



WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

HOT NEWS

Issue 02, 2016



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Cover photo: Village with soil and water conservation treasure in Shannxi Province.

Editors: Dr. Du Pengfei, Contributors include Prof. Li Rui, Prof. José Luis Rubio, Dr. Redia N. Atienza and Dr Amir Kassam.



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WASWAC Website: www.waswac.org

The Last Week To Finish Your Registration For Attending The WASWAC World Conference III

WASWAC World Conference III

August 22-26, 2016

Belgrade, Serbia

WASWAC Outstanding

Youth Paper Award 2016 (DATUM)

THERE IS ONLY A WEEK TO BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND WASWAC WORLD CONFERENCE III. ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO BE SHOWED IN THIS MEETING NEED TO SUBMIT REGISTRATION FORM TO THE CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT. IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR THE YOUTH PAPER AWARD OR SHARE YOUR ACHIVEMENTS, PLEASE ALSO SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT WHILE YOU MAKE THE REGISTRATION.

THERE IS ONLY A WEEK TO RECEIVE YOUR REGISTRATION FORM!!!

DEADLINES

- **Abstract submission: March 31, 2016.**
- Full paper submission: May 31, 2016.
- **Registration fee** (Registration fee up to May 31, 2016; after May 31, 2016):
 - For non WASWAC and ESSC members: 300 EUR; after May: 350 EUR
 - For WASWAC and ESSC members: 200 EUR; after May: 250 EUR
 - For students: 100 EUR; after May: 150 EUR
 - For accompanying persons: 100 EUR; after May: 150 EUR

CONFERENCE VENUE

The Conference is planned to be held in the capital of Serbia, in Belgrade.

GLOBAL CONFERENCE TOPICS

- New challenges to soil and water resources in condition of climate change

- Land degradation processes and mechanism
- Soil and water conservation strategies to adapt and mitigate climate change
- Soil and water conservation measures benefits assessment
- Sustainable watershed management
- Social and economic aspects and policies related to soil and water conservation
- Inovations and implemented global/regional/national projects in land conservation
- Education in soil and water conservation

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DETAILS

English Announcement here:

<http://www.waswac.org/newsShow.asp?id=302&fileSort=20>

Chinese Announcement here:

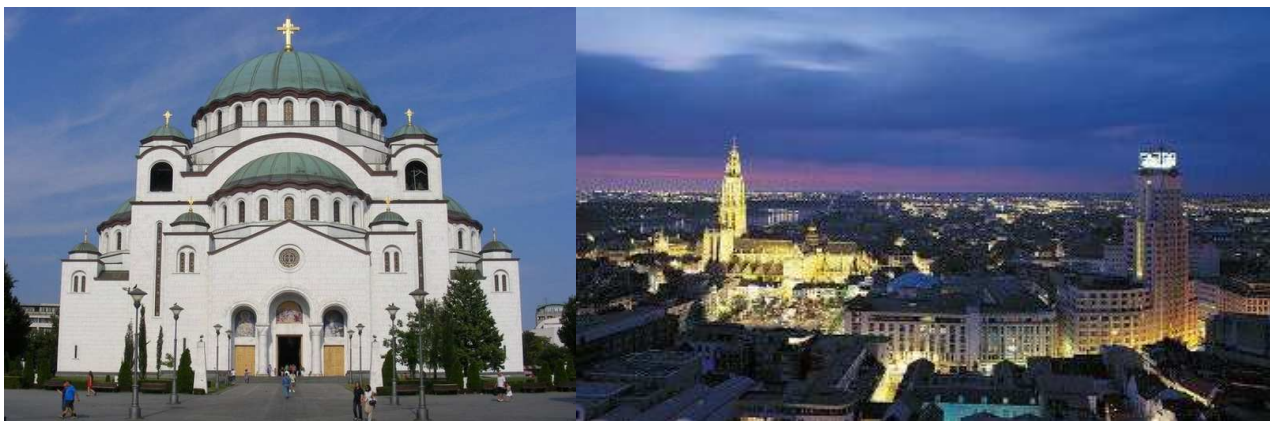
<http://www.waswac.org/newsShow.asp?fileSort=20&id=307#>

WASWAC Outstanding Youth Paper Award Announcement here:

<http://www.waswac.org/newsShow.asp?fileSort=20&id=303>

WASWAC World Conference III official website here:

<http://3rdwaswacconference.sfb.bg.ac.rs/index.html>



WASWAC Announcement on Organization Member Registration

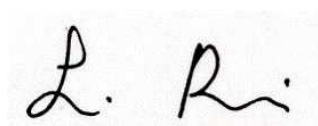
I would like to express our sincere thanks to all organization that provided great support to World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC) in the past years.

