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13TH ICPS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, JAPAN

After much anticipation the 13th ICPS International Conference was held at the Himeji Citizens Hall in Himeji City, Japan, in May 2023. Over 110 attendees from around the world participated! The Japanese Carnivorous Plant Society (JCPS) with the cooperation of the Kansai Carnivorous Plant Society (KCPS), the Tokai Carnivorous Plant Society (TCPS), and the Hiroshima Carnivorous Plant Society (HCPS) did a fantastic job hosting. The hospitality suite which consisted of refreshments ranging from tea, coffee, non-alcoholic sake, and a multitude of Japanese style snacks were sampled and enjoyed between the 18 presentations.

Almost everyone participated in the first night's banquet at Hotel Monterey Himeji. There, we were able to see the beautiful Himeji Castle light up at night. Japanese and Western cuisines were served including beer, sake, wine, and soft drinks. Participants were entertained by a magic show and slide show.

The plant exhibition was a beautiful showing of how Japanese growers pride themselves in the cultivation of carnivorous plants. The plant sales and carnivorous plant merchandise went fast! People flocked to the booths. We saw many people with piles of merchandise.

The first day's field trips included Tegarayama Conservatory Botanical Garden and Hyogo Prefectural Flower Center. The exhibits were picturesque but probably the most enjoyable part was seeing the "backyard" collection (behind-the-scenes) and talking to the horticulturists responsible for the amazing specimens.

On the second day, participants visited Hyogo Prefecture (Abiki Marsh and Nishiwaki City) by a minibus and spotted wild populations of *Drosera lunata*, *D. tokaiensis*, and *D. rotundifolia* as well as a *Utricularia* species.

The last day consisted of 20 conference participants seeing wild *Pinguicula ramosa* blooming in Nikko.

We cannot thank Conference Organizer Team enough for all their valuable and instrumental work on the organization of the conference.

For those who were unable to attend many presentations were recorded based on presenter's agreement and will be published on the ICPS YouTube and Facebook channels.

14TH ICPS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, AUSTRIA

The 14th ICPS International Conference will take place from May 24–26, 2024 in the Botanical Garden at Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna, Austria. The conference will be hosted by the Gesellschaft für Fleischfressende Pflanzen im deutschsprachigen Raum. Conference registration information will be available on the ICPS website and social media in Fall 2023.

The 15th ICPS conference will take place in 2026, as we get back on our biennial schedule.