

2nd Regional Photosynthesis Workshop

Chlorophyll Fluorescence: Emotions & Reason

Lipno/Šumava, Czech Republic, January 31-February 3, 1999

Organized by the National Research Center Photosynthesis and Global Climate Change, Institute of Microbiology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Třeboň, Czech Republic

**Special issue editors: Reto J. STRASSER (*Geneva*)
and Ladislav NEDBAL (*Třeboň*)**

Contributing sponsor: *Photon Systems Instruments* (www.psi.cz)

One review paper, 13 original communications, and one brief communication are published in this issue. Some other papers of this Workshop will appear in *Photosynthetica* 37 (3), 1999.

Editorial

Introduction to special issue on chlorophyll fluorescence

The workshop Lipno 1999 was dedicated to the phenomenon of chlorophyll fluorescence of plants. The technique is presently used so widely that it became nearly an emotional subject living its own life and using its own complex language(s). The organizers of the workshop tried to facilitate an open discussion where any heretic question about the Holy Grail of fluorescence was allowed. The heresy was motivated positively by the feeling that the attractiveness of the method may sometimes obscure implicit problems and its clever language may be applied outside the range of validity.

The goal of the workshop was not so much to answer but rather to formulate questions regarding the method. Many of the participants were researchers and students who were working outside of the specialized fluorescence community and who were using the method as one of many. This feature helped us to ask elemental questions that may be stimulating even for the gurus of the method.

This special issue of *Photosynthetica* presents a collection of papers produced by the participants of the workshop rather than reflection of the discussions at Lipno 1999. The next Lipno 2000 will be dedicated to the plant fluorescence imaging. We shall try to collect papers that would reflect the workshop discussions and results accurately.

Reto J. STRASSER and Ladislav NEDBAL
guest editors