Since its founding, WASWAC has organized or co-sponsored a series of professional activities related to soil and water conservation in different countries, such as conferences, workshops, training courses, publications, research and demonstration projects, to promote the international communication and cooperation and to enhance the understanding and friendship of organizations and people involved in soil and water conservation in the world. WASWAC members, covering 82 countries, have been playing more and more roles to protect the global soil and water resources. The publication and distribution of “International Soil and Water Conservation Research” (ISWCR), which is the official Journal of WASWAC, has established a platform for many scientists of soil and water conservationists to share and exchange their achievements and ideas.

In order to expand WASWAC strength and influences in the world, at the council meeting held during the International youth forum of soil and water conservation in October 16-18, 2015, it was proposed to pay more attention to increasing Organization Member (OM). This will be very helpful for our association’s development. Under this background, the “Organization Member (OM) Management Regulation” was drafted and issued, which includes the Responsibilities, the Rights and Interests, the Responsibility of Contact Person and the Procedures of Application for OM.

Any organization who has made a lot of great achievements in soil and water conservation and related domains, are cordially welcomed to be one of the OM. If your organization wants to receive more opportunities of international exchange or to attract more attentions from all over the world, please accept our invitation and fill the application and registration procedures. We will be pleased and grateful for your acceptance.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. R.', is shown on a light-colored background.

Prof. Li Rui

President of WASWAC

World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC)

Management Regulation for Organization Member (OM)

The organizations which are involved in education, scientific research, technology development, management, engineering, and equipment production related to soil and water conservation are welcome to apply for WASWAC Organization Member (OM).

1. The Responsibilities of OM

- To accept the Statutes of WASWAC.
- To participate academic activities organized by WASWAC.
- To maintain WASWAC rights and interests.
- To organize or co-organize the academic activity related to soil and water conservation at least once every 5 years.

2. The Rights and Interests of OM

- To receive WASWAC electronic publications without payment.
- To enjoy the right to vote and to be elected.
- To win awards and other benefits and privilege for the academic activities organized by WASWAC.
- To enjoy the priority and favor to post advertisements and propaganda materials at WASWAC journals.

3. The Responsibility of OM Contact Person

Each OM should have 1 or 2 contact person(s), who will be in charge of the communications between OM and WASWAC secretariat.

- To submit a member name list annually to the secretariat if there is any changes for the members change.
- To provide at least 2 news or reports of OM to WASWAC Hot News each year.
- To pass the association documents and to reflect suggestions of members.

4. The Procedures of Application for OM

- To fill out the application form and the name list of members, and then send them to WASWAC secretariat with the copy of legal organization certificate.
- To check and approve by WASWAC secretariat and secretary-general.
- To issue a certificate of OM by WASWAC secretariat.

Annex I: WASWAC Organization Member Application Form

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Organization | | Country | |
| Post Address | | | |
| Responsible Officer | | Email | |
| Contact Person | | Email | |
| Organization Description | | | |
| Discipline and Specialty | | Number of Members | |
| Main Missions and Achievements | | | |
| Responsible Officer (signature) | | | |
| Date: | | | |

Annex II: Name list of Members

| First Name | Family Name | Professional Title | Email address |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|
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Report of the 1st Afro-Mediterranean Soils Conference

This report was provided by Prof. José Luis Rubio, councilor of our association, who was invited as one of the key notes presenter at this conference.

1st Afro-Mediterranean Soils Conference: “Constraints and Potentialities for Durable Management”

Fondation OCP and INRA Morocco in partnership with the FAO

18-19. December 2015, Palmeraie Golf Palace, Marrakech

The first International Conference on Afro-Mediterranean Soils: Constraints and Potentialities (and last international conference closing the International Year of Soil) has been a revealing and a stimulating experience. The Conference held in Marrakech during 18-19 December 2015 included most important issues related to soil and soil uses with a pan-African perspective providing an excellent updated of most important problems related to intrinsic African soil constraints but also a very enriching overview of promising approaches for the adequate soil/land management. Soil information and modelling, soil carbon sequestration, soil fertility and crop management, soil restoration and soil health, agro-ecosystem services and climate change were some of the topics addressed. The presentations and the discussions showed an alive soil science community dedicated to provide scientific and applied knowledge for the challenges and opportunities of today transition scenarios. The Conference also shows the commitments and willingness into contributing to ameliorate social and economic difficulties, many of them related to problems of climate change. In this relevant context the organization of UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakech next year deserve a thoughtful analysis and planning.

