

International information system on biological control

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As for any other science, quick communication is becoming increasingly important for biological control specialists. Exchange of information facilitates adoption and adaptation of developed techniques, and may promote the exchange of valuable live biological material to be used in classical control projects. Quick global exchange of ideas may also have a positive impact on the continuous development of working rules and regulations of international acceptance related to biological control. An international information system on biological control that can be accessed through the Internet was established in May 1994. It is physically based at the "Fundação Tropical de Pesquisas e Tecnologia 'André Tosello'", in Campinas-SP-Brazil, and is managed by a group of biocontrol workers and computer specialists from CNPMA/EMBRAPA and Fundação "André Tosello". The main objective of this system is to facilitate contacts between biocontrol specialists around the world. The system, composed of different data bases related to biological control can be accessed at <http://www.bdt.org.br/bdt/biocontrol>. This web server also has pointers to other relevant information system related to biological control and a read-only searchable version of the discussion list Biocontrol-L. This list now has about 500 subscribers from over twenty countries. New members are welcome to join Biocontrol - L, and to participate actively in the discussions raised daily by different participants world-wide.