

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF CASSAVA DISEASES IN AFRICA

PÔLE DE PROTECTION DES PLANTES (3P)
SAINT-PIERRE, LA RÉUNION ISLAND

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ABSTRACTS PRESENTATIONS

THE 3P CENTER, AN INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH PLATFORM DEDICATED TO PLANT PROTECTION

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CIRAD's 3P Center is an original and efficient research platform dedicated to the protection of agro-ecosystems and tropical natural ecosystems. The 3P center is located on the tropical island of La Réunion, a French overseas department in the Indian Ocean. The 3P Center, launched in 2002, offers a unique tropical dimension to regional (Indian Ocean), national, and international research communities. It provides high-quality, secure access to tropical experimental conditions and new opportunities for visiting international researchers. The 3P Center hosts permanent users (more than 100 scientists and technicians) such as CIRAD, University of La Réunion, the French

Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES), the plant clinic of the Organization for Plant Protection against Pests and Diseases (FDGDON), and two start-up companies in the fields of information and communications technology (eKoal) and in-vitro culture (VitroRun).

The 3P Center is divided into 11 laboratories and comprises innovative and original components: infrastructure for R&D activities such as phytopathology, entomology, molecular biology, genetics, *in vitro* culture and biotechnology; services in pests and plant diseases diagnostic/detection, genotyping, seed quality control, and microscopy; technology and knowledge transfer in plant protection systems, detection tests, plant sanitation, and plant micro-propagation; and training and teaching. The Center contains 1,500 m² of laboratories (biosafety containment levels 2 and 3) with up-to-date technologies (2 M€ worth of equipment). The laboratories are designed to receive a broad range of plants, pests, and pathogens, including quarantine virus, bacteria, and arthropods. The 3P Center also has high performance workstations, a specialized library resource center, private and open spaces with internal network and web access, and meeting rooms with videoconferencing systems.