The Conference was opened by Pr. Mohamed Badraoui, Director of INRA Morocco, Mr. Amine Mounir Alaoui Executive Vice-President of Fondation OCP and Mr. Michael George Hage the Representative of FAO in Morocco. Mr. Yosr Tazzi was acting as moderator along the whole Conference.

The Conference was organized in seven Scientific Sessions with keynote presentations and Workshops with oral and poster presentations. The first session was focussed on Carbon management & sequestration and Climate –Smart Agriculture. The Keynotes speakers were: Rattan Lal, Ohio State University (OSU) with a video presentation on Soil Carbon Sequestration and Management to Mitigate Climate Change; Rainer Baritz of FAO, Rome with Carbon Soil Information under Climate Change; Rachid Mrabet of INRA, Morocco with Conservation agriculture (CA) as a climate-smart approach for coercing sustainability in Mediterranean basin and Joseph G. Mureithi of KALRO-ACT/Kenya with Enhancing access to conservation agriculture Knowledge & Information and Partnerships: Experiences of the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)

The second Session was dedicated to Soil erosion and conservation measures. It included a keynote presentation by José Luis Rubio of ESNB, ESSC, WASWAC and CIDE-CSIC, Valencia, Spain on Challenges and opportunities for soil conservation under climate change scenarios.

The Third Session was on Soil information and modelling, with two keynote presentations: Rachid

Moussadek of INRA- Morocco on Soil Information System in Africa and NENA: an opportunity for improving soil management and climate change adaptation and Erik Braudeau of Texas A&M University – USA with A new paradigm in soil science allowing for modelling the 'green water' dynamics in soil.

The Forth Session was on Soil in Africa: Quality and land degradation monitoring, with three keynote presentations as follows: Mamadou Traore of African Soil Science Society - University Polytechnique de Bobo Dioulasso - Burkina Fasso with Soil resources in Africa; Baghdad Bouamer of IAV Hassam II- Morocco with Soil decontamination and Imad eldine Babiker of Agricultura/ Research Corporation (ARC) Khartoum, Sudan with Climate smart vertisols soils and water management in rainfed dry lands farming

Session fifth was on Soil Fertility management and crop fertilization, with two keynote presentations: Bouabid Rachid of Soil Fertility Map Project Consortium, ENA-Meknes-Morocco, with Fertimap: a web-based soil information system for the management of soil fertility and crop productivity in Morocco and Tasse Hezekiel of Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency-Ethiopia with Ethiopia soil fertility project

The seventh Session was dedicated to Conclusions, recommendations and closing declaration. In the final part of this report it is included the text of the Recommendations that emerged from the Conference.

The following is an interesting overview of the Conference elaborated by Rainer Baritz, FAO Rome, which highlights some relevant outputs.

Underlining the Conference

165 participants from 18 countries met in Marrakesh to discuss the very critical condition of soils, especially in Africa. The final communique highlights the crucial role soils play for the social and economic security of 40-80 % of the African people being dependent on mostly small-scale agriculture. While the growth rate of the world population averages 34 % world-wide, it reaches up to 120% in some African areas. At the same time yields are reduced by an average of -8 %, reaching alarming extremes of up to -40 % in some areas. At the same time, more than 50 % of the land area is degraded, due to water and wind erosion, but also nutrient losses, salinization and soil organic matter losses on agricultural land are important causes as well. Even if these conditions were not considered, the majority of African soils would be difficult to manage due to its natural conditions: low nutrient storage capacity and low nutrient levels. Most of sub-Saharan Africa has naturally acid soils. Soil organic matter, the most important mediator to supply nutrients to crop roots, often has naturally low concentrations.

The conference revealed alarming facts about the condition of soils in Africa, high pressures from land use and hazards such as erosion and soil organic matter loss.

Only 8% of the African land area is suitable for agriculture, probably with a potential to increase if degraded lands would be restored. However, reliable data about soil degradation, soil fertility and its

potential improvement through sustainable soil management are lacking. Knowledge is also lacking about the carbon sequestration potential of African soils: sufficient organic matter levels in soils are crucial for their functioning, and eventually help improving the resilience of farmers to climate change. Conference participants exchanged various technical reasons for this dramatic situation, but also solutions.

For example, various inventories and scientific studies are being conducted to explore the current yield gaps, which refers to the mismatch between potential and actual yields. Farmers are lacking reliable advice and new knowledge considering the diversity of soil and local management conditions. Absence of planning instruments and knowledge exchange, but also insufficient technical equipment are some of the main reasons. Reliable data and advice from laboratories - taken for granted in many developed countries – is lacking in many African countries, even if the sampling and analysis is sponsored or co-financed by government programs.

