



# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

First Legume Society Conference  
*2013: A Legume Odyssey*

9-11 May 2013, Novi Sad, Serbia

First Legume Society Conference  
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# Book of Abstracts

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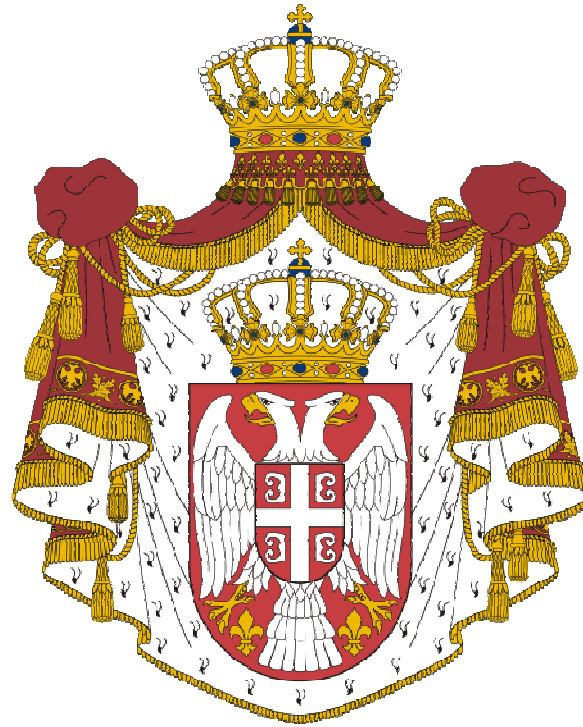
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Getting the message out: grow, use, feed and eat legumes

## And now for something completely pea (*Pisum sativum* L.) fferent: It's... Legumes in "Monty Python's Flying Circus"!

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Legumes have played a significant part in human diets from the very dawn of mankind and it is no wonder they entered culture in various ways. In the most recent times, legumes have become present in comedy television programmes, such as "Mr. Bean" by Rowan Atkinson. "Monty Python's Flying Circus" is a widely known British comedy programme, where legumes appeared in numerous sketches. Common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) was mentioned in the famous sketch "Spam" by a waitress, portrayed by Terry Jones, as an ingredient of a meal called "Spam, Spam, Spam, Spam, Spam, Spam, Baked Beans, Spam, Spam, Spam and Spam". They were also immortalised by Terry Gilliam, who was devouring them laying on a sofa and constantly asking for more in the sketch "Most Awful Family in Britain", with notorious and almost unintelligible screams "I want more beans!". However, the most surrealistic appearance of legumes in "Monty Python's Flying Circus" surely was in the episode "Dennis Moore" in which this highwayman, portrayed by John Cleese, robbed the rich, while driving in a coach called 'Lupin Express', took all the plants of garden lupin (*Lupinus polyphyllus* Lindl.) they had hidden, brought them to a family of the poor, being convinced lupins were what they essentially needed to survive, eventually buried the whole interior of their house with this beautiful, multicoloured ornamental species and finally realized he should have provided them with money or food. There is a possibility that the appearance of garden lupin in this sketch is historically inaccurate, since it almost certain took place in late 18th century, while garden lupin arrived in England from North America in the 1820s; but, does reality matters at all in something like *Monty Python's Flying Circus*?

P.S. Eric the Half-a-Bee (the original Monty Python's version, followed by a leguminous rearrangement)

A-one, two, a-one two three four. / Half a bee, philosophically, must *ipso facto* half not be. But half a bee has got to be *vis-à-vis* its entity - d'you see? But can a bee be said to be or not to be an entire bee, when half the bee is not a bee, due to some ancient injury? Singing! / La di di, one two three, Eric the Half-a-Bee. A, B, C, D, E, F, G, Eric the Half-a-Bee. Is this wretched demi-bee, half asleep upon my knee, some freak from a menagerie? No! It's Eric the Half-a-Bee. / Fiddle di dum, fiddle di dee, Eric the Half-a-Bee. Ho ho ho, tee hee hee, Eric the Half-a-Bee. / I love this hive employ-ee-ee, bisected accidentally, one summer's afternoon by me, I love him carnally. / He loves him carnally... / Semi-carnally. / The End. / Cyril Connolly? / No, semi-carnally. / Oh. / Cyril Connolly...

A-one, two, a-one, two, three, four. / Half-a-pea, morphologically, must *ipso facto* half not be. But half the pea has got to be, *vis-à-vis* its entity - d'you see? But can a pea be said to be or not to be an entire pea when half the pea is not a pea, due to some processing injury? / Sowing! / La di di, one two three, Eric the Half-a-Pea. A, B, C, D, E, F, G, Eric the Half-a-Pea. / Is this wrinkled demi-pea, half dormant upon my field, some freak from a bank of genes? No! It's Eric the Half-a-Pea. / Fiddle di dum, fiddle di dee, Eric the Half-a-Pea. Ho ho ho, tee hee hee, Eric the Half-a-Pea. / I love this trial employ-ee-ee, intercropped intentionally, one fine early spring's noon by me, I love him omically./ He loves him omically... / Semi-omically. / The End. / Cyril Connolly? / No, semi-omically. / Oh. / Cyril Connolly...

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In the rich world of global agriculture, diverse legumes can play key roles to develop environment-friendly production, supplying humans and animals with the products of high nutritional value.

The Legume Society was initiated in 2011 with two primary missions. One of them was to treasure the rich legume research tradition of the European Association for Grain Legume Research (AEP), with emphasis on carrying out its the triennial legume-devoted conferences. Another one is to fulfill a long-term strategy of linking together the research on all legumes worldwide, from grain and forage legumes pharmaceutical and ornamental ones and from the Old World to the Americas.

We do anticipate that the First Legume Society Conference will be a unique and genuine contribution to our common goals: to promote the legume research and all its benefits into all spheres of the society, linking science with stakeholders and decision-makers, and to demonstrate how an efficient, useful and firm network of the legume researchers of the world is possible and sustainable.

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