



UPDATE OF 13TH ICPS CONFERENCE HIMEJI, JAPAN

MAY 26–28, 2023

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The 13th ICPS Conference will be held in Himeji Japan in May 2023 after being postponed 3 times due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

Himeji is located in the southwestern part of Hyogo Prefecture and has the 2nd largest population in the prefecture. It can be accessed from Kansai International Airport (KIX) by JR limited express trains changing trains at Shin-Osaka in about 1 hour and 45 minutes. From Narita International Airport (NRA), it will take about 5 hours or 5 hours and 50 minutes by JR Kaisoku train and JR Shinkansen (Nozomi or Hikari, respectively) changing trains at Tokyo Station.

There are 3 major cities near Himeji, i.e., Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto, which can be accessed from Himeji in 41, 64, and 94 minutes, respectively, by JR Shinkaisoku (special rapid service) train. You may want to visit these cities as well.

The 3-day conference will be held at the Middle Hall on the 3rd floor of Himeji Citizens Hall which is located a 14-minute walk from Himeji Station. The plant exhibitions and sales booths are to be set up in Meeting Room 6 on the 4th floor of the same building and will be for open for public during the 3-day conference (from 12:00 on May 26).

There are about 20 hotels within walking distance from Himeji Citizens Hall. Tourist information center is located at JR Himeji Station center concourse northwest side.



When you arrive at JR Himeji Station and walk north, you will be surprised to see the World

Heritage Himeji Castle right in front of you. Most of the hotels are located in walking distance from the station, but you can take a taxi from the station, if you want.

You can enjoy variety of meals from Japanese (sushi, tempura) to French, Italian, Chinese, etc. for your dinner. Please ask the concierge/ staff of your hotel for restaurant information.

We expect many presentations in the conference of diverse topics from scientific researches, new discoveries,





conservation, to tips for cultivation. We will hire English-Japanese interpreters for consecutive interpretation of the presentations.

The conference dinner is planned at the banquet room “Ciel” on the 14th floor of the Hotel Monterey Himeji, located directly north of Himeji Station, on Friday May 26. There you can enjoy a good mix of Japanese and Western cuisines and

Japanese sake and wine, together with an impressive nighttime view of Himeji Castle through the windows.

In Meeting Room 6 on the 4th floor of Himeji Citizens Hall, various carnivorous plants from the botanical gardens and CP societies will be displayed for the public. Several CP sales booths will open in the same room. In recent years, sales events of carnivorous plants have been attracting more people.

After the 3-day conference, there will be a special day trip by bus to two botanical gardens near Himeji on May 29. This is an optional event requiring separate registration and fee.

In the dome-shaped conservatory of Tegarayama Conservatory Botanical Garden, there are many *Nepenthes* hybrids created in Japan as well as big *N. truncata*.

Hyogo Pref. Flower Center (HPFC) has Japan’s best CP collections including National Collection of *Nepenthes*. In August 2022, the 55.5 cm-tall pitcher of *N. truncata* was certified as the Guinness World Record of the tallest *Nepenthes* pitcher. You can see big size plants of *N. clipeata*, *N. pervillei*, and *N. khasiana* as well as variety of *Sarracenia*, *Drosera*, *Pinguicula*, *Cephalotus*, *Roridula*, etc. in the green houses, the open garden, and the back yard. You can’t miss this opportunity to see the carnivorous plants grown in amazing condition in these 2 botanical gardens.

We will visit the habitats of *D. lunata*, *D. rotundifolia*, and *D. tokaiensis* in either Nishiwaki City or Kasai City, which is to be determined by our pre-visit in mid-May.

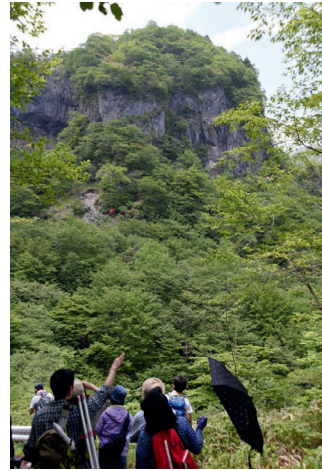




Those who visit *Pinguicula ramosa* habitat on May 31 will travel from Himeji to Tokyo riding a “Hikari” Shinkansen train and stay at a hotel in Kitasenju.



On the following day (May 31), we will take a Tobu express train to Nikko City and visit the habitat of *P. ramosa*, the Japanese endemic butterwort on Mt. Nyoho after 2 hours of climbing a gentle slope. Hopefully we can see flowers blooming, but this is not guaranteed as the flowering time fluctuates from year to year.



You may want to visit sightseeing spots before or after the conference. In Himeji area, there are more sightseeing spots other than Himeji Castle. For example, you may be interested in Shoshazan Engyoji Temple which was used as the film location of “Last Samurai.” Please visit the web page, <https://www.himeji-kanko.jp.e.adl.hp.transer.com/> for the details and other information.

After visiting *P. ramosa* habitat, some of you may want to visit another World Heritage site, Nikko Toshogu Shrine. You can find your accommodations and access to the shrine in the web page, <https://www.visitnikko.jp/en/>.

For more information for traveling Japan, please visit <https://www.japan.travel/en/>.



INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN TRAVELERS

Japanese government significantly relaxed the border measures against COVID-19 in October 2022. Now foreign nationals can enter Japan under the same conditions as in 2019, but with either a valid vaccination certificate (3 doses) or a certificate of negative result of pre-departure COVID-19 test. Please check the following site for the latest information.

<https://www.japan.travel/en/practical-coronavirus-information/government-measures/>

For the registration to the conference, conference dinner, day trip to the 2 botanical garden and the field trips, please visit the conference web page of which URL link is available in ICPS web page <https://www.carnivorousplants.org/>.

For more information and registration for presentation, contact Koji Kondo (kokonchip@gmail.com), the Organizer Team representative for overseas participants.

Looking forward to see you in Himeji in this coming May!



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