Reliable and updated information about soils and its sustainable management is not available.

At the same time, soil institutions in research, government as well as higher education suffer from personal reductions and lack of funding. However, very promising large-scale soil programmes are conducted with specific purposes related to the closing of the yield gap through wise-spread of conservation agriculture and decision support for efficient fertilization. In Morocco, the Fertimap project covers 6.8 Mio ha cropland with some 26,000 soil samples taken. The results will be made available through a web-based soil information system offering decision support to farmers. Similarly, in Ethiopia, EthioSIS covers almost the entire country with some 53,000 sampling points. 6,000 extension specialists ensure that the information collected is reaching out and supporting the farmers. The experiences collected through these soil programmes demonstrate the magnitude of effort necessary to successfully guide and support farmers.

Soils can only be sustainably managed and restored if sufficient data reveal insights into the soil condition and its reactive potential for improving the nutritional status.

South-south cooperation is seen as an important means to utilize existing resources available and to transfer knowledge and capacity to areas where it is still lacking. Also, the regional soil partnerships for [North Africa and the Near East](#) as well as for [Sub-Saharan Africa](#), which are regional bodies of the [Global Soil Partnership](#), can be good means to intensify cooperation within the African region but also with the global community of soil experts from government institutions, research and education. The African Soil Science Society also founded regional networks in order to better address and advice on the challenges regarding sustainable soil management and soil restauration. One of the urgent needs for information is about the current state of soils. It is not well known where soil degradation and its restauration offers new opportunities for agriculture, and to which degree soils strongly exposed to hazards such as erosion and nutrient loss must be protected. Landscape and agricultural management planning need to consider

the sustainable use of soils. However, reliable and high-resolution soil data are mostly lacking. The report about the [Status of the World Soil Resources](#), launched at the 2015 World Soil Day at FAO Headquarters in Rome, has especially looked at regional issues. The lack of basic information about soils and the threats endangering them, especially in the African continent, is alarming.

Morocco will be hosting the 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Marrakech from November 8th to 18th, 2016.

Recently, the international community has begun to discuss agriculture and climate change, especially in the context of adaptation and mitigation. The importance of small-holder farmers for regional food security, and the risk from climate change, are aspects addressed in the discussion. At this point, no clear strategy has been found to address agricultural issues, including soils, during UNFCCC negotiations. During COP21 in Paris, soils and sustainable soil management have received attention through the [4per1000 initiative](#), which also became included into the Lima-Paris Action Agenda. The next COP will be on the African continent, in Marrakesh. For the alarming situation of Africa's most endangered natural resources – water and soils – this will be a challenge and opportunity to halt the continued degradation of these resources, to improve information about its condition, and to manage it sustainably.

Finally it follows the Recommendations that emerged of the Conference that was preliminary elaborated by an ad-hoc group under the leadership of the President of the Scientific Committee of the Conference Rachid Mrabet who presented the text to the participants of the Conference at the final Plenary Session for discussion and approval

Recommendations

In response to declaration by the U.N. for 2015 as International Year of Soil (2015-IYS), OCP Foundation, INRA and FAO were pleased to have organized this international conference on Afro-Mediterranean soils and by the high quality contribution from national and international institutions and associations. The conference considers the challenges of soil degradation in participating countries and traits it has on food security for future generation.

The conference was an ultimate space of important exchange of experiences and a platform for knowledge and lessons sharing and brokering. The invitation and presence of high-level experts in various sciences and domains of soils from eighteen countries have given to the conference a large scale and magnitude in developing new ideas and opportunities for further durable development in Africa and the Mediterranean basin.

The participation of high percent of young researchers and students (with gender balance) greatly guaranties the future involvement of research to sustainability of soils.

The conference itemized the crucial roles of soils in social, environmental and economical as well as food security challenges for the future of wellbeing of African societies.

The conference highlighted and underlined the urgent need to deepen the south-south cooperation and

enrich the exchange and sharing of technologies, resources, experiences and knowledge.

The debate and profound discussion on workshops helped the participants to get acknowledge by the important traits to soils, crops, pastures and forestry including global warming. Several management systems were addressed and science-based options were discussed in order to regenerate soil fertility and revitalize the environment.

The importance of soils in policy and decision-making was also reviewed through needs for strong information systems, reinforcement of capacity building of all stakeholders (universities, research institutions, private laboratories, extensions services etc.) and to foster soil protection legislation and policies.

The conference recognizes the importance and the implication of the COP-22 to be organized by the government of Morocco in November 2016 and recommends the creation of task force or an advisory group to prepare a road map to COP-22 for issues related to the priorities and challenges affecting African soils and climate change.

