Analytes
C-GRLs . . . . . Cigar Guidance Residue Levels	LA . . . . . Louisiana (USA)	SSPT . . . . . Smoke Science and Product Technology
CET . . . . . Central Eastern Time	LNTP . . . . . Collaborative Study of Low Nicotine Tobacco Agronomic Production Practices (CORESTA)	ST . . . . . Smoke-Techno
CM . . . . . CORESTA Monitor	MS . . . . . Microsoft	STDS . . . . . Standards
CNTC . . . . . China National Tobacco Corporation	NAM . . . . . New Alternative (or Approach) Methods	STS . . . . . Smokeless Tobacco (CORESTA)
CORESTA . . . . . Cooperation Centre for Scientific Research Relative to Tobacco	NCSU . . . . . North Carolina State University	SUST . . . . . Sustainability
CPA . . . . . Crop Protection Agent	NEM . . . . . Collaborative Study on Nematodes (CORESTA)	TAG . . . . . Tobacco Alkaloid Genetics
CRM . . . . . CORESTA Recommended Method	NGPC . . . . . Nicotiana Germplasm Collection (CORESTA)	TBO . . . . . Tobacco Biotechnology and Omics (CORESTA)
CROM . . . . . Consumer Reported Outcome Measures (CORESTA)	NGTX . . . . . 21st Century Toxicology for Next Generation Tobacco and Nicotine Products (CORESTA)	TF . . . . . Task Force
CS . . . . . Collaborative Study	NOx . . . . . oxides of nitrogen	TSB . . . . . Tobacco Smoking Behaviour (CORESTA)
CSM . . . . . Cigar Smoking Methods (CORESTA)	NR . . . . . nicotine replacement	TSNA . . . . . Tobacco Specific Nitrosoamines
CTG . . . . . CORESTA Technical Guide	PMI . . . . . Philip Morris	TSRC . . . . . Tobacco Science & Research Conference
CTR . . . . . CORESTA Technical Report	PPE . . . . . Personal Protection Equipment	TTPA . . . . . Tobacco and Tobacco Products Analytes (CORESTA)
CVAR . . . . . Cigarette Variability (CORESTA)	PSMST . . . . . Pest and Sanitation Management in Stored Tobacco (CORESTA)	UK . . . . . United Kingdom
CXP . . . . . CORESTA External Presentation	PTM . . . . . Physical Test Methods (CORESTA)	ULT . . . . . Universal Leaf Tobacco Co.
DAC . . . . . Dark Air-Cured	PUB . . . . . Product Use Behaviour (CORESTA)	UN . . . . . United Nations
ECIG . . . . . E-Cigarette	PVY . . . . . Potato Virus Y	USA . . . . . United States of America
ESG . . . . . Environment, Social, Governance		VIR . . . . . Virus Diseases (CORESTA)
EVAP . . . . . E-Vapour (CORESTA)		VLN . . . . . Very Low Nicotine
FCV . . . . . Flue-Cured Virginia		VO . . . . . volatile organics
FDA . . . . . Food and Drug Administration (USA)		WEB . . . . . Website (CORESTA)
GAP . . . . . Good Agricultural Practices		XDES . . . . . Extended Diagnostic Expert System (CORESTA)
		ZTRI . . . . . Zhengzhou Tobacco Research Institute

