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СОВЕТ БОТАНИЧЕСКИХ
САДОВ РОССИИ

First Information Letter

Dear Colleagues!

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the Conference "**Current problems of the Study and Conservation of the Plant World of the Arctic and Mountains**", dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the N.A. Avrorin Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden-Institute of the Kola Science Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Conference Dates: August 26 – 31, 2026.

Venue: Apatity, Murmansk Region, Russia.

Organizers:

- ◆ N.A. Avrorin Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden-Institute of the Federal Research Centre "Kola Science Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences"
- ◆ Federal Research Centre "Kola Science Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences"
- ◆ Murmansk Branch of the Russian Botanical Society
- ◆ Council of Botanical Gardens of Russia

The conference aims to cover a wide range of topics:

- Botanical collections in the digital age: status, challenges, and prospects.
- Current issues in the systematics of plants, fungi, and lichens
- Changes in vegetation cover under the influence of anthropogenic and natural factors; application of remote sensing methods in vegetation mapping and productivity assessment.
- Dynamics of climatic indicators in ecosystems; adaptation and acclimatization of non-native plants; biological invasions.
- Methods for processing phenological and meteorological data: mathematical analysis, statistical processing.
- Biogeocenological research in protected areas and botanical gardens.
- Functioning of natural and anthropogenically transformed ecosystems; challenges in the restoration of disturbed lands.
- Current approaches to landscaping; the role of botanical gardens in urban greening.

- Plant protection from pests and diseases in botanical gardens.
- Modern algology: from fundamental questions to practical application.
- Protection of natural resources; development of protected area networks and their recreational use.
- Botanical gardens as cultural and educational centers.

The conference program will include two micro-symposia:

- "Bryological and Lichenological Research in the Arctic and Mountains", dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the outstanding Russian lichenologist Anna V. Dombrovskaya.
- "Methods and Approaches to Studying Carbon Pools and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Ecosystems" (jointly with the Institute of Industrial Ecology of the North of the Federal Research Centre "Kola Science Centre of the RAS", Apatity).

The final schedule of sessions and field excursions will be determined later based on the analysis of received applications.

Preliminary Conference Schedule:

August 26 (Wednesday) – Conference opening, plenary session. Welcome party.

August 27 (Thursday) – Section meetings, oral presentations. Excursion to the Arboretum of Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden-Institute (Apatity).

August 28 (Friday) – Section meetings, oral presentations.

August 29 (Saturday) – Section meetings, oral presentations. Excursion to the main territory of Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden-Institute (Kirovsk).

August 30 (Sunday) – Field botanical excursion to the White Sea (vicinity of Kandalaksha).

August 31 (Monday) – Field botanical excursion to the Barents Sea (Teriberka settlement, Teriberka Nature Park).

September 1 (Tuesday) – Departure of participants.

Please note that excursion locations may be subject to change depending on weather conditions and the composition of conference participants.

Abstract Submission:

Important Dates:

March 20, 2026 – Deadline for preliminary registration.

April 1, 2026 – Second information letter (registration fee, payment methods, accommodation).

June 1, 2026 – Deadline for abstract submission.

August 1, 2026 – Third information letter (conference program).

Contact Information:

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Travel Information:

Apatity has direct air connections with Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Cherepovets, as well as railway connections with Moscow, St. Petersburg, Vologda, and Smolensk.

All up-to-date information is available on the conference website:

<https://www.ksc.ru/conf/aktualnye-voprosy-arktiki/>

Details and news about the conference will be announced in subsequent information letters and in the conference's Telegram channel.



QR-code for the Conference Telegram Channel

*We look forward to welcoming you to the conference in the Khibiny Mountains!
The Organizing Committee would appreciate it if you could distribute this letter
among interested colleagues*