The conference proposes to further inspiration from Global Soil Partner (GSP) initiative through the implementation of World Soil Charter that addresses soil degradation, competition for resources, effects on soil productivity, environment and economy.

The scientists and academics assembled at the conference identified that soil research status in Africa should be ameliorated further through rising the volume of research and the incorporation of new innovative tools and integrative solutions for soil restoration and improvement and to upgrade scientific/research platforms while using state of the art innovations, equipment and methods (i.e. isotopic techniques for soil erosion and water productivity studies, precision techniques, monitoring tools, soil information and mapping technologies etc.).

Sparse soil information in Africa requires carrying an extensive soil survey and digital mapping for better management of lands and therefore satisfies the increasingly diverse expectations of Afro-Mediterranean societies from soils.

Fostering soil carbon sequestration and management in agricultural, pastoral and forested lands is vital for combatting and mitigating climate change and providing needed agro-ecological goods and services. Prof. Rattan Lal stated that “With a great success, as exemplified by the “4 pour mille” proposal at COP-21, it is important that the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) and national societies celebrate “Decade of the Soil” from 2015 to 2024 ».

Integrated nutrient management, conservation agriculture and soil/water conservation need additional consideration, testing and adoptions by farmers and stakeholders through adequate approaches of dissemination and mass adoption.

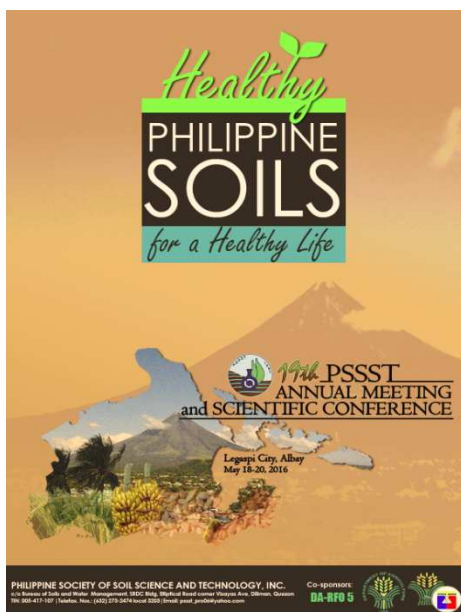
Research centers should enforce their synergies in order to better improve soil research and scientific infrastructures. In this regards, the 3 organizing institutions commit to follow up on the recommendations and organize more conferences and support projects on soils.

These recommendations will be shared with all participants and their institutions.

COMING MEETINGS

19th PSSST Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference

Legazpi City, Albay May 18-20, 2016



The 19th PSSST Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference is being organized to showcase soil science as an important discipline in the field of agriculture. It will particularly highlight the importance of a healthy soils and its role for a healthy life, equally important for plants, animals, and people.

This important event will give the participants from the academe, government, private sectors and other allied groups and individuals an opportunity to interact and share experiences and research outputs in the field of soil science and its related disciplines. This will also enable them to upgrade their technical expertise, renew personal acquaintances, and build network of the same scientific interests.

This 19th PSSST Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference will be held at Oriental Hotel, Legazpi City in Albay on May 18-20, 2016. It is co-sponsored by the Department of Agriculture , Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office V, and the Bureau of Soils and Water Management. This year's theme is Healthy Philippine soils for a healthy life, which is a continued celebration of the International Year of Soils.

Conference Fee

The following are the schedule of fees:

1. Registration Fee
 - a. Regular members – **Php 5,600**
 - b. Student (at discounted rate) – **Php 3,800** (with accommodation)

- c. Student (at discounted rate) – **Php 1,800** (without accommodation)
- 2. Membership and annual fees:
 - a. Annual dues (for regular members) – **Php 200**
 - b. Membership fee (for new members) – **Php 100**
 - c. Life membership fee (optional for new and regular members) – **Php 2,000**

Registration fee includes payment for the conference kit, hotel accommodation for 3 nights (May 17, 18 and 19) and meals and snacks during the conference (breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks on May 18 and 19 and breakfast, lunch and snacks on May 20).

Call for papers

Volunteer speakers (for oral and poster presentation) should submit an **extended abstract** not later than **February 29, 2016**. The submitted extended abstract following the prescribed format will be printed and included in the Conference Proceedings. Prizes await the winners for Best Paper and Best Poster competition.

Extended abstracts must be an original work by the author(s), not currently under review in the same form by another entity and not submitted elsewhere prior to the notification date.

Format of the extended abstract

The required format of the extended abstract must strictly follow the following:

Title (Calibri, 14 pt, bold, centered)

Author name/s (Calibri, 12 pt, bold, centered)

Author's position, affiliation and full address (Calibri, 12 pt, centered, italicized)

Author's telephone, fax and e-mail address (Calibri, 12 pt, centered, italicized)

Extended Abstract

The body of the abstract begins here. It should be **an explicit summary of the presentation that states the problem, the purpose of the research or study, the methods, and the major results and conclusions**. Do not include scientific or engineering symbols, acronyms, numbers, or lists inside the abstract. It should be single-spaced in **12 pt Calibri**. Authors are invited to submit abstracts of up to 2-3 pages (ca **1000 words**) including 1-2 graphs and/or tables.

One to two graphs/tables will follow the body of the abstracts. Include the most significant figures and/or tables related to the highlights presented in the abstract. Complete caption describing the graph and/or table should be placed above the table or below the figure.

Keywords: Please provide a maximum of 5 keywords immediately after the abstract.

Avoid general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). Use abbreviations sparingly; only those firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

References

The **list of reference** should follow the APA format of citation. Below are some examples:

Iijima M., Morita S., Zegada-Lizarazu W., & Izumi Y. 2007. Water Acquisition from the seasonal wetland and root development of the intercropped pearl millet in flooding ecosystem of northern Namibia. Plant

Prod. Sci. 10 : 182-188

Kato Y., Kamoshita A., Yamagishi J., Imoto H., & Abe J. 2007. Growth of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) cultivars under upland conditions with different levels of water supply. *Plant Prod. Sci. 10: 3-13*

Cover page of the extended abstract for submission

Cover page of the abstract

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <p align="center">The 19th PSSST Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference.</p> <p align="center">Theme: Healthy Philippine Soils for a Healthy Life</p> <p align="center">Date and Venue: May 18-20, 2016, Oriental Hotel, Legaspi City, Albay</p> | |
| <p>Abstract paper submitted for: Please mark X on the preferred presentation:</p> | |
| <p>_____</p> | <p>Oral</p> |
| <p>paper presentation</p> | |
| <p align="center">Poster paper presentation</p> | |
| <p>Category: Please mark X on the chosen category</p> | |
| <p>_____</p> | <p>Senior Category</p> |
| <p>_____</p> | <p>Junior Category</p> |
| | |
| Title of Paper: | |
| Author(s): | |
| Presenting Author: * | |
| Corresponding author's email address: | |
| Corresponding author's contact number: | |

Submit the Extended Abstract with cover page to:

Ms. Evelyn F. Javier

Chair, Technical Paper Committee

pssst_pro06@yahoo.com.ph or evelynf.javier@gmail.com

Call and submission of nominations for 2016 Achievement Award

Please send your nominations with supporting documents not later than **March 30, 2016** to

Dr. Danilo M. Mendoza

Chair, Awards Committee

pssst_pro06@yahoo.com.ph or danm1123@yahoo.com.ph

For further information, please contact any of the following:

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Member of the Board

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XVII International Colloquium on Soil Zoology and XIV International Colloquium on Apterygota

Soil Biodiversity for Our Future Earth

Session Details

ICSZ

Session-1: Soil biodiversity under global environmental changes

Session-2: Taxonomy and biodiversity of soil animals

Session-3: Ecology of soil animals and their ecosystem function

Session-4: Conservation of soil biodiversity with special reference to Asian region

ICA

Session-1: Taxonomy

Session-2: Evolution

Session-3: Ecology

Venue

Nara Kasugano International Forum IRAKA: <http://www.i-ra-ka.jp/en/>

Date

ICSZ 22–26 AUGUST 2016

ICA 24–26 AUGUST 2016

Contact Us

Please send your any questions to Local Organizing Committee.Email: 2016nara@soilzoology.jp

Details at: http://soilzoology.jp/icsz_ica2016/

The European Mineral Fertilizer Summit 2016

Key Topics Include:

- ✧ Access the key market prospects for fertilizer demand & applications in technology – anticipating the future, and what you can do to prepare
- ✧ Fertilizers Europe's Mark Cyrans emphasizes key considerations for businesses large and small
- ✧ Hear from Tassos Haniotis from the European Commission on COP and the latest initiatives for 2020 and beyond
- ✧ Future of manufacturing showcase: featuring technical papers on the best operating models for process efficiency, and reducing production cost
- ✧ Discover the latest prospects for the commodities market with Darren Cooper from the international grains council
- ✧ Share operational experience with engineering professionals
- ✧ Expand your knowledge with recent research developments including an innovation from Azortec Technologies on natural nitrogen technology which is designed for our 21st Century needs in agriculture: This nitrogen-fixing bacteria is a patented disruptive technology which will have a huge impact on agriculture.
- ✧ Discover the Risks & Opportunities within the buyers criteria
- ✧ Hear From Vincenzo Michele Sellitto from Microspore SPA on a scientific paper on the recent innovations in soil fertility by the practice of microorganisms.
- ✧ Enhance your operations with papers on energy efficiency and emissions reduction
- ✧ Discuss the proactive supply side reform for evolving distribution infrastructure
- ✧ Powerful Case Studies on Enhancing Competitiveness through Digitalization
- ✧ Determine solutions for minimizing risk across the supply chain throughout the product lifecycle
- ✧ Be informed of the latest nanotechnology applications & research developments
- ✧ The much awaited report on the Status of the World's Soil Resources (SWSR) was launched on the 4th December in FAO headquarters, Rome during the World Soil Day celebration and the official closure of the 2015 International Year of Soil.

Details at: <http://www.wplgroup.com/aci/event/european-mineral-fertilizer-summit/>

A Call for a Brown Revolution in Africa



Smallholder farmers throughout Africa are adopting Conservation Agriculture (CA) practices on their farms to improve their farming operations and their livelihoods. The soil health and resilience benefits of CA mean these families can now afford to send their children to school, have sufficient supplies of food, have more fertile and durable farmland; and have healthier livestock. Protecting our soils and practicing smarter methods of farming is critical. Brown Revolution: Save Our Soils, Save Our Future is an initiative to raise awareness about and promote the adoption of CA practices. By educating farmers about the positive impact healthy soils have on productivity and conservation, as well as demonstrating an improved return on investment, we can feed the world more profitably and sustainably – now and for generations to come. In a series of six articles, the Philanthropist Dr Howard G. Buffett, who is a farmer and an ambassador against hunger for the United Nations' World Food Program, Calls for a "Brown Revolution in Africa?" The six articles are titled as follows:

- You can listen to the academics or you can listen to the farmers.
- Africa's no-till revolution.
- No-till, African style.
- We are treating soil like dirt: It's a fatal mistake.
- One farmer's story of Conservation Agriculture.
- What does a \$100 billion asset manager say farmers should invest in? Soil.
- Losing the farm.
- Assessing Africa's real potential for agriculture.

You can read the full articles at:

http://act-africa.org/file/0198_20151124_call_for_a_brown_revolution_in_africa_by_philanthr.pdf

VACANCIES

1. Tenure-track position at assistant professor, higher rank will be considered under exceptional circumstances



Duties: The functions of a member of the academic staff include: a) teaching b) scholarly activities revealed by research; c) academic service activities, d) supervision of graduate students. Preference will be given to Earth scientists that can teach hydrogeology and/or contribute to the environmental science program. Potential to collaborate with other members of the department and make use of the extensive laboratory facilities are also criteria that will be considered during the selection process.

Location of work: Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Ottawa, 120 University, Room 15025, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5

Contact information: Chair, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, 120 University, room 15025, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5 (eespost@uottawa.ca), telephone: 613-562-5773, fax: 613- 562-5192

Skill requirements:

- ✧ **Education:** Ph.D. or equivalent in Earth and Environmental Sciences.
- ✧ **Work experience:** A demonstrated excellent research record in Earth and Environmental Sciences. A commitment to teaching and graduate training, a strong record in and a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, excellent communication skills in English and French. The candidate will be expected to teach in French at the time of hiring.

Application deadline: Review for applications will **begin September 1, 2016** and will continue until the position is filled. Interested candidates should submit an application consisting of:

- ✧ A letter of application formally expressing interest in the position, summarizing research objectives, and outlining teaching experience and philosophy.
- ✧ A full curriculum vitae.
- ✧ Three recent peer-reviewed publications.

✧ Contact information for three references.

All qualified candidates are invited to apply; however, preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. The University of Ottawa is an equal opportunity employer.

We strongly encourage applications from women, Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities.

Details at: <http://www.earthworks-jobs.com/water/ottawa16031.html>

2. Vienna Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems



The Centre for Water Resource Systems at the Vienna University of Technology announces competition for the third intake of doctoral candidates for the Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems. The programme is anticipated to host a total of 70 doctoral students over a period of 12 years. This is a dedicated programme of the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) that promotes doctoral research and education at the highest standards and provides excellent opportunities for cross-disciplinary research. International networking is facilitated by a mobility programme with a spectrum of attractive international partner institutions and a comprehensive guest scientist programme.

Seven PhD student positions are available in the following research themes related to Water Resource Systems:

- ✧ Flood-hydrology
- ✧ Aquatic microbiology
- ✧ Environmental engineering
- ✧ Micro-meteorology
- ✧ Soil moisture remote sensing
- ✧ Mechanics of structures
- ✧ Socio-hydrology
- ✧ Environmental economics

Applicants must have a Master's degree (or equivalent), preferably in a subject related to water resource systems. The working language of the programme is English. Students are expected to work across

disciplines and in cooperation with others. A capacity and willingness to integrate and collaborate is essential.

The Programme provides a salary according to the FWF scheme (approx. EUR 20000/year net), together with health and social security benefits. There is also significant allowance for travel and research support. TU Wien is an equal opportunities employer. **The preferred starting date is Oct. 1, 2016.**

Candidates should send a letter of application, a statement of research interests, a Curriculum Vitae, and copies of education certificates including transcripts of grades as a single .pdf file to: office@waterresources.at

Application deadline is April 30, 2016. Short listed candidates will be invited to a selection seminar. Financial support towards travel expenses is available on request.

Information about the Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems may be viewed at <http://waterresources.at>

Roster of soil consultants from GSP



Roster of soil consultants

Experts with relevant soils experience available for short-term assignments are invited to send their Curriculum Vitae and a brief statement describing their interest to the GSP Secretariat email.

The roster is available for consideration whenever relevant opportunities arise. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted directly by our team following FAO recruitment procedures.

Professionals with proven experiences in sustainable soil management, soil conservation, soil restoration, soil biodiversity, soil contamination, and other at all levels and in the different range of applications (research, development, etc) are highly encouraged to send their documents.



Experts with relevant soils experience available for short-term assignments are invited to send their Curriculum Vitae and a brief statement describing their interest to the GSP Secretariat email. The details please find here:

<http://www.fao.org/globalsoilpartnership/news-events-archive/news/detail/en/c/382007/>



WASWAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM (Issued 120501)

(For applicants from all countries)

Name: (Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr.)..... Gender: ☐F ☐M
Institution:.....
Postal address:.....
State/Province:.....Zip/Postal code:.....Country:.....
Phone:.....Fax:.....
Emails (Please give at least 2 addresses to ensure uninterrupted contact): (1).....
(2).....(3).....
My specialized field(s):.....
Please sign me up for the WASWAC membership in category*: ☐1(IM)☐2(LM)☐3(OM)☐4(SM&GM)
Membership for the year(s).....@US\$.....= US\$
Donation for developing country membership, etc. US\$
Donation to the Moldenhauer Fund US\$
Total US\$

***Membership categories & rates** from July 18, 2005, amended March 3, 2007 and March 4, 2010.

- 1.** IM (Individual membership): US\$20 for 5 years for developing countries (**In China, members pay 130 yuan RMB**); US\$40 for 5 years for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide.
- 2.** LM (Life membership): US\$80 for developing countries (**In China, members pay 520 yuan RMB**); US\$160 for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide. Persons who have passed their 60th birthday pay only half of these LM rates.
- 3.** OM (Organization membership): For universities, research and implemental institutions, government agencies, NGOs, societies, associations and international organizations, etc. Persons belonging to an Organization member will receive the same online products and services as the other two above categories: \$100/year for an organization with up to 150 persons; \$150/year for an organization with up to 300 persons; \$200/year for an organization with up to 500 persons; and \$10/year for an additional 100 persons or part thereof.
- 4.** SM&GM (Student membership & Gift membership): US\$5/year worldwide, to be purchased to give to colleagues, friends, students, etc.

▲ How and where to submit this form and the money: You may send this form by e-mail (preferred), fax or post – and membership due – to:

Dr. Xiaoying Liu. WASWAC Treasurer, c/o IRTCES. No. 20 Chegongzhuang Road West, Beijing 100048, China. Tel: +86 10 68786413; Fax: +86 10 68411174; Email: waswac@foxmail.com; waswac@163.com. Membership fee can be sent through **Check**, **Bank Draft**, **Bank Transfer** and **WESTERN UNION**.

For sending money by foreign wires through a bank, please give the following information to your bank:

Name of Receiver (A/C Holder's Name): World Association of Soil and Water Conservation

Bank Name and Address: China Construction Bank, Shoutinanlu Branch, Beijing, China, No. 9 Shoutinanlu Street, Haidian District, Beijing, P R China

A/C NO.: 1100 1042 7000 5301 6996

Message to write on the Bank Sheet: WASWAC Membership due for Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr., Country

NOTE: **1.** Do not deduct the bank fee from the amount of money to send. **2.** For sending money by wire/bank transfer or check please add US\$7 per transaction to compensate for the charge at the receiving bank in Beijing. This additional charge does not apply for **WESTERN UNION** or any payment of US\$50 or more.